

MINUTES of St. Hilda's Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on
Sunday, 30th April 2017 in the main church building.

[DRAFT COPY: for ratification at the APCM in 2018]

VESTRY MEETING

Sue Round and Gerald Poole were thanked by the Vicar for all their hard work over the last year and the enthusiasm and joviality which they had brought to the task! In the absence of further nominations they were duly elected unanimously to serve as churchwardens for a further year.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

The meeting was attended by 41 people, 7 less than 2016.

1. Apologies: Mark Hopkins, Anne and Peter Harris, Frederica Brogan, David Hickman, Pauline Jones, Dianne Eades, Pauline Jones, Michaela Hinton, Gerry and Julie Nixon, Gill Swift, David Dyke.
 2. Minutes of the APCM 2016: Agreed unanimously and signed.
 3. Matters arising from the Minutes: None.
 4. Chairman's introduction - setting the scene: Paul Hinton began by saying how encouraged he was at the widening of the nature of our worship and the ways in which Christ is enriching the lives of people of all ages at St. Hilda's. As examples, he quoted the 170 links we have with children and families via the Messy Meet-Up face book page and also the ways [such as CAMEO] in which we brighten the lives of our elderly folk. He thanked all of us for treating each other with grace and humility. He thanked those who had taken on new roles in the church and those who had supported them and in addition, thanks were also accorded to those who had stepped down from various roles and responsibilities.
 5. Parochial Church Council Annual Report 2016: Derek Latham presented his Report and thanked all those who had contributed to its compilation. David Hickman had pointed out four errors in the Report since its publication on the website namely:
 - Ann Millross has been Treasurer for four years and not three.
 - The Summer Fayre raised £966 and not 'just over £1000' as stated.
 - Dianne Eades' name had been mis-spelt.
 - Peter Munn and Joyce Lewis are Vergers at weddings/funerals, not servers.These errors had been corrected. No further errors or omissions were noted and so Judith Gibbens proposed, Fran Ellis seconded:
 - "that the Report be adopted"and this was carried unanimously.
- Derek was thanked for the Report, an updated copy of which will now be put on the church website.
6. Annual Church Accounts 2016: Ann Millross informed the meeting that this year, following the retirement of Trevor Clarke, the accounts had been examined by Frank Kimberlin, at Trevor's suggestion.
- She, along with Terry Daniels, then went through all the main points of the accounts by way

of an imaginary interview between the Treasurer and an Angelic Examiner. After this imaginative presentation, Paul Hinton invited comments/questions from those present.

Barbara Fletcher clarified that retired clergy only receive fees for weddings and funerals and not for taking general services.

Paul Hinton explained that a new lease for the Scout Hut had been negotiated with the Scouts which now has a term of 15 years.

Jon Goodwin commented on the decline in receipts from planned giving and wondered how we will seek to address this issue. Paul Hinton briefly explained the Parish Giving Scheme which we hope to start as a pilot this year and that we plan to have a renewal campaign also. Renate Wilkinson wondered if it would be possible to explain to the congregation exactly what the collection taken during a service is used for, as this may prompt people to give more generously.

Pamela Whyman wondered if financial information could be given in way other than notices on a board, as these tend not always to be read. Terry Daniels explained that it will be possible to give a quarterly financial report via the Parish Magazine.

Paul Hinton then praised Ann's work especially recently during a period of considerable personal problems. He said she had been a prayerful and honest Treasurer who had gathered together a reliable and hard-working team around her to share some of the financial responsibilities. She was presented with flowers and a gift token by Sue Round and she in turn thanked the congregation for all their support during her 4-year term.

7. Electoral Roll Report 2016: Wendy Dyke reported that the updated Electoral Roll had been on display in the inner porch for the last two weeks.

There are currently 129 people on the Roll, of which 52 [13 male and 39 female] are resident in the parish and 77 [27 male, 50 female] are non-resident.

Paul Hinton said that the apparent discrepancy between residents and non-residents illustrated the greater mobility of people in the current age which allowed them to worship where they wished to do so, rather than just at their local church.

Wendy was thanked for her diligent upkeep of the Roll during the last year.

8. Buildings and Grounds Supervisor's Report 2016: In the absence of David Dyke, Gerald Poole presented David's Report, a full copy of which is attached to these Minutes.

Of the work carried out this year, major items have included roof repairs; change of interior church lighting to LEDs; a new updated electric cable to the Scout Hut; the installation of CCTV cameras; and improvements to the choir gallery [courtesy of a bequest from the late Vi Goodwin].

There are also some items from the 2014 Quinquennial Report that are still outstanding, chief among which are insulation in the main church roof; the replacement of tarmac on the front and side church drives; and the redecoration of external joinery.

