



Parish of St Paul, Bedford
Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting
held on Sunday 9 May 2021 at 11.50 am

The Vicar took the chair. 42 people were present physically. The meeting was also streamed. Apologies for absence were received from 6 people.

1. Minutes of the 2020 APCM

The minutes of the previous APCM held on Sunday 11 October 2020 were received. It was **proposed** by Brian Taylor, **seconded** by Cliff Harris and **agreed nem con** that these be accepted as a true record of the meeting.

2. Appointment of Lay members to the PCC

There were four vacancies for a full three year term and one vacancy for a one year term and three nominations were received as follows:-

Nomination	Proposer	Seconder
Claire Price	Cliff Harris	Robin Harris
Graham Ridgeway	Florence Bignell	Ann Whittome
Margaret (Rita) Brereton	Alison Phillipson	Alan Dickinson

As the number of nominations did not exceed the number of vacancies and there were no further nominations, it was **agreed nem con** that all three should be elected to the PCC, with Rita Brereton filling the one year vacancy. This left two vacancies to be filled.

The PCC Secretary drew attention to new guidance on PCC membership of Readers licenced to the parish being members of the PCC ex officio. **Proposed** by Val Lane, **seconded** by Claire Price it was **agreed** was agreed unanimously that Readers licenced to the parish be ex officio members of the PCC.

4 Appointment of Independent Examiner

Alan Dickinson, Interim Treasurer, advised that the previous Independent Examiner, Wayne Kingston had retired, and proposed that Colin Airey of George Hay Chartered Accountants be appointed as Independent Examiner for the coming year. This was **seconded** by Brian Taylor and **approved** unanimously.

5 Electoral Roll

Malcolm Smith (Electoral Roll Officer) reported that at the previous APCM, there were 107 on the roll. The current figure was 109, 20 resident in the parish, 89 non resident.

The Vicar thanked the Electoral Roll Officer for his efforts in maintaining the roll. Ann Collett-White asked newcomers were encouraged to join the roll. The Electoral Roll Officer said he would welcome this. The Vicar pointed out that electoral roll numbers contributed to the calculation of the parish share and it was important that those on the roll were genuinely members of the parish.

6. Annual Report and Reports on the PCC Activities

The Annual Report had been publicly displayed in church and on the web site in advance of the meeting. The PCC Secretary summarised the very different year that had been experienced, stressing that the church had remained in pastoral contact with parishioners throughout and had provided worship as permitted at the various stages of lock-down. The report was received.

7 Accounts for the Year Ending 31 December 2020

The Interim Treasurer presented the accounts, which showed a small surplus on the general account, albeit a reduction in assets overall. He drew attention to the resilient regular giving by parishioners during the year, and the very generous additional sums received, which, together with grants and reductions in expenditure, including paying only the ministerial element of the parish share, had offset the loss of income from non-parishioners and income from activities. **Proposed** by Wendy Jones and **seconded** by Alison Phillipson, it was **agreed** that the accounts for year ending 31st December 2020 be ratified.

8 Budget for 2021

The Interim Treasurer advised that the budget was based on the assumption that income from activities would start to be received only in the second part of the year, and thus forecast a deficit of £6765. Slightly earlier resumption of concerts and fetwes might reduce this, but it was important to increase income and reduce expenditure. **Proposed** by Alan Dickinson, **seconded** by Valerie Lane, the APCM **agreed nem con** that the budget be adopted.

9 Report on the fabric, goods and ornaments of the church of the parish

The Report was included in the Annual Report which had been publicly displayed in church and on the web site in advance of the meeting.

10 Report on the Proceedings of the Deanery Synod

Details of meetings were included in the appendix to the Annual Report, and no questions were raised.

11 Annual Report by the Vicar

The Vicar gave his report on the activities of the Parish since the last APCM and how this would influence the future, (edited version attached as Appendix 1). Alison Phillipson responded on behalf of the Wardens, (summary attached as Appendix 2).

12 Further Business

There being no further business, the meeting closed with prayer at 12.43pm

ALD 11.5.21

