

MINUTES OF MEETING - AGM

Wednesday 18th April 2018 7.00pm

DISCUSSION OF AGENDA

The meeting was opened by Stuart who opened with psalm 67 set for the evening followed by the prayers.

Vestry Meeting:-

1. The minutes of the Vestry Meeting held on Monday 3rd April 2017 was read. This was agreed and signed by Megan James. 2 errors were amended.
2. Election of churchwardens.

Megan James was nominated by Jo Symes and seconded by Ann Percival. Megan agreed to stand. All in favour. Jane Holmes is standing down after 38 years but will remain as a verger.

Chris Neave was nominated by Ann Percival and seconded by Josie Symes. Agreed to stand. All in favour.

Present:- Stuart Burns, Megan James, Jane Holmes, Joanne Turner, Sue Walker, Josie Symes, Colin Symes, Ann Percival, Sue Dyas, Robin Dyas, Peter Wild, Alan Newman, Jenny Newman, Sue Wild, Ken James, Rob Walker, Steve Percival. Ben Buse, Don Banks, Mary Banks.

A.P.C.M

1. Opening prayers already completed.
2. Apologise. Honor Neave, Chris Neave, Denny Johnson, Angela Hall.
3. Minutes of the last APCM signed. Everyone had already had an opportunity to read them. They had been displayed in the church for collection and on the website.

Statutory Reports:-

- a) **Electoral roll** report given by Ann Percival. Currently there are 57 members. Of these 7 are non-resident in the village and 3 have moved away this year. These are Joan Salmon and Mr & Mrs Chipperfield. The roll is due to be re-made from scratch next year, 2019. Application forms have been given to Ben Buse and Mr & Mrs Higgins, but have not been returned as yet.
- b) **Secretary's report** given by Joanne Turner. The PCC met six times throughout the year including a fundraising meeting. There was also a meeting regarding the future of the church hall. Services - St. Leonards continues to hold services most Sundays with the exception of the Benefice Breakfast Service. Highlights of the year were the Mothering Sunday service, the pet service, harvest service, the celebration of Jo & Colin's Diamond Wedding Anniversary, the benefice service, the Christingle service and finally the Candlelight Service. In general a huge variety of work has been carried out around the church and thanks were given especially to Ken & Megan James and Colin Symes. 2017 saw once again a wide variety of well supported and successful events. Full Report in file.
- c) **Treasurer's Report.** Once again Sue Walker provided excellent detailed information with regards to the finances of the church. Money that was given to various charities was slightly up than the report suggests. The PCC's policy is now to give at least a minimum of £50 to the charity. At the end of the financial year the PCC would give a further 5% if we are in profit. Alan Newman asks what future expenditure will there be in the future, Sue explained about the electricity bills are slightly higher this year. Alan is referring to the bigger jobs which Megan will explain later in the meeting under the churchwarden's report. Piers Rose has signed and authorised the accounts which will be sent to the diocese. Sue Dyas to propose and seconded by Colin Symes. All in favour. Megan James and Stuart Burns then signed them. Full report in file.
- d) **Churchwarden's report** consisted of the fabric report given by Megan James. The project for the conservation of the monuments has finally been completed. One of the main problems found during the conservation work was a high level of dampness in the chapel. Work has been carried out to reduce the damp problem, but a more permanent solution will be put in place in due course. Once the conservation work had been completed then other work such as the installation of information boards and lighting has been completed. A fire alarm and emergency lighting system has been installed in the church hall, thanks to the generous help of the FOSL. The church floor tiles are being

repaired, this is an ongoing project. Fundraising is happening to repair the balustrades and pinnacles. The church as received faculty for the installation of safety railings on the roof of the church tower and finally tower emergency lighting is being considered. Megan James thanked the PCC for all their hard work and working very well as a team and also thanked Stuart Burns for his guidance. Full report in file.

- e) **Deanery Synod Report** was given by Jo Symes. There were 4 meetings this year and 3 of these were attended by Jo and Colin. The first was at Wedmore Hall which they were unable to attend. The second was held at St. John's at Highbridge on 11th July. The third meeting was on 19th October at Holy Cross, Mark and the final meeting was on 3rd February at Bagley Baptist Church. Megan James thanked Jo and Colin for their attendance. Stuart also thanked them. Full report in file

