

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting of St George's and St Paul's held on Thursday 7th April 2022 at 7.00 pm

Chair: Revd Andy Humm

Present: 63 members.

1. Welcome & Prayer

Andy welcomed everyone to the meeting and then opened with prayer.

2. Apologies

There had been 30 apologies received.

3. Election of Church Wardens

Andy advised that no further nominations had been received for Church Warden. Cari Bright and Sheila Hannallah were both willing to stand another year and had been nominated:

Sheila Hannallah – by Janice Kitchen and seconded by Ray Foxall

Cari Bright – by Sheila Hannallah and seconded by Patrick Bacon

Andy asked whether the meeting were happy to accept these two and all agreed.

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting held 22nd April 2021

The minutes of the APCM held 22nd April 2021 had been sent out prior to the meeting. There were no amendments and they were signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Carried: unanimously.

5. Electoral Roll Report

Sue Lines reported that the electoral roll now stands at 224, of which 97 are resident and 127 are non-resident.

There had been eight new members in the last year and 7 had been removed. Some had moved away, some sadly passed away and others had moved to another church. The electoral roll will re-open after the end of the APCM.

There were no questions raised and Andy thanked Sue and Sonia for their report and for the continued work on this.

6. Safeguarding Report

This had been included in the Report Booklet sent out prior to the meeting.

We have continued the process of reviewing our policies and have ensured that the PCC complies with the 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).

Andy thanked the team, consisting of Jenny Tower, Verity Yeates, Rose Chamberlain and Sheila Hannallah for their work this last year. He also encouraged the meeting to do what is asked of them by the team in a timely manner. He advised that we all want a church that is safe and protecting. There were no comments raised and the meeting was asked to accept the report to which all agreed.

7. Election of Deanery Synod and PCC members.

Deanery Synod

Andy advised that Bob Syers who had been our Representative on the Synod for the past year had agreed to continue for a further year. All were happy for Bob to continue in this role with thanks. Andy advised that there was room for another to join Bob if they so wished.

PCC members

Andy advised that Ruth Shaw, Julie Hingston, Stuart Chamberlain and Joshua Lines were stepping down having served their term. Thanks were expressed to these members for their service.

Andy advised that those remaining on the PCC were Terry Norris, Elizabeth Harrison, Janice Donnachie, Jill Partridge and Jonny Hardy.

Nominations had been received for the following:

Debbie Westlake, who had been co-opted during the previous year, by Verity Yeates and seconded by Anne Darbyshire

Jan Dawe - by Lynne Lyddon and seconded by Sharon Bradshaw

Stephen Clarke – by Diane Fraser and seconded by David Lyddon

Matt Baker – by Malcolm Yeates and seconded by Pete Barker

Jenny Tower – by Elizabeth Wales and seconded by Helen White

Rod Parvess – by Mike Shaw and seconded by Ruth Morley

Pat Bacon – by Terry Norris and seconded by Sharon Bradshaw

Ali Padfield – by Ruth Morley and seconded by Sarah Humm

Aubrey Mizen – by Tessa Mizen and seconded by Cari Bright

Andy asked whether the meeting was happy to accept these nominations and this was agreed unanimously.

8. To receive the Annual Accounts as at 31st December 2021.

Terry advised that the Annual Report and Financial Statements had been approved by the PCC on 6th April 2021, were now signed and would be available on the church website. Copies would be registered with the Charity Commission and the Diocese.

Terry then talked us through the figures in the accounts using prepared Powerpoint presentation.

The General Fund – Income for the year was £220,454 which was up by £20,288 on 2020. Terry advised however that we had received Covid 19 grants in 2021 of £34,862 and in 2020 £20,000 from Mid Devon District Council. If we remove these unusual grants then income was up by £7,389 on the previous year. This was mainly due to one-off donations as we have seen very little increase in regular giving.

Expenditure for the year was £199,412 which is an increase of £18,462 on 2020. This was due to an increase in staff salaries with our new Children's & Families Worker joining part way through the year, as well as increased costs and our Mission support giving up by £4,729 representing 10% of voluntary giving.

This gave a surplus of income over expenditure of £21,042 at the end of the year.

Terry then took us through the various Designated and Restricted Funds before looking at the Assets and Liabilities which show net assets of £193,639.

Budget 2022

The Budget as approved by PCC shows Expenditure of £211,205, an increase on 2021 due to anticipated increase in Establishment and Ministry expenses as well as a 7.5% increase in our Common Fund.

Projected Income of £181,212 means we are looking at a deficit budget of almost £30,000. This can of course be covered by our reserves if it comes to be which will reduce our reserves to £37,000 which is still in excess of our minimum reserve figure.

Terry pointed out however, that in past years God has stepped in with unexpected gifts that have enabled us to fund the work we are doing. The PCC will of course continue to monitor expenditure and will be good stewards of the resources we have.

After an opportunity for questions, the adoption of the Annual Report and Financial Statements for 2021 was proposed and approved.

Andy expressed thanks to Terry for his clear presentation of the accounts and for his regular updates provided to the PCC.

9. Appointment of Independent Examiner

Terry proposed that we appoint Paul Steele Ltd once again to be our Independent Examiners. This was seconded by Bill Maynard and carried unanimously.

10. Vicar's report

Andy's report had been circulated along with the APCM reports.

The meeting was asked for any comments or questions regarding the report. One member commented that she "loved putting up with Andy" picking up on a comment made by him in the report.

11. Other reports

All reports had been circulated prior to the meeting.

Andy highlighted the property section in the Church Wardens report and thanked those involved with grass cutting and also Pat Bacon who had been helping to look after the maintenance of the buildings.

Andy also highlighted the Deanery Synod report noting that at the last meeting in March there was discussion around sharing resources. When individual churches have training, courses or conferences to be able to invite other churches to come along.

Andy thanked all those who submitted reports with special thanks to Jonathan, Debbie and Jude.

12. Any other business

No items received. Andy asked us to continue to pray for the Asylum seekers who had been worshipping with us whilst in Tiverton as they were soon to be moved on.

The business of the meeting was concluded and refreshments were served. Following this Andy shared some thoughts around 'Looking Forward' followed by prayer.

Signed Date