



Annual Parochial Church Meeting Minutes – 2021

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting of St John the Evangelist Church, Park Rd, Bromley, Kent held on Sunday, 10th April 2022 at 11.35 am in the Church.

There were 32 members present: Revd Andrew McClellan (Chairman), Fiona Bentley, Moira Morgan, Peter Morgan, Keith Buckley, Matthew Leonard, Glynis Murton, Ray Sims, Elizabeth Bostock, Alex Sims, Nathan Killington, Duncan Cameron, Caroline Thomas, Patrick Brinson, Sue Hill, Janet Alldread, Muriel King, Tina Hill, Lesley Pyle, Doris Sweet, Daniel Whiffin, Moira Budds, Roger Budds, Celia Charwood, Dorothy Batten, Alison Dixon, Emma Kerr, Amanda Kirk, Simon Kirk, Celia Tucker and Tomi Odukomaiya.

1. Apologies for Absence

There were 4 apologies:

Tony Bentley, Andrew Dixon, Alice Bentley and Nicola Whiffin.

2. Minutes of the Annual Parochial Meeting held on Sunday, 18th October 2020

These Minutes were available immediately following the meeting last year and have been available on the church website and by post if requested in the weeks prior to this meeting. There being no amendments required to the Minutes these were proposed for acceptance by Amanda Kirk and seconded by Celia Tucker and agreed to by the meeting. Signed by Rev McClellan as a true record.

3. Electoral Roll Report

Mrs Tucker's reported that since the last update of the Electoral Roll one member has died and 6 have moved away. We have had 12 new people join and we now stand at 109.

The Vicar expressed thanks to Mrs Tucker for her hard work in keeping these records. There were no questions from the floor.

4. Presentation of the Annual Accounts

Copies of the accounts had been available prior to the meeting via the church website, with hard copies available on request prior to this meeting. These are attached to and form part of these Minutes.

Lesley Pyle presented her report on the 2021 Annual report and Accounts. She thanked her co-treasurer Laura Mason and Simon Kirk who had again undertaken the examination of the accounts at no cost to St John's.

Mrs Pyle commented that 2021 income reflected the continued generous support of church members. We were still not back to 2019 income levels on church hall lettings but this had improved during 2021. There were also a few social/fundraising events in the last 4 months of 2021.

Mrs Pyle used 2 slides to highlight the overall income and expenditure figures in the report and the financial position at the end of 2021. Although we had a deficit on Unrestricted income and expenditure this was due to project expenditure on the perimeter wall which had been funded from our Repair Fund. The deficit on the Restricted income and expenditure was funded entirely from Diocese grants received in 2020.

St John's had a healthy financial position at the end of 2021 with total funds of £133,666. Mrs Pyle explained the split of these funds between three different headings and what each part can be used for.

The continued support of the Girdlers Company was acknowledged and Mrs Pyle thanked them on behalf of the church for their donations totalling £3,150 in 2021.

There followed an opportunity for questions from the floor:

Glynis Murton – We seem to have a healthy surplus; is there a plan to spend this. Mrs Pyle said that Fabric have an ongoing list of projects and Ray Sims would speak about these later.

Peter Morgan – With the significant increase in fuel costs recently, are we protected in any way against their impact? Mrs Pyle advised that we signed a 3-year fixed price contract last year which puts us in a more favourable position than most.

There were no further questions. AMcC asked that the APCM take note of the accounts. A vote of thanks to the Treasurers was proposed by Tina Hill and seconded by Glynis Murton. Unanimously endorsed.

5. Appointment of an Independent Examiner.

Simon Kirk has indicated his willingness to undertake this role again. He was proposed by Patrick Brinson seconded by Alison Dixon. All were in favour. Rev McClellan thanked Mr Kirk for his service and his willingness to continue. There was a round of applause from the meeting.

6. Appointment of a Safeguarding Officer for Children and Vulnerable Adults

Safeguarding is a very important aspect of our church life and is taken very seriously in St John's. Caroline Thomas has served as our Safeguarding Officer for 9 years and is now standing down with our deep thanks for this very valuable service. During this time Simon Kirk has served as her deputy. Emma Kerr has agreed to

take on this role and was proposed by Caroline Thomas and seconded by Glynis Murton. Her appointment was acclaimed by all present and will be confirmed at the next meeting of the new PCC. Ms Thomas was thanked by the meeting with a round of applause. Simon Kirk will continue in his supporting role as Deputy Safeguarding Officer.

