

**Parish of Llanilid with
Pencoed & Heol-Y-Cyw**

Report to the Annual Vestry
of St Illid & Curig, Llanilid

Meeting at
St David's Church, Pencoed
Monday April 16th 2018
at 7pm



Llanilid is a rural parish between Pencoed and Llanharan, in the County Borough of Rhondda Cynon Taff. It is in the Church in Wales Diocese of Llandaff and part of the Deanery of Bridgend. The 12th Century Church is dedicated to Saint Ilud and Saint Curig and is situated in a small woodland near to the "Old Rectory" in the community area of Llanilid.

The Incumbent is:

Revd Ian Hodges
The Rectory
60 Coychurch Road
Pencoed
Bridgend CF35 5NA

Independent Examiner:

Graham Paul, Chartered Accountants

Bankers:

National Westminster Bank Plc
28 Adare Street
Bridgend

Architect:

Kevin Sutton
Davies Sutton Architecture
Penhevad studios
Penhevad Street
Grangetown
Cardiff CF11 7LU

PCC Members:

Diane Morris, Cynthia Thomas, Kathleen Evans, Marlene Liley

Churchwardens:

Kevin Murphy, Janet Nichol, Nigel Ritchie (outgoing)

Treasurer:

Jean Clanfield, Diane Morris (stand in)

The Annual Vestry Meeting of the Parish of Llanilid
Monday 16th April 2018 at 7p.m. in St David's Church

AGENDA

- 1 Prayers
- 2 Apologies for absence
- 3 Chairman's welcome

- 4 To receive and confirm the minutes of the last meeting

- 5 To receive and discuss the Parish Report
(Including the Accounts)

- 6 To receive and discuss other reports:
 - a. Area Deanery Conference
 - b. Diocesan Conference

- 7 Elections:
 - a. The People's Warden
 - b. Parochial Church Councillors
 - c. Sides men/women

- 8 Representatives for Conferences to check those elected are still serving
 - a. Diocesan Conference (1)
 - b. Area Deanery Conference (5 + 2 supplemental)

- 9 To appoint the Auditor

- 10 To set the Date & Time for the First PCC Meeting

- 11 Any other business (for which notice has been given to the secretary and to which the meeting consents).

- 12 Closing Prayers

The Minutes Of The Easter Vestry Meeting held at St.Davids Church , Pencoed

On Monday 24.04 2017

1. Opening Prayers.
2. Present. Rev.I.Hodges. Mrs.D.Morris. Mrs K Evans. Mr N Ritchie. Mrs J Nicol. Mrs M Liley. Mrs J Clanfield.
3. Apologies. Mr K Murphy. Ms C Thomas. Mrs J Ritchie.
4. Chairman's Welcome
The Rector welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them all for their help over the last year.
5. The minutes of the last meeting were read out and accepted as a true record by Mr N Ritchie and seconded by Mrs J Nicol.
6. The accounts were read out and accepted by the PCC, the Rector signed them.
7. The parish report was read out and accepted by the PCC. Nigel thanked the Rector for a well written and interesting report.
8. The wardens report was presented and accepted by the PCC.
9. To Receive other reports.
Area Deanery Conference.
Diocesan Conference.
10. Elections.
Rectors Warden. Mr Kevin Murphy.
Peoples Warden. Mrs Jan Nicol

Side persons continuation of existing arrangements.

The Following were elected to the PCC: Mrs Diane Morris. Mrs Jean Clanfield. Mrs Marleen Liley. Mrs Cynthia Thomas. Mr Nigel Ritchie. Mrs Kath Evans.

11. To appoint an Examiner.
Graham Paul & Company were elected to continue with the existing arrangements, the PCC expressed their thanks in preparing the accounts.
12. Any Other Business
As there was no further business the meeting closed at 7.35pm
13. Date of next PCC meeting - To follow the Easter Vestry Meeting.

Parish Report 2018

Thank You

As ever I want to begin this report with a huge thank you.

