

The Church Of St Margaret of Antioch, Shottisham Annual Report to the Village Parish Council For The Year Ended 31st December 2021

From Anne Buswell; I apologise for being unable to be present and give this report in person. I am one of the two churchwardens for Shottisham Church. I lived in the village from 1979 to 2004 when I moved to Sutton. My son Joe, his wife Jess and two children now live in my former home. I have served on the church council in three separate times of my life and for the last eleven years.

This report is one which will be given in more detail at the church's annual meeting on 18th May at 7pm in the church and which is open to all.

1. Administrative Information

Our church of St Margaret is in the Wilford Peninsula Team Benefice which consists of 18 parishes and these are sub-divided into clusters. Shottisham Parish is part of Rev Mandy's cluster which also includes Bromeswell, Sutton Village, Sutton Heath, Rendlesham St Gregory, Rendlesham St Felix, Eyke and Wantisden. The team leader of the benefice is Rev Giles Tulk who is based at Orford. The benefice is currently advertising for a third full time priest.

Shottisham church council members who served in 2021 were:

Team Rector/Vicar(s)	Revd Giles Tulk (R) Revd Mandy Reynolds (V)	Chairman
Churchwardens:	Anne Buswell Micky McBurnie	and Treasurer
Representative on the Deanery Synod:	Vacant	
Elected Members:	Pat Bendon Helene Berry Jeremy Emerson (elected Sep21) Helen Kemp (elected Sep21)	Elder and Secretary

There were 16 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll, 5 of whom were not resident within the parish. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Church Electoral Roll, inclusion in which enables them to vote at the Annual General Meeting and stand for election to the council.

We were very pleased to welcome Jeremy and Helen to the council during the year so that the village is more evenly represented.

2. Church Attendance 2021

In the first three months of 2021, church services continued to be affected by the Covid 19 pandemic. Regular church services were not resumed until April with mask wearing, social distancing and hand hygiene. The non-regular services held since April at Shottisham were one wedding, the Pet Service, the Harvest Praise at the Allotments, the Carol Service and Midnight at Bethlehem on Christmas Eve. A fund raising event for charity also took place in the church; this was the Autumn Concert.

The regular service timing remained at; First Sunday - Morning Praise 11.00 am, Second Sunday - Evensong 6.00 pm (tea and cakes from 5.30), Fourth Sunday - Family Communion 9.30 am.

The average attendance across all three services for the year was 7 which includes 2 children. The most popular village service continues to be the Christmas Carol Service.

Average attendance at each regular service was: Evensong 6, Morning Praise 5 and FC 9. We were not able to hold our usual special services of Lent Lunch, Good Friday Walk and the Sandlings School did not have a Carol Service. Attendance for the special services that were held were Pet Service 5 plus 3 dogs, Harvest at the Allotments 15, Village Carol Service 37 and Christmas Eve "Midnight Mass" at 9.30pm, 17.

There was one marriage service, but no funerals or burials of ashes in the church during the year.

3. Review of this Year and Future Events

The church council met five times during the year.

Three of our usual five Fund Raising Events for the church took place; these were the Summer Fete - where we were tremendously encouraged by the support from the village, the National Cycle Ride and the Winter Fayre. These raised a net £1694, £60 and £410 respectively. We also held three events for charity; the Autumn Concert which raised £273 for the East Anglian Air Ambulance and carol singing around the village which raised £177 for The Children's Society. The collection taken at the Harvest at the Allotments also went directly to The Red Cross charity.

Future events in 2022 will be discussed in detail at our APCM on 18th May. We have already enjoyed the Pancake Party, but expect the remaining events will be as the three we held last year:

Pet Service in August, Summer Fete; August Bank Holiday weekend, Concert; on afternoon of Remembrance Sunday

We have decided not to hold the Garden Walk this year so as not compete with any possible Jubilee Celebrations for the Queen.

Future work planned on the church building this year: replacement of notice board, repair of flag pole and upgrade of electrical supply to enable all heaters to run at the same time.

4. Financial Review.

General income was £4941 with outgoings of £6995 giving net outgoings of £2054. The contactless device now accounts for more than half of the offerings received in the church. A detailed breakdown will be available for the village to review at the APCM on 18th May and afterwards on display in the church porch.

Very many thanks to all who support the church as an organisation, its services, building upkeep and decoration.