

Report for Parish Council AGM

All Saints Church

This year has been dominated by the pandemic and the Fareshare project. The latter was started in the church six weeks before lockdown. The aim of the project was to supply food, which would otherwise have been wasted, to people willing to avail themselves of the service. This food is made available at minimal cost and usually has a short shelf life. It is not a food bank and customers make a voluntary contribution for their requests. It can be accessed by anyone.

As we could not operate at a loss, it was envisaged that we would generate an operating surplus which would help with the running costs of the church. This has indeed proved the case. We were given a grant via ERVAS for ten free trays of food weekly for one year which doubled our supply. Then, throughout the school holidays and well into September we were asked if we would like to pick up free supplies from DEFRA. We used this food to make up hampers for families. During the run up to Christmas we were invited to apply for a grant of £1,000 which meant that we could offer weekly boxes to families at Christmas and throughout January. This service has proved uplifting for families at a time of economic uncertainty and has been a very worthwhile undertaking for all concerned.

At the beginning of this financial year we were able to pay up front for twenty trays of food weekly. In the absence of a village shop this is becoming a highly effective service and we wish it to continue.

In March 2020 the churches were closed and although food banks continued to operate on church premises the instructions from the diocese were ambiguous, causing us to re-locate to the community hall. It is envisaged that as the social activities in the hall begin to open up we will return to the church premises, sometime in June.

We are grateful to the team members that joined us during lockdown- Helen and Chris Jacobs, Robert Wilson, later Frank Pritchard and Emma Collinson helping us to continue a service which has been of great benefit to the community.

Nevertheless, it has been a good year for All Saints. We deliberated over the monthly cafe service which used to provide breakfast and instead offered a takeaway service. Communion resumed with stringent rules in place, but it was a lifeline for those who did not go out for any other reason. The monthly family service has grown and is well attended. We have also been well represented at other churches in the benefice during times of restricted opening.

On hold, for the time being, have been baptisms and confirmations, also a children's monthly meeting which involved food and activities. This is in

addition to any input to the church school. We look forward to gradually resuming these contacts as the situation changes.

In September 2020 we welcomed Rev Alistair Laird to the benefice. He came to us late in the year, having been appointed in March. He was formerly part of the chaplaincy team at Hull hospitals.

We are also grateful to have had the regular and reliable support of Rev Janice Sharp throughout the year, particularly helping at Fareshare on Fridays. Janice is also from the chaplaincy team, although now retired, and her support has been invaluable throughout this difficult but busy year.

appendix e