Paul Hinton thanked David for his Report and for all the work that he and his team have done during the year, saving the church [as Ann Millross had already mentioned] a great deal of money. He further stated that the replacement of tarmac is probably the most pressing issue that needs to be tackled in 2017.

9. Deanery Synod Report 2016: Peter Stokes reported that the Synod had met three times since the last APCM.

On 21st June 2016, at Holy Trinity church, a report was received from the Diocesan Synod and our own Pamela Whyman spoke on behalf of RESTORE about the current refugee situation.

On 8th November 2016, at St. John's, Mel Crooks, the Diocesan Director of Finance, gave an account of the income and expenditure of the Diocese and how the Common Fund income is

spent.

On 7th March 2017, at St. Mary's, there was a presentation from Sophie Wattlely who spoke on behalf of Safe Families for Children, an organisation that has been working in the Midlands for two years, developing relationships with churches in local communities, expanding the number of volunteers and matching family referrals from Local Authorities. Their vision is to create a network of hundreds of volunteers who can reach out to families [especially those with young children] who are experiencing crises of different kinds. Peter was thanked for his Report and Paul Hinton expressed his desire that we would have at least one other Synod representative for the next three years, following Fran Ellis's decision to step down. Fran herself spoke very positively of her Synod experience; she said that Synod meetings were totally different to PCC meetings and she had appreciated hearing presentations from a variety of people and to learn what was happening in different parishes in the Deanery.

10. Safeguarding statement: Derek Latham reported that the PCC has complied with its duty under Section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 to have due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. This means that we have rigorous policies in place [which are displayed in the church, the hall and on the website] for the Safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable Adults and also [in St. Hilda's case] for Drugs and for those who have been Sexually Abused. Paul Hinton reported that there had been two incidents during the year which had been followed through and that our policies had proved to be sound; he praised the advice given to him, both by the Safeguarding Leaders and by the Diocese.

11. Election of Deanery Synod Representatives 2017-2020: Nomination forms have been received from Peter Stokes and Wendy Dyke and, there being no other nominations, they were duly elected. This means that we have one vacancy for a Synod representative.

12. Election of PCC members 2017-2018: In addition to Paul Hinton, the two churchwardens and the two Deanery Synod representatives, the following people were proposed and seconded and, in the absence of further nominations, duly elected: Liz Farrier, Derek Latham, Terry Daniels, Janice Stirrup, Jackie Lawrence, Alan Shingleton, Pat Crofts, Judith Gibbens.

Paul Hinton thanked those standing down from the PCC; Fran Ellis for her ability to constantly ask questions, a vital part of any PCC meeting; Joseph Tekere for the insights he has given to the PCC from his Zimbabwean heritage; Frederica Brogan for keeping us all on track!; and finally Joyce Lewis, who has been a constant PCC member for 22 years and Verger for many years at weddings; Joyce was presented with flowers and a gift card by Sue Round and Joyce in turn thanked everyone for their support and generosity.

13. Appointment of Duty Wardens/sidespeople for 2017-2018: Sue Round thanked all those who had worked in these vitally important welcoming roles over the past year and especially Julie Batham and Mandy Saunders, both of whom are standing down from their role as Duty Wardens.

The Duty Wardens for 2017-18 will be Jean Downs, Pat Crofts, Janet Gaunt, Sue Eaton, Sue Round and Gerald Poole [continuing] and Rob Eaton, Elaine Carrington and Helen McGowan who will be joining the team.

Sidespeople will be Dianne Eades, Robert Hickman, Tracey Smith, Frederica Brogan, Janice Stirrup, Muriel Baker, Jean Line, Judith and Alan Gibbens, Carole Southall and Pauline Hills [evenings only] [continuing] and Pat Sellick, who will be joining the team.

Sue also thanked those who act as safeguarding adults and thus allow activities such as

junior choir practice and Sunday School to take place.

14. Appointment of independent accounts examiner 2017: As Trevor Clarke has now retired, Mark Jennings has been approached to take on this role and has agreed to do so from next year onwards. Janice Stirrup thus proposed, Fran Ellis seconded:

“that he be appointed as our independent examiner from 2017”
and this was agreed unanimously.

15. Chairman’s closing remarks: Paul Hinton thanked Elaine Carrington for the tremendous work she has done with the Sunday School over a 10 year period and expressed his gratitude to Jackie Lawrence and Mandy Saunders for taking her place.

He also informed us that Mark Hopkins’ last service would be 4th June; Mark is still without a parish and his licence expires on 30th June but he is hopeful of another interview shortly.

Finally, Renate Wilkinson praised the work of David Ellis, John Barber and the choir for their huge musical contribution to the worship at St. Hilda’s.

There being no further business, the meeting closed with prayer at 2.20 p.m.

Signed as a correct record: _____

Date: _____