

MINUTES of St. Hilda's Annual Parochial Church Meeting, held on
Sunday, 10th April 2016 in the main church building.

[DRAFT COPY: for ratification at the APCM in 2017]

VESTRY MEETING

Pauline Jones and Mandy Saunders both stepped down as Churchwardens and were thanked by Paul Hinton for their unstinting work in their posts. Gerald Poole and Sue Round had been nominated as their replacements and, in the absence of further nominations, were elected unopposed.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

The meeting was attended by 48 people, one less than last year.

1. Apologies: Lynda Webb, David Dyke, Andrew Millross, Peter Harris.
2. Minutes of the APCM 19.04.15: Agreed unanimously and signed.
3. Matters arising from the Minutes: None.
4. Chairman's introduction - setting the scene: Paul Hinton reflected on progress made since the APCM last year. He highlighted several things, including the greater part played by young people in church life; the real growth in liaisons with local schools; our commitment to the Malawi partnership [for which Lynda Webb was thanked and the need for a replacement for her highlighted]; the nurturing of Rae Caro and Richard Haynes as they train for discipleship; Rose Akeroyd's developing work in the funeral ministry and also her challenge to us in the area of dementia; the development of personal relationships in CAMEO and in groups such as Mothers and Toddlers and the Baby Group.
He also spoke of changes, especially highlighting the work done with the choir by Betty Williams over 40+ years and how David Ellis and John Barber can build on the excellent foundation that Betty had created. Finally, he reminded us that it has been three years since our Vision Day and that a second such event will be held on 1st October 2016, at which ideas for the next three years of work at St. Hilda's will be discussed. He asked us all to pray about this event as it gets nearer and hoped that a large number of people would attend.
5. Parochial Church Council Annual Report 2015: Derek Latham presented his Report and thanked all those who had contributed to its compilation. There were no additions to be made but Wendy Dyke pointed out one error in the Electoral Roll section, which was duly noted.
Wendy Dyke duly proposed, Anne Harris seconded
"that the Report be adopted"
and this was carried unanimously.
6. Annual Church Accounts 2015: Ann Millross began by praising all those who contribute, not only of their time but also of their money in purchasing things for the church for which no payment is requested and which, as a result, is not present in the accounts. In 2015 we spent £866 more than we received - but we also repaid our loan for redecoration back to the Diocese. During the year, the PCC agreed to rationalise some of the accounts that we hold and also to put aside money for a possible future extension of the Children and

Families Missioner role, plus possible repairs to the roof and the drive in front of the main church.

Money was spent on the hall during the year [e.g. the creation of a safe outside play area for children] but she stressed how important the hall is, not just for income but as an opportunity for those in the community to simply meet, greet and chat and she highlighted just how many people in the community we reach out to every year, through hall events, church services, baptisms, funerals, weddings and so on.

She likened church expenses to those of running a car and went through the main areas of expenditure. She highlighted the importance of Gift Aid [especially Small-Gift Aid] and explained pictorially exactly how we could maximise the latter by being very careful as to how we put money either on the Open Plate or in envelopes and at this point she praised the Duty Wardens for their help in carefully analysing the cash received.

She concluded by saying that in 2016 we are budgeting for an income of £78,295 and an expenditure of £78,360. She stressed, however, that although the figures are important, what is of much greater importance is our continued presence in the local community.

Wendy Dyke [and also Peter Stokes] enquired why the figures for the magazine receipts were included with the hall under 'income' but not under 'expenditure' and Ann explained that magazine income is quantifiable but the expenditure on paper and printing for the magazine isn't kept as a separate item and thus cannot be itemised separately.

After the presentation and questions, Alastair Jones proposed, Sue Round seconded "that the Annual Accounts for 2015 be adopted"

and this was carried unanimously.

Paul Hinton praised Ann's diligence with the accounts throughout the year and the careful way in which she had presented them to us.

7. Electoral Roll Report: Wendy Dyke informed the meeting that, as of 10th April 2016 there are 132 names on the Roll [58 resident in the parish and 74 non-resident] and that one completed form had been received too late for inclusion.

8. Buildings and Grounds Supervisor's Report 2015: In David Dyke's absence, Pauline Jones presented his Report, a copy of which is attached to these Minutes.

The Report highlighted those items which had been completed, those that were earmarked for completion in 2016 and those items which require attention in the medium term. Mark Hopkins and Paul Hinton updated the meeting regarding the roof; it is not [as was originally thought] in need at present of substantial repair but needs some minor works, especially with regard to the deterioration of some of the tiling. One estimate for this work has been received, totalling just under £9000, a large part of which is for the cost of scaffolding. The PCC will be discussing this issue at future meetings.

