

Minutes of The Annual Parochial Church Meeting, Begbroke St Michael

Held at St Michaels' Church, Begbroke at 10.45 on 28th April 2019

Present:

Revd. Oliver Petter, Neill Brodey, Robert Hands, Jenny Hands, Rosa Cadd, Peter Cadd

1. Apologies:

Ken Osborn, Jane Verdon, Jane Hill, Caroline Waugh

2. Minutes of previous meeting:

The minutes of the annual meeting held on 22nd April 2018 which had been circulated following that meeting were approved by those who had been present. There was just one matter arising that would not be dealt with elsewhere. The division of the benefices in December 2017 resulted in the incumbent of the Benefice of Yarnton with Begbroke and Shipton-on-Cherwell being presented, installed, instituted and inducted as Vicar rather than Rector. Although this is more a technical issue than a material one, it had been agreed that the matter should be rectified and in due course Oliver would probably have a service to formally recognise the change. Oliver saw this as an opportunity to celebrate as a benefice later in the year.

3. Electoral Roll report:

Neill Brodey was pleased to inform the meeting that our numbers on the roll had had increased from 15 to 19.

4. Vicar's report:

Oliver had given his reflection in the sermon earlier. It is appended to the minutes. Specific points of note were:

1. That the LVS school relationship continues to develop. Oliver will take the chaplaincy and provide services for key events. Religious teaching is something that is still being discussed because the school is careful about providing a balanced approach to all religions.
2. Service patterns are something Oliver would like to consider, now that he has been in the benefice nearly an hour. There was some conversation about services in the village hall, perhaps as a monthly Village Praise event.
3. The presence of a very experienced priest, Richard Turnbull, in our church community creates new opportunities and Richard will take some services during Oliver's paternity absence during July

5. PCC report

The past 12 months had seen the recruitment of Oliver which had brought the three parishes closer together through the formation of the benefice profile and through the creation of the benefice website. This spirit has been reignited with the away-day to Cuddleston in March and now we need to reflect on ways to grow together. Oliver's ministry has been appreciated together with continuing support from Jim and James and there has been good attendance on Sundays. As the building work gets closer (see Churchwarden's report) there are many positives to be celebrated.

5. Financial statements:

Jenny Hands presented the financial results from 2018.

Planned giving and church fees for funerals etc were higher than the previous year and collections level with last year. The unrestricted fund had a surplus of £484 and as a result

the two linked bank accounts had £2,762 at the end of 2018.

Last year's donation of £50,000 generated a significant additional £12,500 windfall of gift aid this year, leading to an end of year balance of £61,541 for the McCann Appeal Fund. The 2018 share value was set at £13,384 and £10,707 was paid being the 80% committed under our recovery plan.

6. Churchwardens' report:

Rob Hands reported that he was working on three projects, in the following order:

1. Installation of toilet and refurbishment of the vestry.
2. Repairs to external stonework and roof.
3. Internal decoration.

After a painful struggle with the normal architects, (Arnold Bartosch Ltd) Rob has received quotation from an alternative architect. After discussion the meeting felt that changing would accelerate the work and recommended that the PCC be encouraged to engage the new architect.

All expressed their thanks to Rob for the huge number of hours he has put into this project. Neill confirmed that a photographic inventory of church goods existed. No other matters were raised.

7. Deanery Synod report:

Neill Brodey presented highlights from the Deanery Synod over the previous 12 months. The two meetings that he had attended were in November 18 and February 19, both at Woodstock.

The November meeting had received a talk from Kevin Lovell on Bishop Steven's vision "*To be a more Christlike church.*" It was explained that this would be a slowly evolving message, rather than a single big message. The Oxford Diocese website has lots of materials on the vision.

The February talk was by Rev Charles Chadwick on "*Rural Oxfordshire - Replenishing for the future.*" This discussed the use of church buildings and Charles explained that there is no "one solution". Each parish has a different context and we must seek the right solution for our parish.

8. Election of Churchwardens

The Parishioners meeting prior to the APCM elected Neill Brodey and Robert Hands to continue as Churchwardens. This meeting thanked them for their contribution, especially during the interregnum.

9. Election of Parochial Church Council members for the coming year:

In addition to the church wardens, the following offered themselves for re-election. Jenny Hands, Caroline Waugh, Rosa Cadd. These three were elected en-bloc.

10. Appointment of Sidespersons:

In addition to the members of the PCC, Peter Cadd will continue to assist in services.

11. Appointment of Independent Examiner:

Once again Andrew Donaldson was felt to have performed a good and clear examination and presentation. It was agreed that he should be asked to perform this role again for the coming year, noting again with thanks that he has offered his services free of charge.

PCC Meeting

The first PCC meeting of the new committee will be advised in due course.