

Annual Parochial Church Meeting, 2019 - St. Peter's Draycott

31st March 2019 at 6:30 p.m. Draycott church.

Draft minutes

1. Attendance and apologies

The meeting started at 6:30 pm after a service of compline (led by Thea Oliver). Those in attendance were: Stuart Burns, David Cheetham, Nikki Devitt, Richard Dingley, Gill Dury, John English, Chris Green, Colette Jeff, Gordon Jeff, Pat Mullay, Thea Oliver, Barry Rose, Buffie Rose, Rob Walker, Lynda Whittle. There were apologies from Tricia Corrick, Chris Fulton, Alison Jeffries, Hewart Jeffries, Janet Jeffries, Trisha Lumley, Audrey Morgan, Richard Oliver, Karen Percival, Mary Watt. The meeting was chaired by Thea Oliver.

2. Minutes of last APCM

The minutes from the meeting of the previous APCM on 8th April 2018 were confirmed as accurate, and signed.

3. Vestry meeting for the election of churchwardens

David Cheetham was standing down after 9 years as churchwarden. Two nominations had been received: John English and Chris Green, who were duly elected (*nem. con.*).

4. Statutory reports

All Reports had been circulated in written form and time was allotted to each to allow those present to read or re-read and raise questions. The statutory reports were: Electoral Roll, Report on PCC Proceedings, Financial Report and Accounts, Churchwarden's Fabric Report, and Deanery Synod Report.

In the electoral roll report, there were additional entries to report, which would be included in the published list.

In the finance report the outstanding amount of £5,105.10 was queried. David explained that £4,500 was a 'loan' from the general fund, which would be repaid in due course. Stuart wanted to clarify that the clergy fees (£963) do not go to him but are paid to the diocese. David pointed out that the charitable payments listed were not all made by the church directly, but all went through our accounts.

Colette proposed that the reports be accepted *en bloc*; this was seconded by John English. All were in favour.

5. Other reports

These were Worship and Ministry Team, Health and Safety, Choir, Covenants, School, SoSP, Local Ministry Group, Study Groups, and Church Magazine. Points raised included:

- (Worship report). On All Age Worship ('elevenses service'). This was discontinued after June as Thea was unavailable due to ordination training. Buffie suggested that the Mothering Sunday service might start at a more family-friendly 10 am (for the PCC/Ministry team to note for next year). We resolved to record numbers in first Saturday coffee and cakes.
- (Health and Safety) Item 3. We should get permission from MDC to place stepping stones on the short-cut across the graveyard. New and up and coming issues should be considered by next PCC.

- (Magazine). We should try to co-ordinate information better across the benefice- what are the 'big messages'. When Samm is back in post she should take over management of the websites, with a view to having a single one.

6. Election of Laity to the PCC for 2019-20

Ex officio members (not needing election) are: Chris Green and John English (churchwardens); Tricia Lumley, and Thea Oliver (Deanery representatives). Others nominations were: David Cheetham, Richard Dingley, Gill Dury and Pat Mullay. These last were voted onto the PCC *en bloc* by all present. Thanks to Colette and Alison (stepping down this year) for their service on previous PCCs. If anyone else would like to join this is still open during the coming year.

7. Appointment of sides men and women

These were: Pat Mullay, Linda Whittle, Colette Jeff, Gordon Jeff and Nikki Devitt. Do we know of anyone else?

8. Appointment of independent financial examiner

David proposed that we should ask Alan Rowntree again. All were in agreement.

9. Remarks from the rector

We have reflected on a good year of:

- Faithful worship
- Busy and happy outreach to the mainly non-churched community through lovely concerts and also the efforts of SOSP (for which we are most grateful)
- Good weekly engagement with our church school (thank you, Nikki!)
- Service of the civic parish through several baptisms, weddings and especially funerals
- The modest support we are able to offer to the poor or marginalised through both our involvement in the leadership of Celebrate! with asylum-seekers as well as regular contributing to The Sisters of the Church's ministry in Bristol.

Thanks have been expressed already, but I would also like to add my sincere thanks to:

- The members of the PCC, who have been enthusiastic, committed and creative
- The choir, and our music-leaders, David and Barry (and also Ian and Ruth on occasion, and John at the Family Services we experimented with), for the continuously excellent standard of our music and singing in worship - a major feature of the distinctive life of St Peter's
- The generosity of all those here and also many not here who give financially, and also of course with their time and skills, to sustain the life of our church in Draycott.
- Chris, who has been an always efficient and sensitive secretary, and David, who has been an assiduous and tireless treasurer, and Thea for stepping so ably into the role of lay-chair of the PCC, after Trisha Heckbert (and Murray) sadly moved away
- The several members of the Ministry Team, including Judith, Hilary, Chris, Richard, Thea and Alistair, who officiate and preach in St Peter's and give of themselves in this way
- Those, who are many I know, who draw up and manage our duty rotas, arrange flowers, clean, verge at occasional offices, and help us with the management and maintenance of

our building – thank you also, Richard, for being our Health and Safety Officer, and Rob, for editing our magazine.

- Our churchwardens, for their friendship, loyalty, kindness and diligence to duty, to all in our church and also to me; thank you, John and David. David, we thank God most especially for you and for your many years of service in this role – we will miss your leadership as churchwarden but we shall continue to be blessed with your help to us all in our music, and in looking after the shekels in the purse!

I ask that, in the year to come, we continue:

- To pray for and support Thea who will enter her 2nd and final year of training for ordination, and look forward with great anticipation to her probable ordination as a deacon in the late summer of next year
- To maintain our mutual friendship, spiritual support of one another, and cheerful outreach to those who are not yet a part of our church fellowship on a regular basis
- To seek to deepen our effectiveness in speaking to and being accessible to those to whom the gospel of Jesus Christ may seem nonsensical or irrelevant
- To have meaningful engagement with disadvantaged and marginalised communities, through doing again what we have done in the past, or finding new ways to do this, as this will enrich our souls as well as do a little bit to make those who suffer feel more human.

In conclusion, I express my sense of both gratitude and also absolute dependence on the Lord for anything that is good that we have achieved together at St Peter's.

Stuart Burns, rector

10. Any other matters of importance to the Parish

Barry Rose asked if we could please test microphones before each service.

The meeting concluded with us all saying the Grace together, and was followed by a short PCC meeting.