

Parochial Church Council of St Bartholomew's, Yarnnton
APCM 29th May 2022 in St Bartholomew's Church
Minutes

Meeting of Parishioners

1. Election of Churchwardens

Two nominations were received proposing Paul Tweddle and John Appleton as Churchwardens for the next year. Both were elected unanimously to serve as churchwardens until the 2023 APCM.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

1. **Welcome:** Oliver Petter welcomed those present to the annual meeting.

2. **Apologies:** No apologies for absence were received.

3. Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2021

The combined minutes of the APCM and Meeting of Parishioners (Vestry meeting) held of 13th June 2021 were accepted and approved. Minutes were signed and dated by Rev. Oliver Petter.

4. Electoral Roll

Report on the revision to the electoral roll was presented. The number of people on the electoral roll has increased to 55 people.

5. Proceedings of the PCC and other Church Groups

A report on the proceedings of the PCC and other church groups, and the Rector's annual parish report was presented at the meeting. These reflected on the way in which the life and worship of the church has been affected in 2021 by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the restrictions associated with it, and how the church has adapted its worship, ministry and pastoral care to the changing situation. The Rector expressed thanks to all who had enabled the church to continue its core activities and resume others as they resumed following the easing of restrictions.

A highlight of the year was the positive response to the climate crisis, leading to the formation of the St Bartholomew's Eco group and working towards the Bronze Eco Church award.

6. Financial Statements 2021

Gary Brewerton, PCC Treasurer, circulated the Financial Statements of the PCC for the year ending 31 December 2021 and highlighted the key items.

Payment of the Parish Share to the Diocese continues to be a challenge and we have been unable to meet our full Parish Share. Also church running expenses are increasing, in particular fuel costs for electricity and oil.

The collection plate incorporating a card reader for donations is being used more now. The treasurer also encouraged people to sign up to the Parish Giving Scheme as Gift Aid is then recovered on a monthly basis rather than having to wait to the end of the year.

The church has received a couple of legacies in the past year and fund raising events towards the roof repair fund have taken place.

The 2021 Financial reports were approved and signed.

7. Fabric, Goods and Ornaments

John Appleton gave the Churchwarden's report for 2021.

The exterior repairs to the chancel have been completed. Work on the interior is still awaited.

Specification for the repairs to the roof have now been obtained. We are still awaiting the Quinquennial report. Routine maintenance of the downpipes and fire extinguishers has been done.

The new Yarnton Manor owners are planning to do works on the Parish room, including improvement of the toilet and kitchen facilities, still allowing St Bartholomew's church access to these.

A revised estimate has been obtained to repair the church floodlights and install a time switch, however these works have not yet been implemented.

There is a plan to improve the condition of the memorial bench outside the church by sanding and re-staining it.

8. Deanery Synod

The annual report of the proceeding of Woodstock Deanery Synod 2021 was presented by Penny Small, Deanery Synod representative.

9. Safeguarding Report

The annual safeguarding report was presented by Charlotte Rayner, the parish safeguarding officer.

Safeguarding is now a standard report at every PCC meeting. The safeguarding policy was approved and adopted by the PCC on 21/01/2021. Charlotte reminded us that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

10. Election of Lay Members of the PCC

There were no new members of the PCC proposed this year.

Rosie Hilliard, Jill Rowbotham, Rachel Woods, Neil Small, Charlotte Rayner and Douglas Fairhurst will continue as PCC members. John Appleton and Paul Tweddle (Churchwardens), Penny Small (Deanery Synod Rep) and Gary Brewer (Treasurer) are members ex officio. Penny Small was elected for another year as Deanery Synod representative. There is a vacancy for a second Deanery Synod representative and Oliver Petter invited anyone interested in this role to contact him. Penny will also continue as PCC secretary for now but plans to step back from this during the next year.

11. Independent Examiner

The Treasurer proposed to appoint once again Astral Accountancy Services as Independent Examiner of the PCC's Financial Statements for the year ending 31 December 2022. This was approved.

12. Any Other Business

The rector will circulate a questionnaire concerning the changing guidance of the distribution of Holy Communion during the ongoing Covid 19 pandemic.

The church is hoping to launch a regular 'coffee afternoon' on Monday's from September onwards, possibly using the British Legion facilities in Yarnton.