

## **STONHAM ASPAL PARISH MEETING - 16 April 2019**

### **Report from Stonham Aspal and Mickfield Parochial Church Council 2018-2019**

Under the leadership of the Revd Philip Payne, the PCC is responsible for promoting the whole mission of the church of St Mary and St Lambert in the ecclesiastical parish of Stonham Aspal and Mickfield.

With the help of Self Supporting Minister Helen Norris and lay people, we ensure that there is a church service in this parish every Sunday and at other festivals. There is an important and strengthening link between the church and Stonham Aspal Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School and the Pre-school.

Our Chairman is Revd Philip Payne with Miss Josephine Mitson as Secretary, Mr James Mackintosh as Treasurer and Mrs Elizabeth Ince as Parish Safeguarding Officer. Mr David Tydeman and Mrs Alex Pratt are the Churchwardens

The church is open to everybody all day and every day and with the provision of services and general running costs this costs about £2 every hour of the year. Our general income last year was about £22,000, with expenditure of about £17,000. We have total cash funds of about £32,000, of which £5,000 is held as a reserve. The PCC is also responsible for the maintenance of the churchyards in both Stonham Aspal and Mickfield. Some of this work is paid for but much is done by volunteers, and more are always needed!

In addition to standard maintenance of boilers, security system etc, this year we have replaced the cemetery wooden gates with steel gates and upgraded the church interior lighting.

The maintaining and repairing of a Grade 1 listed building is expensive and we are always grateful for any financial assistance which, of course, can be Gift Aided if appropriate.

Our average Sunday attendance has decreased slightly. We would particularly welcome newcomers to the parish and young families to come and join us in our worship and support of church events. The church is here for you and if you can help in any way please contact any PCC officer or member.

Full details of church services and activities are publicised in the village magazines and at the church. The Annual Report and Financial Statement can be viewed on the noticeboard in the church porch.

Our next fund raising event is the Bank Holiday Plant Sale, Lunches and Refreshments on 25 and 26 May in the Village Hall.

John Ince  
16 April 2019