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Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting

held at the Church Centre on Monday 23 April 2018, after the Annual Vestry Meeting at 7.30pm.

1. PRESENT

50 parishioners, whose names are on the Church Electoral Roll, signed the Register of Attendance and 3 clergy were also present. The meeting was chaired by Rev Canon Julie Ramsbottom.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Paul Arscott, Janice Devine, Joan Duncan, Sandy Godfrey, Becky Head, Chris Ilsley, James Lawbuary, Judy McLaren, Kate Meads, Bev Mitchell, Shirley Moore, Sarah Owen, Elizabeth Peat, Andrew Powell, Carol Stocker and Paula Vicary.

Canon Julie explained that this was the second of two meetings, the other being the Vestry Meeting. At this Annual Parochial Church Meeting, only those on the Church Electoral Roll are eligible to vote. Papers for the meeting were in the Information Pack circulated in advance of the meeting. An amendment to the agenda is now needed: as Robert Alder has now been elected churchwarden, the first item for decision now needs to read 'Election of 6 representatives to the PCC'.

3. FOR AGREEMENT OR ACCEPTANCE

1 Approval of Minutes of 2017 Annual Parochial Church Meeting of 24 April 2017

There being no amendments, they were proposed by Colum Devine, seconded by Richard Peat, agreed unanimously and duly signed by the chairman as a true record.

2 Annual Report and Financial Statement of the PCC for the 12 months to 31 December 2017

Canon Julie invited questions of Colum Devine, treasurer, on the Financial Review and Accounts and of Carolyn Fox on the Report and Review of the PCC activities. Both have struggled with ill-health to complete the necessary paperwork.

Colum advised that the intention throughout 2017 and the Plan for 2018 is to aim for a roughly balanced budget. The cost of a Family & Youth Worker is now included in the budget, rather than from fundraising. Expenditure is monitored carefully.

Pam Smith queried the Restricted amount of £6643 raised for our link with Kimberley & Kuruman Diocese. The Charity & Mission Group proposed an alternative but similar recipient for this money since the original link had broken down; this was agreed by the Standing Committee on 17 Oct 2017. Colum agreed to deal with the money in 2018. Acceptance of the Annual Report and financial statements was proposed by Sharon White, seconded by Ed Sampson and agreed unanimously.

Canon Julie expressed thanks to Colum and the 'treasury team' as well as the other members of the Finance & Stewardship Committee for their hard work during the year and in getting all the papers to the examiner. She thanked Robert Alder for his work on Regular Giving and Gift Aid, the clergy for their encouragement of giving and all those in the parish who take giving seriously. Also, thanks to Carolyn for the Annual Report. The meeting showed its appreciation with applause.

3 Report on the Fabric, Goods and Ornaments of the Parish Church

Canon Julie thanked the Churchwardens and their equivalents at St Eligius' for their work in being responsible for the Fabric, Goods and Ornaments, for checking the inventory and for preparing the report. It was proposed (Richard Peat), seconded (Sarah Booth) and unanimously approved that the report be accepted.

Canon Julie thanked the Tuesday Working Party for their DIY work around the church and Manor House, the Gardening Club for their work in the Churchyard and around St James' and the ad hoc Green Team working parties during the year; she thanked the cleaners, tidiers and flower arrangers at all three churches; those who set up the School hall, Parish Centre and Church Centre for worship; Richard Peat for his work on the video link between church and Centre and Peter McBrien for his expertise on the Church Insurances - in fact everyone who helps look after the buildings and possessions of the parish.

4 Report on the Proceedings of the Deanery Synod

Carolyn Fox was thanked for preparing the report and for producing a report of each Synod meeting for the PCC. The other Deanery Synod representatives were also thanked (Nicky Alder, Martin Hughes, James Lawbuary, Richard Owen, Richard Peat and Sharon White as our elected representatives to 31 May 2020) There were no questions on the report. It was proposed (Gill Myall), seconded (Martin Hembra) and unanimously approved that the Deanery Synod report be accepted.

5 Report on the Electoral Roll for this APCM

Nicky Alder was thanked for her work as Electoral Roll Officer and for amending the Roll and preparing the report for this meeting and for each PCC meeting. Those who provided assistance with names from St Mary & St John's and St Eligius' were also thanked. The next completely new Roll will be in 2019. Nicky advised that keeping the Roll up to date and keeping the database secure was a complex business, particularly in view of the new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) coming into effect in May 2018. More names may be added after the APCM and Nicky advised she already had some applications. The present Roll has 484 members. It was proposed (Susan Meikle), seconded (Julia Arscott) and unanimously approved that the revised Electoral Roll be accepted.