Thank you to my family for being behind me and keeping me sane whilst also being content to be considered public property such as my role requires me to be.

Thank you to everybody who has a hand in the day to day running of the three worship centres we have here in Llanilid, Pencoed and Heol-Y-Cyw. That does not just mean those who you see up the front but those who are quietly working away unseen, oiling the wheels and making sure that year on year the Church continues on.

Thank you as well to all who come here to worship and month by month faithfully give to keep the mission of the church going. It's your giving at our times of regular worship that means we can use every opportunity we have to tell people about Jesus.

Let's look back across 2017 using the following headings: *Links to the Outside, Going On Inside, Deanery Things, Diocesan Things* and *Anything Else*.

Links to the Outside

What did we get up to that makes links with those who are for whatever reason outside the Anglican Church here in the locality.

Well one of the main things we do is work together very well with all the other Christians from all the other denominations that are represented in the local area. We are continuing to meet monthly to have a bible study together, which is always so interesting. We are continuing to have regular services throughout the year at Christmas, Easter, Pentecost and of course there is the huge tent we have in the Bridgend Show where we simply say 'hello' to those who pop in for a cup of tea. Over the years more and more of our friends from the other denominations have become part of the Open the Book team.

It is now the 10th year that Open the Book scheme has been operating in this area by us. Pretty much every Monday that we are invited we go to the two local primary schools, and sometimes the one in Brynna, to tell the timeless bible stories to this generation. It means that every child that is now in the local comprehensive school, who has been through the local primary school system, will have regularly heard us sharing the Bible with them (though we have yet to be invited there to do regular assemblies.)

We have had a few school visits where the children came to the church buildings to experience the atmosphere and symbols and artifacts that we have in our worship centres. Sometimes they come to do a mock wedding or baptism and sometimes it is just to explore. The local Welsh Nursery are also coming 3 times a year to ponder Christmas and Easter and Harvest with us and always give us wonderful renditions of songs they have been learning.

For the 2nd year I have been involved with Croesty Primary school with the construction of their electric car kit. I go along every week or two to help the children build the kit and it works both ways. I get to teach them engineering and they get to see that Christians do know one end of a spanner from the other.

I continue to be the Air Training Core Chaplain which means I go monthly to visit the squadron to talk with the cadets about life the universe and everything, and they still continue to come monthly without fail and help us to run our Messy Church. There are a few times in 2017 when sadly we would have been absolutely sunk if they had not come to our aid.

We are still working with the Foodbank to be a distribution point. It's a pity society needs them but it means people do not have to travel to another town if they are in need.

We are having two trips a year 'just for the fun of it.' One usually in the summer to a beach or seaside resort and the other to a Christmas market later in the year.

And for the 2nd year running we ran with our Lent Lunches on a Wednesday with a 'bring what you can to share with others' attitude and it has really flourished.

Going On Inside

What did we get up to that mainly involved those who are regular attenders?

We have continued in St David's to have quarterly leaving collections to fulfill the Christian ethic of tithing and giving away a bit of what God has given us. Some of the recipients have been quite surprised in a positive way at the amount of money we give each time.

We have continued with our joint PCC meetings twice a year to make sure that we are stronger and better informed of what is going on throughout the two parishes.

We have continued with our Messy Church experiment. It has just got busier and busier and many people now have Messy Church as their regular place of worship and join in other parish events too. Many parishes slot Messy into a gap in their weekly schedule on a Sunday or use it to get people into 'real' church whereas we let it be its own thing. We have now over 300 people on the books and have from 25 to 50 (usually closer to the latter) people a time come along to worship in a way that is more appropriate to this 24/7 internet media saturated world we now live in. We have been going so long that we are beginning to hear people say 'we've not done that before' when trying new things!

The Mothers Union which looked like faltering not that long ago has a new leader who has breathed new life into the group.

We have made links with Sarah the Mental Health Chaplain and run a Mental Health awareness course in the parish to try and break down some of those incorrect stereotypes. The truth is we all have good and bad periods of mental health in our lives it's not a case of 'I'm not ga-ga, you are.'

