

ST PETER'S CHURCH, GOODWORTH CLATFORD

Minutes of Annual Parochial Church Meeting

held on

Tuesday 5 April 2022 –
at 1930h in St Peter's Room

1. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes were proposed by Mary Graham, seconded by Judy Gould, and unanimously agreed that they were a true record of the meeting.

2. Elections and Appointments

- a) *Deanery Synod:* Peter was thanked for his work in the Deanery Synod as he continues in his current 3-year tenure; and all present wished him a speedy recovery from his current illness. A second position is currently vacant, and anyone wishing to stand for the position should speak to a member of the PCC.

- b) *Parochial Church Council Members:* John thanked all members of the PCC, and particularly to Mark Haszlakiewicz for all he does around the church and his willingness to continue to stand for nomination as a member. Willing to continue in their current 3-year tenures are Becky Stevens, Louise Wodehouse, Belinda Jones, Sandra Hopwood, Liz Collinson, John Jarvis and Martin Jourdan. Mark Haszlakiewicz had come to the end of his current tenure and was nominated to stand again (proposed by Cecilia Haszlakiewicz, seconded by John Milne). He was unanimously voted in as a member. There is 1 vacancy on the PCC and anyone interested in joining should contact the Churchwardens.

- c) *Sidepeople:* Sincere thanks were given to Mary Graham for all her organising of the sidepeople: Cherry Milne, Val and Martin Jourdan, Cecilia Haszlakiewicz, Sandra Hopwood Diana O-Rutinsky, Liz Collinson and Chris Jenkins; and they were thanked for their invaluable service. All were happy to continue in this role and were proposed by Sue Clarke, seconded by Geoff Scard, and unanimously supported to continue.

- d) *Independent Financial Examiner:* John Milne explained with John Jarvis joining the PCC as a full member, a new Independent Financial Examiner for the accounts had to found, and was delighted to advise that Richard Langrishe had stepped forward. Accordingly, his co-option to the PCC was proposed by John Jarvis, seconded by Louise Wodehouse, and unanimously supported.

3. Safeguarding Report

John Milne talked through a variety of issues, noting that St Peter's is in good shape. He reported that the Church of England has had issues with some aspects of safeguarding and more is now expected from all those involved in roles in the Church in respect of safeguarding. The PCC, Choir and others have been asked to do additional training – mostly online, which has largely now been completed. In addition, there is a long safeguarding policy for the Parish; and the House of Bishops has produced a reference booklet on safeguarding. This will be left in the Church for easy reference by all. To assist everyone involved with the church, a small pamphlet has been produced to be issued to everyone so that reporting of any issues is clear. This was circulated to the APCM attendees. Sue Kipling emphasised the importance of people being vigilant and reporting concerns. Geoff Scard noted the lack of coordination by the Diocese between the Cathedral and the Benefice, given that he had received reminders for training for both. This was recognised.

4. Receiving the Financial Accounts and the Summary Annual Report

Annual Report: this was discussed. John Milne highlighted a few areas – notably that Katrina Dykes left during 2021 and in the intervening period the pastoral team have worked incredibly hard, and the new incumbent, Revd Teresa Townsend is being licenced this month. She moves into her house shortly. He noted the huge success of the carol service. Church attendances have been strong, especially over the Christmas period. He noted the Way Inn's new ways of meeting, either for lunch or coffee, which are proving popular. John Milne paid tribute to George Dowling, who was a lifetime Bellringer, who died recently. Angela Rice retired as Head Teacher of the Clatford Primary School, after a marvellous career, being succeeded by Matthew Kirk. The Parish Magazine has continued to spread village news across the Clatfords. Geoff Scard was commended for his tremendous fundraising in the Ride & Stride. The church is now open on a daily basis and there are still online services. It was noted that lead was stolen from the roof, but the temporary repairs happened in a timely manner which meant there was no further damage to the Church. The loss of the beech tree was also noted. The village fete took place and raised record sums. Thanks were given to Jane Drew for her tremendous organisation.

Geoff Scard noted that he joined the St Peter's choir 40 years' ago, and commended Len Piper's leadership at the start. He reported that the choir goes from strength to strength although more members are always being sought. He suggested that the Eucharist service be sung more at St Peter's more than just the hymns. John Milne noted that for the moment the policy was that the Eucharist would not be sung at St Peter's but there were options to hear it at one of the other benefice churches.

Judy Gould thanked all the holy dusters and wanted them duly noted, keeping the church extremely clean and welcoming.

Financial Accounts: Mark Haszlakiewicz noted that income is up, expenditure is down, the parish share has been paid, and our investments are up. Planned giving is up, the Fete contribution boosted receipts. Costs have diminished slightly, not least because of the vacancy. The Parish Share requirement has been reduced, so payment was made without the need to go into Reserves. In respect of the funds, investment returns have been strong. Looking ahead, voluntary income comes predominantly from the more senior members of the society; although the Parish Share will lessen with a drop in the categorisation of the Parish. In respect of the funds, Mark noted that there was some larger structural areas of the church that needed attention on which some of the funds need to be used. John thanked Mark for his sterling efforts looking after the accounts and management of the funds. He also commended Stephen Graham for the enormous amount of money raised through his Quiz. John noted some very expensive items coming up for repair including mould, wood worm and the Lychgate all need attention.

5. Pastoral Overview

John thanked again Nicky, Peter, Tim and the team for the work they have put in over the year, particularly while there hasn't been an incumbent. Nicky noted that this past year was odd again lacking the person to person contact due to the pandemic constraints; although wherever possible alternative means have not dropped off for pastoral visits.

6. Closing Prayers

With no further comments, Nicky led those present in the saying of the Grace.

The meeting closed at 2020h.