

Annual Meeting of Parishioners 30th April 2023 4pm

PRESENT: James Hunt, Amanda Wollam, Liz Webb, Di Hunt, Mandy Cawood, Tim Gover, Susan Tatton-Brown, Nigel Barnfield, Rosemary Easton, Bev Rutter, Penny Russell, Pat Wilson, Robin Felix, Rod Passingham, Rosemary Weir, Michael Coker, Christine Coker, Marjorie Worth, Angela Montague, Simon Harrison, Amelia Tuttiet, Alan Foster, Godfrey Hebdon, Wendy Cooper, Caroline Palmer, Laurie Rickwood, Kate Rickwood, Kate Smythe, Jane Inder, Rebecca Hunt, Rosie Greenlees

APOLOGIES: Nigel and Susan Hyde, Paul and Vanessa Emmerson, David and Beryl Williamson, Claire Alcock, Katie Harrison, Les and Jill Craddock

James welcomed all to the meeting and shared Psalm 123.

He then thanked a number of people for their continued support and work over the last year. Thanks to Claire Alcock for her work as warden for the last 3 years, thanks to all PCC members (all but one are continuing in their roles), thank you to Michael and Christine Coker for their role in music, thanks to Kate Smythe and Katie Harrison for their work with children and families, Sam Sessions for her role in the office and Laurie Rickwood who is in the process of handing over his role in Safeguarding. Katie Harrison is moving out of her role with children and families, to return to the classroom.

The Annual meeting of Parishioners elects the church wardens each year. Liz Webb has been nominated for this role by Paul Emmerson and Nigel Barnfield seconded. Mandy Cawood has been proposed by Liz Webb and Luke Hawkins seconded. Both were unanimously elected with no abstentions.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Minutes of last years meeting were agreed and no matters were raised.

FINANCES:

Nigel Barnfield gave a very comprehensive over view of the accounts for the last year.

Our total income was £254, 243 including planned giving of £115,847, recovered Gift Aid £28,706, Legacies £46,000 and the Fayre £11,266.

Our total expenditure was £240,277 including Parish Share £99,720.

For the coming year we have a planned budget of £211,200, of which £102,000 will be paid as our Parish Share. We have a predicted income of £177,000, so we are anticipating a £34,200 gap between income and expenditure in 2023. We do have reserves we can call on, but we do try to keep reserves of £25,000. A letter has been sent to those in the church outlining the position and requesting financial support and there has been an £18,000 increase in giving.

A question was raised about whether we should be asking for BM Upham to contribute increased funds as their contribution to the services received from St Peters? James shared that currently they contribute a fair amount, but this can be reviewed. Any comments to James.

A question was raised about the Friends of St Peters, who have previously raised money for the fabric of the church. This has now closed, with any monies remaining being passed to the church to be used on the church building. Monies are being held in designated funds. We are hoping to restart the Friends of St Peters inviting regular contributions from local people to support the upkeep of the building

A question was raised about mission giving. We currently allocate £6,000 to spend on missions. Also money given to the Diocese is also classed as Mission giving as this does support a number of other churches.

A vote of thanks was proposed to Nigel for all his work as Treasurer and particular thanks for another year of service, having last year indicating his intent to step down. Thanks also to the finance committee for their work in support of Nigel. Thanks also to Paul for identifying a software package for C of E churches which will assist in the role.

The aim is to divide the work Nigel currently undertakes into 3, book keeping, treasurer and the software package. We may need to pay someone to undertake some aspects of the work.

ELECTORAL ROLL: We currently have 236 on roll, and an AWA of 150. Our worshipping community is about 250 people.

James thanked all who had contributed to the annual report shared prior to the meeting. He also thanked Sam who had compiled it.

A question was raised re PCC minutes being made available on the website. We do not have a members only password protected area on our website. It was agreed that future minutes will be posted on our web page, and James will share in the weekly email agenda items and date of forthcoming PCC meetings.

DEANERY SYNOD:

Paul Emmerson has been proposed as Deanery Synod member by Gareth Morgan and Brenda Robinson seconded. Amanda Wollam has been proposed by Cathy Salter and seconded by Les Craddock. Rosie Greenlees has been proposed by Paul Emmerson and seconded by Vanessa Emmerson. All were unanimously elected.

There are a number of changes currently in the Deanery, and in future we will only have 5 incumbants. Please do pray for the Deanery.

PCC:

Penny Russell has been nominated to join the PCC by Claire Alcock and Paul Emmerson seconded the nomination. Amelia Tuttiett has been proposed as a PCC member by Paul Emmerson and this was seconded by Pat Gover. Both were unanimously elected.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER OF ACCOUNTS:

Louise Burton was proposed as Independent Examiner of the Accounts by James Hunt and Rod Passingham seconded the proposal. This was unanimously accepted.

Thanks were expressed to Charles Crossley for all of his work in relation to the buildings.

James then shared his vision for us as a church, that over the coming year we learn to walk, talk and listen, alone and with others , just as Jesus did.

A question was raised re deanery and diocesan changes, and the need to brief the church on what's happening. James explained that things have been quite fluid with little clearly decided, but he will ensure the church is briefed on proposed changes.

An audit tool has been developed for each church to complete looking at how healthy each church is. This includes physical buildings, prayer and worship, type of services, activities, people etc. It is hoped this will help to identify where we can help each other. Liz Webb has completed on behalf of St Peters.

Concerns were raised about the AV which doesn't always work. Currently it relies on an internet link from James study, which frequently drops out. It will cost about £5,000 for a permanent link.

An online prayer meeting takes place each Thursday morning at 8 which all are invited to attend. Wendy Cooper sends out the Zoom link each week, so do ask if you would like to join.

The meeting closed with the sharing of the Grace