

**ST EMILION'S CHURCH, BARCHESTER
ANNUAL REPORT AND OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2006**

Administrative information

St. Emilion's Church is situated in The Green, Barchester. It is part of the Diocese of Salisbury within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Vicarage, Church Street, Barchester.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity excepted from registration with the Charity Commission

PCC members who have served from 1st January 2006 until the date this report was approved are:

<i>Incumbent:</i>	The Revd Onesimus Og	Chairman
<i>Reader:</i>	Mr Adam Agrippa	
<i>Wardens:</i>	Mrs Bathsheba Babylon	
	Mr Caleb Cornelius	Vice chairman
<i>Representatives on the Deanery Synod:</i>	Mr David Dathan	
	Mr Eli Emmaus	Secretary
	Mr Felix Festus	
<i>Elected members:</i>	Miss Gomer Goliath	(From APCM 2006 – 5 th April 2006)
	Mrs Hannah Hosea	Treasurer
	Mr Ishmael Isaiah	
	Miss Jemima Joshua	
	Mrs Kezia Korah	
	Miss Leah Lot	(Until APCM 2006 – 5 th April 2006)
	Mr Mark Moses	
	Miss Naomi Noah	
	Mr Paul Potiphar	(Until APCM 2006 – 5 th April 2006)
	Miss Ruth Reuben	
	Mr Timothy Thomas	(From APCM 2006 – 5 th April 2006)

Structure, governance and management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

Objectives and Activities

St Emilion's PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Revd Onesimus Og, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Church Centre complex of St Emilion's, The Green, Barchester.

Achievements and Performance

Church attendance

There are 273 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll, 91 of whom are not resident within the parish. 18 names were added during the year and 9 were removed either through death or because they moved away from the parish. The average weekly attendance, counted during October, was 207, but this number increased at festivals and two Christmas carol services had to be held to seat all those who wished to attend.

Review of the year

The full PCC met six times during the year with an average level of attendance of 80%. Committees met between meetings and minutes of their deliberations were received by the full PCC and discussed where necessary.

A great deal of time and thought was spent during the year on making best use of the new services. Many have said how much easier it is to follow the services now that they are

printed out in booklets. We also agreed the new style of Family Worship on the morning of the 3rd Sunday each month.

This has meant that special arrangements have had to be made for baptisms and for welcoming the families at corporate worship on the 1st Sunday of each month. It is pleasing to be able to report that the new arrangements have been well received since they came into operation during September. They will be reviewed by the PCC after 12 months.

The PCC has also focused its attention on the questions posed to parishes in the deanery about the most effective deployment of stipendiary and non-stipendiary clergy.

The kitchen in the Church Hall was refurbished during August and the new environment meets the stringent health and safety requirements and allows us to continue the old people's luncheon club on Saturdays. A new photocopier was purchased.

The Mission and Evangelism Committee is to be congratulated on their fund-raising efforts. £1,350 was raised for the Southern Africa Famine appeal. It is good that these efforts on behalf of others can be combined with opportunities for fellowship.

The planned giving through envelopes and banker's orders increased by 8% and it was good to see the use of Gift Aid envelopes increased. However the total income, including tax recovered but excluding the legacy, went up by only 2% due to a reduction in general donations and because no rummage sales were held. We were grateful for a pecuniary legacy of £1,000 from the estate of Mrs Esther Ruth. £2,000 was set aside towards the cost of the much needed cleaning of the organ. The work was completed in time for Christmas.

The state of the nave roof has been causing concern for some time. After many years, during which routine maintenance has been carried out, a detailed report on its condition will be prepared by the architect at the next routine inspection in April 2007. We have already anticipated the need for major structural renewal, and it is our policy to make provisions from general income in the hope that an urgent appeal can be avoided.

Financial Review

Total receipts on ordinary unrestricted funds were £63,450 and are detailed in the Financial Statements. The freehold house at 36 Church Road continues to be let temporarily, which provided a gross income of £3,700.

£60,850 was spent to provide the Christian ministry from St Emilion's Church, including the contribution to the diocesan parish share, which largely provides the stipends and housing for the clergy. It increased by 12%. The sum that the Churches in the deanery have to find is shared between the Churches according to a formula that is based mainly on a head count of the congregations. We have to find more of the sum at St Emilion's as the size of our congregation increased more compared with other churches.

The net result for the year was an excess of receipts over payments of £2,600. After transferring £2,000 to the designated Organ fund to cover expenditure incurred towards the end of the year (paid in 2007), and adding bank and deposit balances brought forward at the beginning of the year, the balances carried forward at 31st December for unrestricted funds totalled £4,900.

Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds (if possible), which equates to approximately six months unrestricted payments, to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time. The balance of £4,900 on unrestricted funds at the year end did not match this target.

The balance of £17,050 in the Fabric restricted fund is retained towards meeting the cost of the nave roof repairs detailed above.

It is our policy to invest our funds balances with the CBF Church of England Deposit Fund

Approved by the PCC on 8th March 2007 and signed on their behalf by Revd Onesimus Og (PCC chairman)