**Church membership: why become a formal member of our church community at Sunnyside?**

Welcome to our church community. We hope you will become a full member by joining our **ELECTORAL ROLL**: the formal list of church members.

**What is the electoral roll?**

The electoral roll is a list of church members which must be kept by every Church of England parish. People can join the electoral roll if they live in the parish or if they have attended church services in the parish on a regular basis for a period of at least six months. There are over 200 people on the electoral roll at Sunnyside, many of them living outside our formal parish boundaries.

**Why join the electoral roll?**

People who join the electoral roll do so when they feel ready to make a commitment to playing a full part as a member of the Sunnyside church community.

Being on the electoral roll entitles you to:

* Attend and vote at the annual parish meeting
* Elect the church wardens and members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC). The PCC is the committee which makes decisions about the running of the church: our mission, our activities and how we spend the money you give.

**What am I committing to if I join the electoral roll?**

When people join the electoral roll and become full members of the Sunnyside church community, they are signalling that they intend to support the church by:

**Worshipping and praying with us** as regularly as you can.

**Regular, proportionate, and tax efficient giving** to support the costs of running your church: its paid staff, activities and its buildings.

**Helping** with activities and participating in services in whatever way works given the time you have available and your particular talents. There are lots of opportunities for all sorts of different people.

**Reviewing the electoral roll**

The electoral roll is completely reviewed every five years. At this time you will be asked if you want to sign up again. You can leave the electoral roll at any time by telling the electoral roll officer. The electoral roll officer keeps the list up to date: inviting new people to join when they become eligible and removing them from the list if they move away or stop attending church for a long period.

**Contact** The electoral roll officer can be contacted via the church office.

 office@sunnysidechurch.org.uk 01442 875025