

APCM 28 April 2019 in The Spencer Chapel

Minutes

Present: Oliver Petter, John Appleton, Gary Brewerton, Douglas Fairhurst, Valerie Fairhurst, Pauline Franklin, Terry Fenton, Ian Gill, Marion Jones, Neil Small, Penny Small, Diana White, Brian White, Rachel Gardner, Rosemarie Weigand, Sue Fincher, Ernie Canning.

Apologies: Pam Appleton, Gill Rowbotham, Paul Tweddle, Charlotte Rayner, Joanna Bailey.

Oliver Petter welcomed those present to the annual meetings.

Meeting of Parishioners

1. Election of Churchwardens

Two nominations has been received: John Appleton (proposed by ? , seconded by M Jones) and Paul Tweddle (proposed by John Appleton, seconded by Brad Rayner). In the absence of other nominations, these two were elected until the 2020 APCM.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Rev. Oliver Petter opened the meeting in prayer.

1. Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2018

The meeting approved the combined minutes of the APCM and Meeting of Parishioners (Vestry meeting) held of 22 April 2018. Minutes were approved, signed and dated.

Sue Fincher questioned whether the 2018 APCM minutes were ones that she had written. Oliver Petter said he would look into it. Vote of thanks to Sue Fincher for her work as PCC secretary up to the last APCM.

2. Electoral Roll

Report on the revision to the electoral roll was presented. 48 people now on the electoral roll. This is slightly down on numbers from last year but may be increased by couples wishing to marry in the church. Thanks were expressed to John Appleton and Neil Small for compiling the roll. The new roll is displayed on the church porch noticeboard.

3. Proceedings of the PCC and other Church Groups

A report on the proceedings of the PCC and other church groups was circulated at the meeting. Oliver Petter presented his vicar's report which also covered much of the material in the PCC report.

4. Financial Statements 2017

Gary Brewerton, PCC Treasurer, circulated the Financial Statements of the PCC for the year ending 31 December 2018 and highlighted the key items.

General giving was maintained at a similar level in 2018. Ideally Gift Aid envelopes should be marked with name, date and postcode however Gift Aid can be claimed on cash collections up to £8000 per year in any case. There was a £1000 increase in unrestricted funds compared with 2017.

The Church had continued to increase our contribution to the Parish Share, although this was still below the full level set by the Diocese. We have agreed that this year (2019) we will increase our contribution to the Parish Share to £2025 per month.

Finances continue to be tight and church running costs continue to increase, including maintenance of the boiler and insurance costs. We still need more fund-raising in order to meet our costs and our Parish Share contribution. The restricted fund special fund is set aside towards bringing a water supply into the church. The treasurer expressed thanks to Oliver Petter for his support. The 2018 Financial reports were approved and signed by Oliver Petter and John Appleton.

5. Fabric, Goods and Ornaments

John Appleton, Churchwarden, particularly thanked Rev Jim Turner for all his support during the interregnum in 2018 and Rev Oliver Petter for all his hard work since his appointment in July.

John gave a verbal report from the Churchwardens outlining the main work that had been undertaken on the church during 2018.

The report highlighted that leaks had been discovered in the church roof. Inspection by Abbey Roofing Contractors was carried out and estimates for a full repair and temporary repair were given of £47083 and £1718 respectively. Likely the best course will be to do the temporary repair to allow time to fundraise for the complete cost.

Questions raised in the meeting: Could we do something about the condition of the bench outside the church and memorial on it? Benefactor's board, where to re-site it in the church and how. Brian White suggested metal brackets into the stonework. To be discussed further at the PCC.

Oliver Petter expressed thanks to John for all the work the churchwardens do.

6. Deanery Synod

The annual report of the proceeding of Woodstock Deanery Synod 2018 was read out by Penny Small, PCC secretary.

7. Election of Lay Members of the PCC

The size of the electoral roll (now below 50) determines that there were six places available. Continuing members were: Gary Brewerton, Ian Gill, Marion Jones, Charlotte Rayner and Neil Small. John Appleton and Paul Tweddle (Churchwardens) and Revd Jim Turner were members ex officio. Douglas Fairhurst was elected as a lay member of the PCC. Penny Small was elected as Deanery Synod Rep and will continue as PCC secretary.

8. 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 2019. This was agreed.

9. Any Other Business

Douglas Fairhurst expressed thanks to Rachel for her support of the midweek study group meetings and other parish activities.

Brian White asked whether we could sometimes have a joint Benefice service. Discussion observed that historically people have not often crossed village boundaries to attend when service is in a different village from their own.

It was noted that if Oliver Petter's position is changed from vicar to rector a service with the Bishop may be needed.