Other parish reports:-

1. **Mendip Local Ministry Group:-** Given by Stuart Burns. It meets every Thursday morning for prayer, and also in the Den at Cheddar once every second month. The Mendip Local Ministry Group is one of the more successful local ministry groups in the diocese. Six people completed an 8 week Lay pastoral Assistants course in Cheddar. Full report in file.
2. **School Report** given by Steve Percival. Steve Percival is no longer a governor so cannot comment on financial aspects or other details. Steve Percival is on the mission and foundation board. Steve gave an excellent account outlining the RE studies as well as other aspects. A new development at the school is to now embed in school life, that every family has their own personal protected home password to access the school website. This allows them to keep in touch with the school and helps parents access their child's progress and particularly where they the parents can help and take an interest in their child's progress. This includes a weekly behaviour assessment. Full report in file.
3. **FOSL report** given by Steve Percival. A report of the excellent events that were held during last year and what the upcoming events are. With regards to the FOSL 40th celebration on Saturday 14th July this is to be a Manor Farm Bring your own picnic. Would the PCC like to do a display in the church along with the FOSL. there will be church visits, bell tower tours and bell ringing. Full report in file.
4. **Magazine Report** given by Rod Walker. Rob commented on the current status and that it retains its settle format. There is now a regular 'Benefice Events' page. The parish Portrait is no longer a fixture and is now appearing less often. the advertising support has been increased marginally. For the future - amore co-ordinated approach to advertising events etc throughout the benefice. Rob finished by thanking Murray Heckbirt for his contribution as a columnist over the last five years, who will be leaving to return to Canada. Full report in file.
5. **Vicar's Comments** – Stuart would like to make some general comments of thanks. Those who do the flowers, clean and the readings and the organising of the rotas to Alan Newman. Thanks to the bell ringers who all attend when they are needed. Thanks to the PCC for being very loyal and committed. Special thanks to Colin for all his odd jobs and some big jobs like the damp in the Rodney Chapel. Thanks to the FOSL for so many created events and being able to make some many contributions to the fabric. Thanks to Rob for editing the magazine. A really good publication. Thank you for the music Joanne, Michael and Barry and the choir. Thank you to the ministry team, Hilary and Judith in particular and the readers – Alistair, Chris and Richard. Thea Oliver has attended in the last 3 days a national church conference for training for ordinance. Hopefully she will be able to move in that direction. Thank you to Steve Percival for your very successful assistance and links to the primary schools. Thank you to Sue for the great job as a treasurer and present it positively. Thank you for Joanne for being secretary and paperwork being organised. Thank you to Megan and Jane for being such good church wardens. Stuart feels very grateful that we have good churchwardens and for your friendship and good support. Key holders who unlock and lock every day. St. Leonards is a regular worshipping community who are small but close groups of people. The welcome and the catering is always so generous. Also a word about the publicity – we have got Samm Richards managing a facebook page, there is also a deanery website – would be great to send photos, events etc. We do need to address the websites, one for Cheddar and one for Draycott & RS but there is a very good website called A church near you.org. they offer to host websites for free. Lots of people go to this. Samm would be willing to organise an updated website. At the moment Chris green deals with this but he doesn't really have the time to do this. We do want to improve our internet presence. Celebrate event which is being planned later in the year, Syrian meal it is an important development for the benefice – social diverse event. A new idea – we feel that the only way we can grow is to reach out to young families and children, but why doesn't St. Leonards reach out to those over 60 to draw them into the church. Stuart is so grateful that Don has recovered so well. Don feels that all the prayers were very helpful. It shows we are a very good praying community. We are very grateful. Thanks to all to those who are part of the St. Leonards community, your friendship. Amen!

6. **Elections:-** nominations – Angela Hall is stepping out for a while to look after her mother. Megan James proposed Ben Buse to join the PCC. Don Banks seconded.
- a) PCC – everyone else to stand. Joanne Turner, Ann Percival, Honor Neave, Sue Walker. Alan Newman to propose and Sue Dyas to second.
 - b) Electoral Roll Officer. Ann Percival to stand again this year.
 - c) Two Deanery Synod Reps – doesn't need to be elected as it is done for 3 years. Jo and Colin Symes are hoping this is their last year.
 - d) Sidespersons – all remaining.
 - e) Appointment of Independent Examiner or Auditor – Piers Rose will continue. Megan James proposed and Josie Symes to second. Everyone in favour. JLT to send a letter of thanks for doing this job.
 - f) As Jane Holmes is not going to be church warden Megan James to proposed and Joanne Turner seconded that Jane remain/be on the PCC. All in favour. Jane Holmes will continue to set up for the services.
 - g) Treasurer Sue Walker to continue proposed by Ann Percival and seconded by Jo Symes. Joanne Turner to remain as secretary nominated by Ann Percival and seconded by Megan James.
 - h) Stuart has asked Megan James to continue as Lay Chair.

Thanks to Megan to leading the meeting.

Date of the next PCC meeting – Megan will email a common date with the PCC members as this is not being set this evening.

Meeting finished at 8.30pm. Closed with the Grace.

There was a presentation to Jane Holmes to thank her for her dedication and hard work over the past 38 years as church warden.