

THE PARISH OF ST. MARY'S, AMBLESIDE

Minutes of the Meeting of Parishioners and Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Held On-line

Tuesday 29th September 2020 at 7pm

23 parishioners attended.

MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

1. Opening prayers

Reverend Beverley welcomed everyone and opened the meeting with prayer.

2. Election of Secretary

Reverend Beverley proposed that Betty Potts be elected secretary for the meeting. Rob Ashworth seconded this proposal. All agreed.

3. Election of Wardens

Reverend Beverley proposed that Pauline Sunnucks and David Stothard should be elected as church wardens. Rob Ashworth seconded this. All agreed.

Reverend Beverley then declared the meeting closed.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING (APCM)

1. Apologies

Apologies had been received from Elizabeth and Bill Haywood, Peter and Brenda Smith, Jenny Harrop and David Stothard.

2. Minutes of the APCM 2019

After one spelling correction made in item 7, George Scarlett proposed and Tony Sunnucks seconded that the minutes of the APCM held on 28th April 2019 should be approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting. The minutes were approved by all and signed by the Chair.

3. Presentation of the new Electoral Roll

Marguerite Jenkinson reported that there were now 86 on the Roll. There had been 2 deaths, 2 members had left the church and 4 had joined.

Reverend Beverley thanked MJ for all her work overseeing the Roll.

4. SORP Report (Statement of Recommended Practice)

This format includes the Annual Report of the proceedings of the PCC and the Financial Statement.

See copy on file and previously circulated.

This had been approved by the PCC and was being presented to the APCM.

Rev Beverley asked if there were any questions from the floor. There were none.

This was duly accepted.

Rev Beverley thanked everyone who supports the church and enables all the work outlined in the report. She gave thanks to all who helped produce the SORP document.

5. Appointment of Independent Examiner

The Church Treasurer, Tony Sunnucks, explained that the current Examiner's charges had increased and that he was seeking further quotes for the work. More information was needed before a decision could be made.

It was suggested by Reverend Beverley that the Standing Committee (a sub committee of the PCC) be given authority to finalise the appointment of the Independent Examiner.

All agreed to this.

6. Churchwardens Report

See report on file.

Pauline Sunnucks referred to the report and asked for questions. There were none.

She gave thanks to Betty Potts, PCC Secretary, for keeping the APCM preparation on track.

7. Report of Deanery Synod Representative

See report on file.

Pauline Sunnucks referred to this. There were no questions from the floor.

Reverend Beverley thanked Pauline for being one of our representatives over the past 3 years and for keeping good communications channels between St Mary's and the Diocese. Pauline is our only representative at present. A second one is needed, particularly at this time as the members of the Deanery Synod will be the electors in 2021 elections to the Diocesan Synod and also for a new General Synod.

8. Election of Deanery Synod Representatives

Pauline Sunnucks had agreed to stand again. This nomination had been proposed and seconded. Rev Beverley asked if it was the will of the meeting to elect Pauline as Deanery Synod Representative. All agreed.

8. Safeguarding Policy

See report on file submitted by Judith Dixon, Church Safeguarding Officer.

Rev Beverley reported that the on-going PCC training was in-hand. An update will go to the next PCC meeting.

9. Elections:

(i) PCC members

Rev Beverley reported that Jenny Harrop and Marina Thomlinson had stepped down and thanked them for all their work during their terms of office. One nomination had been received from Dr Sue Ion. It had been proposed and seconded. She asked if was the will of the meeting that Dr Sue Ion be appointed. All agreed.

BL then thanked all PCC members, elected and ex-officio, for all their work over the year.

(ii) Sidespersons/Welcomers

George Scarlett read out the Sidesperson/Welcomers listing for 2019. See filed list.

All agreed to approve the list.

He expressed thanks and appreciation to Jean Hartley in particular who was the longest service member on the current list. She is stepping down as she has decided to move away from the area. She will be a big loss to the team. Jean had also kept the Visitors Book up to date. Someone would be needed to take over this role.

10. Clergy Report

See copy on file, and previously circulated.

Rev Beverley asked for questions on the report:-

- (i) A request was made from the floor that we thank those who help to keep the graveyard tidy, in particular Jim Horrocks and Donald Cooke who are volunteers and also Steve Halton the paid gardener. This was agreed. ACTION BP

11. Questions from the floor

- (i) A question was asked about the current finances, in particular income from the Magazine. Tony Sunnucks, Church Treasurer, responded with the current financial summary:-

- **2020 Current Budget position.** Current deficit of £14,790 up to end of Sept 2020
- **2020 Budget End of Year projections:-**
 - Income** – approx. 20% reduction, due to Covid19 restrictions, affected by:
 - Weddings & Funerals down
 - Church Hire ceased
 - Magazine advert income affected by non-delivery of magazines to households
 - Open plate collections ceased whilst church closed
 - Expenditure** – small reduction of approx 5% only, affected by:-
 - Reduced church heating and lighting
 - Commitment honoured to maintain cutting of grass in churchyard of £5,500
 - Mission giving and Parish Offer

Revised budget 2020 deficit approx. £17,450. Diocese recommends reserves to be used.

- **2021 Budget considerations:-**

Balanced budget principle to be adopted as guide.

Parish Offer affordability to be guided by previous years income.

Churchyard grass cutting to revert back to maintenance of area adjacent to church, with Community Payback Services/Community support group donations covering the remainder of the churchyard.

Reverend Beverley thanked the Treasurer for this and all his work.

She reminded the meeting of how much we had achieved together in 2019. During 2020 she felt we had started to develop a deeper connection with each other as a result of the pandemic and living with restrictions. She encouraged us to look forward to how God will lead us, perhaps into different ways of doing things. She thanked everyone for their hard work and expressed her appreciation of working with everyone.

She then thanked everyone for attending.

The meeting expressed their thanks and appreciation to Reverend Beverley of all that she had achieved during 2019.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 7.50pm.

DRAFT