6 Report from the PCC Committees & Church Groups

Canon Julie explained that the reports from the Committees and Church Groups who do the practical work of the PCC are once again displayed around the hall. She thanked everyone involved with the Committees and Groups for the important part they play in the life of our church community. She encouraged everyone to look at the displays which included photos and art-work. PCC members and group leaders will be happy to answer questions after the meeting. She named the leaders present for the main PCC committees.

4. FOR DECISION

1. Election of Five Representatives to the Parochial Church Council for 3 years plus one to take the place Robert Alder, just elected as churchwarden – Total 6

Canon Julie referred to the documents at the back of the Information Pack that set out the profile of a PCC member, the responsibilities of a Charity Trustee and the constitution of the PCC, together with a list of the present elected members of PCC. The five elected to APCM 2018 (Louise Goldring, Kate Meads (resigned 15/3/18), Bev Mitchell, Susan Meikle and Ashlyn Webster) had come to the end of their term and, of them, Susan Meikle did not wish to stand for re-election. In addition, an elected place to APCM 2020 is now vacant because of Robert Alder's election to churchwarden.

There were 6 nominations on the sheets which had been displayed for the required time. Canon Julie therefore declared the 6 named people elected: namely, Paul Marsden, Kate Meads, Bev Mitchell, Ed Sampson, Joy Scovell and Ashlyn Webster. By drawing papers from a bowl, it was decided by lot that Kate Meads would fill the vacancy to APCM 2020. The other five were elected to APCM 2021.

Canon Julie thanked all those who had served on the PCC and Standing Committee and also those who had served the church on committees or in other capacities. Particular thanks to Susan Meikle for her service on PCC and gratitude that she is willing to remain on the Charity & Mission Group. Also thanks to Kate Meads who is now one of our Youth & Family workers.

Canon Julie then asked the newly constituted PCC to agree by a show of hands that the current Standing Committee should remain in office until the next PCC meeting on 14 May 2018. This was agreed.

2. Appointment of Sidespeople

Canon Julie read the list of current Sidespeople (appointed at last APCM and by the PCC during the year) and invited amendments to the lists. Sidespeople should be on the Electoral Roll but applications can be processed after the meeting. She reminded them of the importance of their role as detailed in the Information Pack; engaging with people coming into church and particularly those first words are so very important. People appreciate the welcome they receive. Sidespeople also need to invite people to stay for coffee. Susan Meikle volunteered to be added. Canon Julie declared those on the amended list (see attachment 1) as appointed for the coming Church year. She thanked them all, including those who had stood down during the year.

3. Appointment of an Auditor / Examiner

Colum Devine, treasurer, explained that the level of income and assets meant that we needed an examiner and not an auditor. The last Annual Parochial Church Meeting had appointed Keith McKenzie as examiner and he is willing to be appointed again. Colum proposed the appointment, Ed Sampson seconded and his appointment was unanimously approved. Colum was asked to convey our thanks to him.

5. FOR INFORMATION

Rector's Ministry Report:

(i) Canon Julie advised that the parish has been beginning to engage with Bishop Steven's vision of a Christ-Like Church, including running a course using the Diocesan material. The Ministry Team has been evaluating how we measure up over the past year:

a) Contemplative: Clergy have addressed this through an emphasis on worship, additional Morning Prayer

through the week and an annual Quiet Day. They wish to focus on the quality of prayer, perhaps through prayer triplets, using the grounds at St James' or a thought or prayer for the day via the website.

b) **Compassionate:**

Simple Lunch and Tea & Chat are running successfully at the SMSJ Parish Centre. The team is considering how the building can be used more effectively during the re-generation of the Gorse Ride estate.

The Charity & Mission Group besides proposing the Charities to be supported by the parish has encouraged a knowledge of these charities through eg the CMS visit planned for 1 July 2018, feedback on the Mityana charity. The Ministry Team, particularly Rev Julian, is revising the Pastoral Care Scheme to cover all congregations, with a visiting scheme and a 5 week course for visitors.

c) **Courageous**

The Ministry Team feel we have been fairly courageous – having faith to take on a Youth & Family worker and working to integrate St Eligius' into the parish, despite the financial challenges these things pose. The next step will be the purchase of the church and some land.

