

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, WEST CHILTINGTON

VESTRY MEETING. - SUNDAY 22nd APRIL 2018

PRESENT: Rev'd David Coleman, Diane Bennett (Churchwarden), Pam Wells (Churchwarden), Francis Midmer (Treasurer), Ali Littleboy (Secretary), Charmaine Barrett, Dan and Judy Beckwith, Malcolm Bennett, Vivienne Bicknell, Norman and Sally Boyland, John Brocklebank, Brenda Bull, Ian and Andrea Carlson-Hedges, Clive and Stephanie Cole, Rosemary Coleman, Aileen Davies, Robert Ellis, Peter Evans, David and Barbara Evans, David Foard, Joan Granville, Tony and Frances Hancock, Richard Holliday, June Knowles, Martin Littleboy, Vanessa Llambias, Daphne Mabbitt, Mo Mall, Jane Stoy, David and Angela Thatcher, Robert and Brenda Tunnell. Estelle Warriner, Penny Wilson.

1. WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER

Rev'd David Coleman opened the meeting with a few words of welcome and a prayer.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies have been received from: Hilary Brocklebank, Tim and Sarah Fooks, Jill Holliday, Joy Hoolahan, Jim Jarvie, Bali Mall, Robert and Jenny Neal-Smith, Phil and Muriel Race, Michael Rushworth, Thelma Selby, Brenda Shaw, Pauline Turier, and Liz and Chris Williams.

3. MINUTES OF VESTRY MEETING HELD ON 30TH APRIL 2017

The Minutes were approved as a correct record.

4. ELECTION OF CHURCHWARDENS

Diane Bennett and Pam Wells were both nominated for re-election as Churchwardens. Diane was proposed by Francis Midmer and seconded by Penny Wilson. Pam was proposed by Clive Cole and seconded by Stephanie Cole. Both were duly elected.

David thanked them both for their service during the past year and for the service they will give in the year ahead.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING (APCM)
SUNDAY 22nd APRIL 2018

The APCM immediately followed the Vestry meeting.

PRESENT: As for Vestry Meeting

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

As for Vestry Meeting

2. MINUTES OF THE APCM HELD ON 30TH APRIL 2017

Following the amendment of electoral roll numbers from 7 people living outside the parish to 18 the Minutes were accepted as a correct record of the meeting.

3. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

4. REPORTS

(a) Electoral Roll Report

There are 135 names in total on the Electoral Roll for 2018. This includes 22 who are non-resident. Mr John Stoy asked that his name be removed and Mrs Rosemary Coleman and Mrs Isabel Glenister have been added. Next year the roll will be reviewed and to this end all those on the roll will receive a letter requesting that they complete a reapplication form. Andrea requested current addresses for Mrs Cynthia Armstrong, Mrs Catherine Thompson-Glover and Mr and Mrs Carl Massey. She would be grateful if anyone has their details to let her know.

David commented that he prays for all those listed on our electoral roll twice a week. He also reported that the PCC will be addressing the implications of the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) which come into force in May 2018 in order that we meet our obligations and responsibilities.

(b) Trustees' Annual Report

Diane thanked everyone for the support both Churchwardens received during the period of interregnum. The support of the Arch Deacon and the Rural Dean was invaluable during the many stages involved in appointing a suitable incumbent. Having agreed a profile for St Mary's the position was advertised. Eventually prayers were answered with the welcome arrival of David and Rosemary who will soon (hopefully) be settled in the newly refurbished rectory and we all look forward to a new chapter in our church life and the life of the village.

Pam reported that the PCC had continued to meet every two months with a busy and proactive agenda being followed. However, they were advised by the Arch Deacon and Rural Dean to focus on the everyday business of running the church and meeting the spiritual needs of the parish and not to pursue any major fundraising initiatives. Pam thanked all the retired clergy who ensured that we were able to continue our services. She also thanked Tim for continuing with the inspirational family services. She thanked the PCC for their positive approach throughout the interregnum and the congregation for their support of the PCC. She finished by asking that we all embrace the future growth of our church and all it has to offer.

(c) Financial Report

Francis summarised the key points in the published Financial Report which forms part of the Annual Trustees' Report. He thanked the Churchwardens for ensuring that all services continued as normal throughout the interregnum and the consequential benefits were increased donations to the church. This is a most unusual outcome during an interregnum. However, the surplus is offset by the fact that we did not pay our full parish share. Nevertheless, the finances reflect a 'quiet improvement' which is a most satisfactory situation having undergone an interregnum. He thanked all those who had made this possible.

The Annual Trustees' Report and Financial Accounts was accepted unanimously.

Rev'd David announced that Francis was stepping down as Treasurer and that Brenda would be taking over. Francis was thanked for his sterling work as Treasurer and a presentation was made to him.

(d) Fabric

Norman briefly summarised his report previously circulated and he focused on three key areas. He thanked Dennis Skinner for the excellent job he does in carrying out churchyard maintenance. However, he highlighted the difficulties experienced in maintaining graves that do not comply with Diocesan guidelines. This matter will be sensitively dealt with by the Churchwardens and the Rector.

