

Minutes from the Annual Parochial Church Meeting

St. John the Evangelist

Lacey Green, Loosely Row and Speen

Sunday 17 April 2016

Opening prayers were led by Rev. Canon Tony Bundock.

Parishioners' Meeting

1. A total of 20 parishioners were present. Apologies were received from Dick and Rosie Field, Caroline Gulliver, Rebecca London, Dawne Glenister, Doreen Lett, Mike Eden, Deborah Hemsworth, Christine Rooney, Rosemary Mortham, Jenny King and Kate Collet-Fenson.
2. There was no matter arising from the minutes of meeting held on the 19th of April 2015 that were approved by Rev. Canon Tony Bundock. Proposed by Mark Roberts and seconded by Margaret Gray.
3. Nominations and elections of churchwardens for the coming year: Nominations were received and approved for Pat Rushmere (proposed by Margaret Gray and seconded by Jean Gabbitas) and Dick Field (proposed by Roger Wilkes and seconded by Mark Roberts). Thanks were given to Dick and Pat for their work over the last year.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

1. Minutes from the APCM held on 19th April 2015 were approved by Pat Rushmere. Proposed by Mark Roberts and seconded by Margaret Gray.
2. The Vicar's report was given by Rev. Canon Tony Bundock. The key word for the year was consolidation. The focus is now on mission and outreach. There was a PCC away day that resulted in a lot of good things.

The Deanery Community Learnings Initiative has been started and Rev. Tony Bundock, Pat Rushmere, Margaret Gray and Deborah Hemsworth participate on our behalf. The group were asked to describe what our church is and its purpose. We are about bringing people to faith and supporting them on their journey in faith. This is from cradle to grave and our work includes Toddler Praise (when that restarts), Junior Church and House groups that are very important. These help sustain faith especially when times are tough, and there are tough times for everyone. Jean Gabbitas asked why we need a new group of people (the DLCI group), what is happening in Deanery Synod and doesn't this cover the same areas as the DLCI. Phil White heads this initiative on behalf of the Deanery and this is the second round. St Mary's in Princes Risborough participated last time. We are in a group of 4 diverse churches including a cell group that meet in a school in Thame, a church in Bierton and a town centre church. The issues that affect each church are very different. All of the participants do so very actively and the level of involvement is high. The issues are more grass roots than those dealt with by the Deanery Synod. Deborah Hemsworth has prepared a Powerpoint presentation to give to the church that will be arranged at a later date. We

don't have any major issues and are able to think about mission rather than being focussed on keeping the church going.

3. Rev. Nick Moloney is keen that we get involved in a relationship with a parish in Kuruman, South Africa. Our prospective partner parish in Kuruman is very keen. Rev. Nick Moloney has put together a profile of this parish that was circulated at the meeting. The diocese reviews links every 5 years and the next review is due in September, so we may send people to Kuruman for the review. Graham King raised that it would be helpful for Rev. Nick Moloney to speak to the church and provide more insight into the spiritual and financial links that are proposed. The relationship could be a collaborative one that brings spiritual benefits to our parish. Rev. Tony Bundock will invite Rev. Nick Moloney to speak with the church.
4. Jill White raised that we could build stronger links with Speen because many people there attend church in Hampden or Hughenden Valley. Rev. Tony Bundock has several links with Speen and the community; however, it is recognised that it is a challenge to encourage more people to attend St. John's as their parish church. There are regular services in St John's Church for the children of Speen School that their parents attend. Also, Graham King and a group from St. John's collaborated with Speen Baptist Church to run an Alpha Course. A joint group also give dramatized readings in pubs.
5. The Annual Reports were presented by Pat Rushmere. Thanks were given to all contributors to the reports.
6. Jean Gabbitas congratulated those people who organized the Mothers' Day services that was well attended by children and their families. The team are working on another one. It was proposed that it be held on Pentecost Sunday/the Queen's official birthday. This falls at the end of the May half-term so it may be best to consider a date in July.
7. Caroline Gulliver could not attend this meeting but sent the financial report that was included with the reports. The finances are in good order. The reports were approved as proposed by John Gabbitas and seconded by Claire McWilliams.
8. The Electoral Roll for 2015 was 83, including 1 new addition. This is less than the figure (90) in 2014 because of people moving away or having deceased.
9. Margaret Gray agreed to stand as the Electoral Roll Officer and was approved. Proposed by Claire McWilliams and seconded by Marion Rudd.
10. The Report on the Fabric and Ornaments of the Church was read by Pat Rushmere and approved as proposed by Mark Roberts and seconded by Jean Gabbitas.
11. The Annual Accounts were presented by Pat Rushmere in Caroline Gulliver's absence. There was a small surplus that is encouraging. There have been losses in previous years. We have managed to keep up our donations and keep the church lit and heated. A reminder about Easyfundraising was given, the total raised is now close to £600. This report was approved as proposed by Ann Eden and seconded by Graham King.
12. Election of PCC members. There 2 nominations for casual vacancies to be filled by:
 - a) Ann Eden, proposed by Margaret Gray and seconded by Pat Rushmere
 - b) Cathy Tyrrell, proposed by Claire McWilliams and seconded by Roger Wilkes

There 2 nominations for 3 year vacancies to be filled by:

- a) Rebecca London, proposed by Pat Rushmere and seconded by Claire McWilliams
- b) Caroline Gulliver, proposed by Pat Rushmere and seconded by Mark Roberts

There is 1 vacancy. All nominations were approved.

13. Election of Deanery Synod members; no election was required.
14. Election of Sidespersons; all appointments were proposed by Graham King and seconded by Ann Eden, then approved unanimously. The elected sidespersons are: Margaret Gray, Pat Rushmere, Doreen Lett, John Radford, David Lawrence, Caroline Gulliver, Rebecca London and Dick Field.
15. David Bedford was appointed to be the Independent Examiner; proposed by Margaret Gray and seconded by Roger Wilkes.
16. Jill White raised the possibility of building a car park on Church Lane. This was discussed and it would require permission from the Parish Council and then the County Council. The school car park is available for use on Sunday for the services.
17. The church would like to record its pleasure that the new Bishop of Oxford, Dr Steven Croft, has been appointed.
18. A Junior Church leader has been added to the rota, Deborah Hemsworth. Thanks were given to Suzanne Field and Suzanne Farwell who have stepped down after long service to the Junior Church, due to other commitments. Claire McWilliams will take over the role of managing the rota.
19. Appreciation for the team work to run the choir by Cher Mole and Rosemary Mortham was given.
20. The APCM was closed in prayers by Rev. Tony Bundock and the grace was said.

Parochial Church Council Meeting

1. Election of officers for 2015:
 - a. Lay Vice-Chairman: Pat Rushmere; proposed Roger Wilkes, seconded Cathy Tyrrell,
 - b. Treasurer: Caroline Gulliver; proposed Pat Rushmere, seconded Margaret Gray,
 - c. Secretary: Cathy Tyrrell; proposed Pat Rushmere, seconded Ann Eden.
 - d. All appointments were approved unanimously.
2. First meeting to be held on 25 May 2016.