(ii) Ministry Team changes

Rev Julian McAllen joined the parish in May 2017. The news that he and Monika are expecting a baby was greeted with applause from the meeting.

Canon Julie took a sabbatical from summer to early November 2017.

Rev Hannah Higginson went on maternity leave in Oct 2017 and her curacy with us will finish at the end of her leave. She will move out of the Curate's house in May to take up a position at All Saints, Wokingham and Rev Gemma Wilkinson will move in to 43 McCarthy Way as our new curate in June 2018.

James Lawbuary left his post as Youth and Family worker at the end of 2017. Kate Meads and Sam Khan are job-sharing the role from 1 April 2018. This is a significant role as there were 26 at the Contrast Youth Group last night.

Rev Tonia Elliott was licenced to the parish in March 2018 and has now moved in to the parish.

Rev Hugh Wakeling has been very ill and has now moved away. Canon Julie expressed how much he would be missed.

(iii) Thanks

Canon Julie expressed thanks to everyone but especially to Martin Hembra for his help with buildings, especially the flats and the McCarthy Way property and for assisting in obtaining a house for Rev Tonia. The meeting responded with applause.

6. PART TWO

Bishop Steven's call to be a more Christ-like Church – more contemplative, more compassionate and more courageous.

Canon Julie led a short session to gain ideas from the meeting on how we could become more Christ-like as individuals, as a parish, as a Diocese. The session began by Sharon White reading the Beatitudes, words chosen by Bishop Steven for the course he had put together after visiting all the Deaneries in the Diocese, including factories, hospitals, schools etc. After giving a few minutes of thought on each heading, the following ideas were suggested:

More Contemplative: A quiet time during the intercessions in church or before services start; a retreat; more use of church grounds; art; more things for working people.

More Compassionate: showing concern and sympathy; revamping the Pastoral Visiting Team; follow up after funerals – bereavement visiting; emphasis on Mental Health; visiting and listening; the church's role in the Gorse Ride Estate revamp e.g. support of the Community Worker

More Courageous: a contemporary service for 20 – 30 year olds; Youth services; couples seminars; using St Eligius' as a venue; dealing with issues that are affecting people in the community.

Canon Julie invited email comments on the courses and any other ideas on the above issues.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS (questions about the parish and its activities)

- a) Susan Meikle wished to draw attention to the Ladies' Breakfasts and Ladies' Lent Supper and to thank Carolyn Fox for organising them. The meeting responded with applause.
- b) Martin Hughes asked if there was opportunity, with the re-vamp of the Gorse Ride Estate, to acquire more land to make the Parish Centre into a church. Canon Julie is happy to look into this.
- c) Carolyn Fox asked if people were aware of and intending to attend the Green Team Working Party and the Churchyard Trust Afternoon Tea both on Saturday 28 April.

8. Conclusion

There being no further business, Canon Julie reminded everyone to look at the displays and ask questions. She invited everyone to stay for the Wine & Cheese and closed the meeting with the Grace.

Approval

Attachments:

- 1. List of Sidespeople agreed at 2018 APCM

Attachment 1 **List of Sidespeople – agreed at 2018 APCM**

At St James'

Nicky Alder
Helen Anderson
Anita Andrews
Penny Arlon
Julia Arscott
Sally Ballard
Adele Baker
Corinne Bellaby
Felicity Boreham
Sarah Bourn
John Coombs
Tim De Meyer
Maurice Driver
Bettina Faull
Emma Fowler
Carolyn Fox
Rowena Green
Samantha Khan
Sheila Lardner
Miriam Laurent
Jackie Lawrence
Sam Leadsom
Ian Makepeace
Melinda Makepeace
Merelina Martinez
Kate Meads
Susan Meikle
Beverley Mitchell
Gill Myall
Joanne Myall
Terence Narborough-Hall
Sue Norman
Richard Owen
Jackie Payne
Norman Pearce
Beth Peat
Keith Ray
Ed Sampson
Sue Sampson
Joy Scovell
Sam Simmons
Marjorie Stalker
Andrea Thomas
Keith Thomas
Lindsay Van den Burg
Duncan Wood
Felicity Workman

At St Mary & St John's

Sandy Godfrey
Louise Goldring
Martin Hughes
Chris Ilsley
Judy McLaren
Shirley Moore
Marion Parry
Ashlyn Webster
Sharon White

At St Eligius'

Nick Ballard (Application for ER received)
Trevor Burns
Malcolm Heppolette
Paul Marsden
Pam Redford (providing ER application rec'd)
June Warr