He explained that the building once used by the youth club is virtually derelict. It is not insurable and is now completely unserviceable and the PCC have accepted the recommendation that it is demolished. The scheme to replace the church heating boilers has been progressed. However, Norman summarised the lengthy and involved process he has had to go through before an acceptable application for a faculty could be considered. The faculty was finally made in February 2018.

Pam invited all present to give Norman a round of applause in recognition of the sterling work he does.

The Church Terrier and Inventory and the Church Log Book were presented at the meeting. They are otherwise kept in the safe in the Parish office. The books record our assets and all the

work done on the building. It was noted that the new organ has not been listed. This will be done.

(e) Deanery Synod

Diane gave a brief report on the proceedings of the Deanery Synod. Three meetings are held annually and anyone can attend. However, only Deanery Synod members can vote. We have three Deanery Synod members and a Diocesan Synod member.

5. ELECTION OF DEANERY SYNOD MEMBERS

There are no elections for Deanery Synod members this year.

6. ELECTION OF PCC MEMBERS

Andrea asked why the PCC secretary needed to be elected when she could be co-opted and accordingly receive remuneration. Rev'd David explained that he preferred to have as many people elected as there were vacancies and then if during the year there was a requirement to co-opt a member there are vacancies to do this.

There were seven nominations for election to the PCC and only six vacancies. A ballot was therefore necessary and accordingly all those present were invited to complete a ballot slip. Rosemary Coleman and Clive Cole acted as Tellers and Rev'd David Coleman was the Returning officer. On completion of the ballot the following were successfully elected to stand for three years: John Brocklebank, Frances Hancock, Vanessa Llambias, Alison Littleboy, Jenny Neal-Smith, Robert Neal-Smith.

7. ELECTION OF SIDESMEN (EN BLOC)

A list of the current sidesmen were read out and all were re-elected *en bloc*. Robert Ellis explained that he was not listed but he has been sidesman at past Evensong services and accordingly he will be added to the list.

8. APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Francis confirmed that Mr Adrian Radford had expressed his willingness to continue as our Independent Examiner. The motion to re-appoint him was proposed by David Foard, seconded by June Knowles and unanimously agreed.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(a) Address from the Rector

Having taken up his appointment as Rector only a month ago Rev'd David was not able to comment on church life at St Mary's over the past year. However, his short address focused on his vision for the future of St Mary's incorporating the aspirations of the parish profile. David summed this up as: listed building, living faith, loving community and seeing lives transformed. He went on to say that his initial focus has been on social media, freshening up how we look and the resources we provide, opening up more pathways to prayer and ensuring that children and families are central but he considered that this is not easy when there is no Sunday school.

He commented that there is wisdom in an older congregation – wisdom learns from the past but is hopeful for the future (Anna and Simeon). He commented that we will be intentionally missional by exploring which tools are the best for us – alpha, pilgrim, godly play, messy church, faith pictures. We need a good balance between weekly access to discipleship and growth opportunities and Sunday worship that is diverse, appropriate and meets the needs of our community. He finished by saying that 'We will learn together how to:

- enter the kingdom through the door marked **create**
- through the door marked **participate**
- through the door marked **engage**
- through the door marked **risk**
- And we will go through these doors in the power of the Spirit knowing that Jesus has gone through them first".

(b) Richard Holliday suggested that having been so well served by many retired clergy during the interregnum we should send a letter of thanks to them all. Diane confirmed that all letters have been sent and additionally the Churchwardens have invited them all to a special tea in the church hall.

The next Vestry Meeting and APCM will be on Sunday 28th April 2019

**MEETING OF THE NEW PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL -
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE APCM**

TO APPOINT THE OFFICERS OF THE PCC AND STANDING COMMITTEE

PRESENT: Rev'd David Coleman, Diane Bennett (Churchwarden), Pam Wells (Churchwarden), John Brocklebank, Brenda Bull, Ian Carlson-Hedges, Clive Cole, David Foard, Frances Hancock, Vanessa Llambias, Ali Littleboy, Francis Midmer and Robert Tunnell.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Jenny Neal-Smith, Robert Neal-Smith, Mike Rushworth, Pauline Turier.

2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Pam Wells was appointed Vice-Chairman. Proposed by Robert Tunnell and seconded by Clive Cole.

3. APPOINTMENT OF PCC SECRETARY

Ali Littleboy was appointed PCC Secretary. Proposed by Frances Hancock and seconded by Ian Carlson-Hedges.

4. APPOINTMENT OF TREASURER

Brenda Bull was appointed Treasurer. Proposed by John Brocklebank and seconded by David Foard.

5. APPOINTMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

It was unanimously agreed to appoint the following as members of the Standing Committee:

- Pam Wells (Churchwarden)
- Diane Bennett (Churchwarden)
- Brenda Bull (Treasurer)
- Ali Littleboy (PCC Sec)

6. APPOINTMENT OF SUB-COMMITTEES TO THE PCC

Discussion followed on identifying sub-committees and representatives on the committees. Standing Committee to discuss further. Initial list as follows:

- Finance
- Fundraising and social
- FGL (incorporates stewardship)
- H&S
- Fabric
- Safeguarding
- Church Hall – to be resurrected
- Flower – maybe a working group of Fundraising

The next PCC Meeting will be on Wednesday 9th May 2018 at 7pm in the church.

Chairman.....

Dated.....