Deanery Things

We were looking to make stronger links with the parish of Llanharan and Brynna rather than get sucked into one of the large Ministry areas that are forming in Bridgend or Talbot Green by doing 'Pulpit Swaps' in 2017 but that has been left on the back burner for one reason or another.

I have continued on as the Deanery Chapter clerk and as a parish we have been involved in the events and conferences put on by the deanery. Many of us went to Caerau when our new Bishop came to the Deanery to explore and met and talked with her 1st hand.

Diocesan Things

We have a new Diocesan Bishop as of the summer. Bishop June comes to us from Salisbury with a wealth of experience and a new set of eyes both physical and spiritual. I send her a present of adult colouring books and pencils on behalf of the parish as I imagined she would be on the telephone a lot in her first few months and may be needing something to doodle on during her telephone time.

The Diocese decided to remove the restriction of confirmation from entry to communion. The biblical view is really that all the baptised represent the church and if children are coming to church with their parents then from any age they should not be denied the sacrament. We talked this through with the PCCs and decided there was no good reason not to allow this diocesan change to happen here too.

Anything Else

I was granted Sabbatical Leave to have an extended time studying and reflecting which I put to good use exploring the Messy Church scene in the South Wales area. It was most enlightening and encouraging and saddening in equal measures. I have a report I have compiled which anybody can receive if they want more information about my findings.

It appears the parish is still growing (it's one of the 3 in the Diocese that is) and the latest figure suggest that over the last period from 2016 into 2017 there was 5% growth.

It was also during 2017 that Rick the Church Warden heard that the call on his life that the Church in Wales was examining had proved to indeed be a call to the ordained ministry. To be honest there was no real surprise there. If you know Rick you will have recognised the pull of God to the priesthood on his life from a mile away. It was discerned to be a call to the Non Stipendiary Ministry which means that Rick would continue on his day job fixing aeroplanes but be fully ordained too. That was not that much of a surprise either as that often happens these days too. What was surprising was that the panel felt that, unconventionally, Rick should stay in

the parish DURING his training and then stay in the parish AFTER his training. This was really unexpected and can be taken as a thumbs up from God about the amount of work being done in Jesus name here and the requirement for more assistance being granted.

Finally as is so often the case we also had to say a sad farewell to some of our friends. Grace Philips, Margaret Anstee, Beryl Adey, Fran Amos, Judith Richie, Gerald Holdcroft and Betty Tombleson. 2017 was their time to go home.

The Future

In the end its all down to God really and up to us to make sure we walk well the tightrope of bringing from the past the timeless truths of God and the Good News of his son Jesus but making sure we are able to present it to people who have fallen away from God or the people of all ages who have never know him.

Again let us see what God will do here

Ian

Diocesan Conference

The 2017 Diocesan Conference was the first to be presided over by our new Bishop, June Osborne. She had arranged the worship and business of the day so that the whole session formed a single act, within the context of the Eucharist.

As part of her getting to know her diocese she asked each of the Deaneries to describe themselves in three words, and these were generated by means of Deanery break-out groups.

Bishop June spoke of her desire to generate in her mind a map of the diocese, and to that end would be spending a day in each of the Deaneries by the beginning of 2018.

In addition to the discussions and Presidential Address, the usual necessary business of reporting also took place.

Finally, there was a period of hustings for those members seeking election to some of the Provincial bodies.

Deanery Conferences

In line with recent custom the Deanery Conference met on multiple occasions during the year.

At its February meeting a presentation was given by a representative of *Citizens Cymru* about how some Welsh communities had responded to the Syrian refugee crisis. Conference split into groups to consider whether some of these responses were ones that could be imitated in the Bridgend area.

In addition, we began to discuss ideas for how and why we might apply for funding for Deanery projects. These ideas were collated for further consideration by the Deanery Executive, and a Prayer Breakfast planned for May when Conference members could come together and seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit in regard to a future Deanery-wide project.