David was thanked for his Report and special thanks were accorded to him and his small team for all the minor works they do themselves, thus saving the church a substantial amount of money.

9. Deanery Synod Report: Fran Ellis gave a Report [attached] on behalf of our Synod representatives.

She explained that our Deanery consists of 11 parishes and that the Synod is made up of the clergy of these parishes, plus elected lay people and met three times during the past year.

In June, the main item was a presentation by Sue Sharp on behalf of the Children's Society, highlighting especially the Society's work with runaways and refugees. In November, Lucy Aldridge gave a presentation on the nature of dementia and Rose Akeroyd encouraged all churches to think about how they might become Dementia Friendly.

In March, Rev. Mark Hopkins and Fr. Anthony from All saints, Small Heath gave a

presentation on the Regional Shared Conversation on scripture, mission and human sexuality which they had both attended in June at the request of the Bishop. Also in March, a Deanery Quiet Day at St. Hilda's, led by Canon Janet Chapman, enabled attendees to reflect both on the Lord's Prayer and the "what, where and who with" of prayer.

Fran ended by explaining how being a member of the Deanery Synod helps us to see the bigger picture of the life of God's church, to expand our horizons and to help us keep looking outwards, whilst also giving us a chance to help one another in mission and service.

The Secretary reminded the meeting that we now have two vacancies for Deanery Synod representatives [Rachel Davies resigned in 2015 and Anne Harris in 2016]. No-one had come forward for these positions currently and so they remain vacant.

10. Election of PCC members 2016-17:

In addition to the Vicar, Curate, two churchwardens and two Deanery Synod representatives [Peter Stokes and Fran Ellis], the following people were proposed and seconded and, in the absence of further nominations, were duly elected:

Christopher Turrell, Joyce Lewis, Judith Gibbens, Wendy Dyke, Derek Latham, Jackie Lawrence, Pat Crofts, Terry Daniels, Janice Stirrup, Freddie Brogan, Alan Shingleton, Joseph Tekere and Ann Millross.

Paul Hinton thanked Anne Harris, Lynda Webb and Elaine Carrington for their work on the PCC over the past year and welcomed Christopher Turrell, Pat Crofts, Terry Daniels and Alan Shingleton as new members.

11. Appointment of Duty Wardens/Sidespeople for 2016-17: Pauline Jones thanked all those who had worked in these roles over the past year and developed such a welcoming ethos at St. Hilda's.

The Duty Wardens will be: Sue Eaton, Julie Batham, Pat Crofts, Janet Gaunt, Jean Downs, Mandy Saunders, Gerald Poole and Sue Round.

The sidespeople will be: Frederica Brogan, Judith and Alan Gibbens, Robert Hickman, Jean Line, Janice Stirrup, Tracy Smith, Helen McGowen, Carole Southall, Robert Eaton, Diane Eades, Stephanie Lake, Muriel Baker and Pauline Hills, with Ann Millross and Ruth Haynes as reserves.

Peter Munn and Joyce Lewis will continue in their roles as vergers.

12. Appointment of independent accounts examiner 2016: Trevor Clarke has agreed to continue in this unpaid role and so Ann Millross proposed, Janice Stirrup seconded

"that he be appointed for a further year"
and this was agreed unanimously.

13. Chairman's remarks: Paul Hinton expressed his sincere thanks to both outgoing churchwardens. Firstly to Mandy Saunders, for her calmness, quiet efficiency and the support she has given to himself and Mark, in addition to the vigour with which she has begun her role as Children and Families Missioner. Mandy in turn thanked everyone for their support and offered her future help to the incoming wardens.

Then to Pauline Jones, for her development of a welcoming church, for organising pastoral work, rotas, administration and for preparing the incoming wardens in their new role. He also thanked her for the support to himself and Michaela and in turn he said how we offer support to Bryan who we hold in high esteem. Pauline in turn thanked Alastair for his support and also mentioned Carole Hadlington and Judith Gibbens for the work they do which had not been mentioned in the Annual Report.

Paul finally thanked Mark Hopkins and assured the meeting that during his sabbatical the church would be in the safest of hands.

14. Any other business: Pauline Jones finally offered Paul, via the book of Jeremiah, the church's best wishes to him and his family for his 3-month sabbatical, starting tomorrow.

There being no further business, the meeting closed with prayer at 1.35 p.m.

Signed as a correct record: _____

Date: _____