

toilet, and heating. Continued attention was also focused on churchyard maintenance, including securing of headstones, improved attention to the Garden of Remembrance plaques and flowerbeds, as well as repair of the gate.

The PCC actively supported church mission and ministry through a Thanksgiving service and the introduction of a new monthly worship pattern and additional lay leadership with Susan Erb and Maureen Hilson sharing responsibilities for the monthly family services.

Achievements and Performance

Church Attendance

As of 31 March 2016, there were 60 parishioners on the Electoral Roll, down from 64 as of April 2014 as a result of two deaths and two parishioners leaving Arkesden.

The average weekly attendance was 15 people, but the number significantly increased during festivals, as in previous years. The Wednesday evening prayer service usually welcomed three communicants. A successful and special service of Thanksgiving to celebrate those members of the community who contribute to the greater life of the church was held on June 7th with 43 attending. The annual Carol service was held on Sunday 20th December with 105 worshipers. There were approximately 75 people in attendance at the Christmas service, including 67 communicants.

Review of the year

- The full PCC met four times during the year, in March, June, September, and December. Meetings all had a high level of attendance.
- There were two funerals, one baptism, and no marriages carried out during 2015.
- Workshops for children were held at both Easter (egg decorating workshop) and at Christmas (with a bauble making day).
- Deanery Transforming Presence meeting was held on 23rd September and focused on *Looking to the Future Together*.
- The Women's Prayer Group met regularly throughout the year.
- Special services were: The June Service of Thanksgiving and the Advent Carol Service.

Financial Review

The overall outcome for 2015 was a small deficit of £259.

Income:

The total regular income for the year, including fees but excluding special collections (which go to the chosen charities) and income from the Summer Concert, was £19,887. This was up roughly £500 from 2014. Gift Aid recovered was slightly less than in 2014, at £3332, in part due to several large donations which could not make use of Gift Aid. General collections were about £150 less than in 2014 at £1472. This is principally due to fewer services held and ensuing reduction in envelopes. However, envelopes and pledged gifts increased by nearly £1700 from 2014.