At our June meeting we welcomed our Archdeacon, Peggy Jackson, who was present to swear in Churchwardens for 2017-18.

Feedback from the Prayer Breakfast regarding a possible Deanery Project was given and discussed, though there was no clear outcome.

The possibility of presenting a Motion to Diocesan Conference regarding clergy remuneration was discussed, and the principle agreed.

Reports were given on the development of Ministry Areas in the Deanery.

Most of the October meeting was given over to Bishop June, who had spent the day in the Deanery as part of her tour of the diocese. She had a very warm reception from the Conference, spoke about herself, and invited questions from the floor.

The Conference formally approved a request by the parish of Ewenny and St Brides Major to transfer from the Deanery of Bridgend to the Deanery of the Vale of Glamorgan as from 1 January 2018.

Canon Mike Komor Area Dean

WARDENS' REPORT FOR LLANILID CHURCH

CHURCH FABRIC- The church is in good condition though cosmetically it is a little tired. There may be a hole in the eave of the roof above the organ as, during a church service, a bird entered the church. The heating seems less efficient as of late though this may be due to me getting older. We are at our limit for electricity, perhaps we can upgrade?

One church pew has been removed due to woodworm. This has not had an effect on capacity for weddings etc.

The churchyard gate is now left unlocked to enable wheelchair access. Add to this our new churchyard path and we have ticked almost all the boxes on the disability access requirements. All we need now is a bus stop next to the castle mound.

The carpark was re-graveled for a wedding and looks good.

CHURCH SERVICES – True attendance averages are 15 communicants per service, 1 attendance. This is not the figure that the Church in Wales wants; their calculations are more complicated.

We have had the full range of rites of passage in church plus the usual praise celebrations and rogation service. Add to this a wedding vow renewal and a thanksgiving for a child and Llanilid seems to be the focus of the important things in life.

Less well attended are the 5th Sunday service and 'To Pray More' services. The latter seems anathema to many people. Prayer comes with practice.

Service books are now the same 3-year lectionary style as the majority of churches follow. This negates the use of the reading sheets created by Nigel. Though we will miss his illustrations, the cost was just silly.

MISSION – The church gave to the Army Benevolent Fund during the Remembrance Day service. This was proposed by Churchwarden K. Murphy. If anyone wants to suggest another charity, speak up.

VISITATION – March 2017 was the time of the visitation. Not some religious feast, just the bishop's office giving us a one over to see if we need help and to check that our documents are up to date. We did well, and the relevant documents are in a pink file in the safe (just in case the wardens are all lost in a freak ballooning accident). Please let one of us know if your details have changed on the electoral roll. We are just publishing names in the porch, Church in Wales's regulations demands this, but personal details are just held by the wardens. If you want to check yours, just ask. They are in the pink file. We do not publish other details due to data protection laws.

Churchwardens

J. Nichols

K. Murphy

WARDEN EMERITUS

Seating "carpet" Apparently we have had a donation of £100 towards this, but I am still waiting for some firm prices. I had a verbal price of c£600 last year, but from their attitude I don't think they are really interested. My other contact still hasn't got back to me – I reminded him last week, so who knows....

Power in to the Church. There have been complaints that the church seems to have been getting colder over the past year or so. Some of our problems I think are that someone keeps altering the timer, without knowing what they are doing. There is little capacity left in the incoming power line to accommodate extra heating. I sized the original additional heating based on the maximum existing incomer. We need to contact Western Power or whoever to get a proper estimate, but it will be very expensive. It is proposed that the heating timer should be locked. This may solve part of the problem.

Bats are still on their holidays. We must expect them to return over the next month or so.

N. Ritchie (Emeritus)

TREASURERS REPORT

I took over the role of treasurer (temporarily) in May 2017 and it was difficult to begin with, but I soon learnt and I am sure you will all agree the accounts look to be healthy. I would like to thank all of the congregation for their contributions as without you, our accounts would not be so good. So a big thank you to all.

Diane Morris