

# **Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council of Upton Magna**

**For the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025**

## **The Parochial Church Council of Upton Magna Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025**

### **Objectives and Activities**

The Parochial Church Council ("PCC") is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community at St. Lucia's Upton Magna. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer, scripture, music and sacrament. The PCC also holds community events including the annual summer village fete, the autumn Christmas Fair, and other social events.

### **Public Benefit Statement**

The trustees of the PCC are aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in The Advancement of Religion for the Public Benefit and have had regard to it in their administration of the Charity. The trustees believe that, by promoting the work of the Church of England in the Ecclesiastical Parish of Upton Magna it helps to promote the whole mission (pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical) of the Church more effectively, within the Ecclesiastical Parish, and that in doing so it provides a benefit to the public by:

- Providing facilities for public worship, pastoral care and spiritual, moral and intellectual development, both for its members and for anyone who wishes to benefit from what the Church offers; and
- Promoting Christian values and service by members of the Church in and to their communities, to the benefit of individuals and society as a whole.

The parish of Upton Magna is one of twelve that form the Benefice of Haughmond and Wrekin. The churches in the benefice, including St. Lucia's, are seeking to:

- Reach all generations with the Good News of Jesus
- Grow as disciples of Jesus
- Encourage all ages to use their gifts and talents
- Love and respect our local and wider communities

### **Achievements, Performance**

Since September 2024, there has been a vacancy in the Benefice team for a Team Rector. Although the role has been advertised twice, there has not been any applications for the post. It is hoped that a further advertisement in Spring 2026 will attract candidates. In the meantime, activity in the benefice and consequently in the parish of St. Michael's has been limited by the reduction in resource but there are several volunteers who are contributing to maintain activities during the interregnum. The trustees are pleased that the church continues to welcome new members into the church community including our Fresh Expressions of Worship (Bubble Church). The PCC once again organised a summer and Christmas fete in the village and the attendance was good. Our thanks also goes to Upton Magna Parish Council for their help and support, particularly: all lawnmower repairs and fuel costs for the volunteers to be able to maintain the churchyard, a large donation for the installation of a boiler, building costs for repairs to the church wall after a vehicle damaged it, repairs to the church mower/tool shed and for a lighting solution for the lychgate, so it could be illuminated at night. Our thank for all our village volunteers who give so much time for our Village Church.

## **Financial Review**

This will be on a separate sheet

## **Reserves Policy**

The PCC is conscious that it needs to hold a minimum level of reserves to fund its work in the short term should there be a sudden fall in income. It also recognises that a proportion of the reserves can be used to support the remedial and maintenance work identified in the quinquennial report

## **Safeguarding**

The PCC believe they have fulfilled their duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

## **Fundraising**

The PCC takes its fundraising responsibilities seriously and is very grateful to all donors – whether regular or occasional – for their support of the church and church events. PCC supporters are never taken for granted. The PCC take full responsibility for fundraising and do not use commercial organisations or professional fundraisers. All money raised is either by donations, fundraising events, special appeals or legacies for which the PCC are most grateful.

## **Volunteers**

The members of the PCC would like to thank all the volunteers who work so hard to make our Church a lively and vibrant community. Our especial thanks go to our church wardens, Lin Carding and Mike Lloyd, who have worked so tirelessly on our behalf and Lin Carding, who has helped us all understand the church's accounts and its finances.

## **Review of the Year**

2025 has been a very mixed year in the Benefice of Haughmond and Wrekin. We as a church and community at Upton Magna suffered the sad loss of Sue Woods. Our twelve Parishes have all worked very hard to continue the life of the church in their local setting. This has been in; prayer, public worship, witnessing for the gospel of Jesus Christ both in word and action, the organisation of church events, fundraising, looking after historic buildings and churchyards and in many cases being a good neighbour to those who need help in our villages and further afield.

The frustration has been in our continuing interregnum. The advert for the post of Team Rector has been publicized twice without any applicants. We are currently planning to advertise for a third time.

My thank go to all Church Officers, PCC members, congregation members and friends who have not let our interregnum dispirit or lessen their efforts for God's work in our Parishes and Benefice.

Revd. Ian Naylor - Acting Team Rector

## **Structure, Governance and Management**

The PCC is a Body Corporate established by the Church of England (PCC Powers Measure 1956, and the Church Representation Rules 2006) and is a Charity excepted from registration with the Charity Commission. The PCC is governed by the Parochial Church

Council Powers Measure (1956) as amended that came into effect on 2<sup>nd</sup> January 1957, and the Church Representation Rules.

The method of appointment of the PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. The Council comprises the Incumbent, the Churchwardens, a representative of the Readers, those elected to the Deanery Synod, and other members who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, by those on the Electoral Roll. The PCC members receive training from courses run by the Diocese. Members of the congregation are always urged to join the Electoral Roll, and to stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance in the parish, and for all financial matters. The PCC meet six times a year.

## Reference and Administrative details

The Church is situated in Upton Magna and is part of the Deanery of Shrewsbury and Wrekin, in the Diocese of Lichfield. The correspondence address is The Vicarage, Church Road, High Ercall, Telford TF6 6BE. The benefice website ([haughmondandwrekin.org.uk](http://haughmondandwrekin.org.uk)) provides information about activities and services at all churches in the benefice.

PCC members who have served from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024 until the date this report was approved were:

### Ex Officio Members

#### Members of the Team Ministry

Reverend Ian Naylor (Chair)  
Reverend Chris Tough  
Rosalie Wheeldon  
Di Woolridge

#### Churchwardens

Lin Carding  
Mike Lloyd

### Deanery Synod Reps

#### Elected Members

Margaret Birch  
Joyce Ford  
Elaine DeQuincey  
Cynthia Rickards  
Philip Woods  
Lisa Smith  
Lin Carding (Treasurer)  
Vacant (Secretary)

### Names and addresses of advisers

Royal Bank of Scotland, 36 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh, Scotland, EH2 2YB

Independent Examiner - Kevin Fowler