7. Elections of Parochial Church Councillors.

Rev McClellan advised that 4 members of the PCC are retiring this year but are eligible for re-election. These are Fiona Bentley, Tina Hill, Moira Morgan and Linda Nash. Mrs Hill and Mrs Morgan have indicated that they do not wish to be considered for a further term. They were thanked by Rev McClellan for their many years of service, giving so generously of their time. Mrs Hill will continue in her froll as Planned Giving Officer for the moment. In acknowledgement of their service there was a round of applause from the floor. Rev McClellan then advised the meeting that Celia Tucker has decided to step down from PCC a year early though she will continue as Electoral Roll Officer for the time being. There was another enthusiastic round of applause in thanks for her service. Fiona Bentley and Linda Nash have indicated that they are willing to stand again. There are 5 vacancies and 5 nominees

Nominee	Proposer	Seconder
Fiona Bentley	Lesley Pyle	Elizabeth Jamieson
Celia Charwood	Katarina Hill	Emma Kerr
Nathan Killington	Tricia Hughes	Alison Dixon
Heather Lloyd	Fiona Bentley	Glynis Murton
Linda Nash	Vernon Hughes	Alex Sims

There being no other nominations all 5 were duly elected

One position on PCC is for 1 year only to complete the term of Celia Tucker. A draw was made at random and Linda Nash will serve for 1 year, the other 4 will serve a term of 3 years.

Rev McClellan reminded the meeting that the first meeting of the new PCC is on 17th May and will be held in the church rooms. Members of the congregation are encouraged to speak with PCC members with any ideas or concerns that could be brought to the meeting for discussion.

8. Report on the Fabric of the Church

Ray Sims reported that once again, despite Covid, the Fabric Committee have been very active researching ideas for new projects as well as keeping an eye on routine maintenance. As a team of six we have a range of different talents and he paid tribute to Fiona Bentley, Moira Morgan, Patrick Brinson, Clive Nash and Duncan Cameron for all they do on behalf of St John's.

Notable projects completed during the year have been

The repair and restoration of the chancel lamp with thanks expressed to Keith

Buckley for doing this; improving and updating our lightning conductor protection; complete refurbishment of the whole church floor; refurbishment of the church boundary wall; cleaning of the marble plinth to the communion table; redecoration of the two church porches; redecoration of the vicarage hall and stairway (he explained that internal works are the responsibility of St Joh's and external works are the responsibility of the Diocese); servicing of the main boiler and the kitchen boiler(this work is not apparent but certainly would be if it was not carried out).

In addition, there have been numerous visits to clear blocked drains and other mundane tasks. Whilst all this has been going on the Fabric Team has been progressing projects that you will be made aware of during the current year.

Again, he expressed sincere thanks to all his colleagues on the Fabric Team.

Rev McClellan thanked the Fabric Committee for all their work and invited questions from the floor. There were none.

9. Vicar's Report

Rev McClellan again thanked all four sub committees for their efforts. They work tirelessly in the background.

The Vicar's report is contained in full in the Annual Accounts and he did not intend to read it out to the meeting but he did encourage everyone to read it for themselves. He reminded the meeting that it is only a few short months until Daniel Whiffin (our Curate) leaves us. In his 3 years with us he has made an enormous contribution to St John's and he has served us very humbly. He explained that we will not get another Curate immediately but we may get one next year. He suggested that perhaps we should be looking at a second paid minister. He assured the meeting that arrangements had been made to support ministry at St John's during his 3-month sabbatical which begins on 13th April. He will return on 13th July. While he is absent responsibility for the church falls to the Church Wardens and the PCC which will be chaired by Ray Sims. The sabbatical has been in planning for 2 years and would not have been considered if he did not feel that St John's could continue to fully operate but highlighted that, in his absence, Daniel does not become the incumbent.

Year on year he has been filled with encouragement and expressed thanks to God and the congregation for their support.

10. Any other Business

None had been advised prior to the meeting. Questions were invited from the floor of the meeting.

1. Glynis Murton asked when the Book of Remembrance and the memorial Candle Stand might be returned to its place in the church building as some people had been into the building expecting to see the entry for their loved one. It's upsetting for them not to be able to see it. Rev McClellan advised that this matter had been raised at PCC and Liz Bostock and Fiona Bentley had this in hand.

2. Mrs Murton then asked about the Communion distribution and the continue use of individual small cups. This is extremely time consuming for the members of the sacristan team. The intinction method had been discussed. Will this happen in future. Rev McClellan advised that we were waiting on new guidance from the House of Bishops. Obviously, we would like to reduce the workload for the Sacristan Team but when this matter was discussed at PCC more were in favour of continuing with the small cups but we will occasionally use the intinction form and will monitor how this is received. It was suggested that Mrs Murton liaise with Daniel Whiffin during the Vicar's absence.

3. Clive Nash asked when the coffee rota would be in operation again after the main Sunday morning service. He feels it is an important part of the life of St John's. This was agreed by all. Rev McClellan was pleased to share that Fiona Bentley is in the process of recruiting more volunteers so that this can begin soon after Easter. In the meantime, Liz Bostock and Nathan Killington have been serving coffee after every Family Service and they were thanks by him and the meeting for this.

12. Closing Prayers

Rev McClellan expressed his thanks to all for attending and to those who had given reports. He wished us farewell as he leaves for his sabbatical and then closed the meeting with the Grace at 12.32 am.

Signed as a true recordDate.....
 (Chairman)