

**Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on Sunday, 28 April 2019 at 11.05am
in St Mary's Church, London Road, Ewell**

Present: The Reverend Russell Dewhurst, Vicar of Ewell (in the Chair) and 61 parishioners.
Apologies: Wendy Varney, Andrew Sykes, Barbara Gibson-Sykes

The meeting opened with a prayer

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 29 APRIL 2018

The Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on 29 April 2018, having been displayed on the notice board for a period of two weeks, were taken as read. With the agreement of the meeting, the minutes were signed by the Chairman as a true record.

1 RECEPTION OF A REPORT ON CHANGES IN THE ELECTORAL ROLL SINCE THE LAST APCM

A written report on changes in the Electoral Roll since the last APCM was noted. There are currently 130 names on the roll. There were 183 in 2018. In accordance with Church Representation Rules 2017, the roll was started from scratch this year. The Chairman thanked the Electoral Roll Officer for producing this.

2 RECEPTION OF THE ANNUAL REPORT AND INDEPENDENTLY AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL, TO 31 DECEMBER 2018.

Russell explained that the annual report had been approved by the PCC as a record of their activity during 2018. It includes reports from the chairs of the various committees and the treasurers and is also sent to the diocese and the Charity Commission. He then introduced the joint treasurer, Angela Kelly-Burns.

The treasurer explained the types of funds held:

- Restricted: made up from donations for specific named projects which cannot be used for any other purpose
- Unrestricted: sub divided into *general* which funds day today activities and expenses and *designated* which can be set aside by the PCC for specific purposes e.g. improvements to the church.
- Endowment: the capital (donated) cannot be spent but the interest earned is available to be used.

Angela reported that the PCC had voted to set aside 75% of all legacies as designated funds for repairs and improvements to the church's land and buildings and for pastoral projects. The remaining 25% to be used towards annual deficits. Projects undertaken in 2019 from these designated funds included decorating the Church Hall, new carpets for the pews and welcome areas, further enhancements to the audio-visual system and the appointment of the publicity officer.

She then talked through a PowerPoint presentation which showed that the £246,000 unrestricted income for 2018 included legacies totalling £117,000.

Of the remainder £129,000 - 45% was from Planned Giving, 19% from other giving (e.g. collections), 10% from fees, 20% from the income from Hall hire and the Village Fair and 6% from investment income and rental of the playing fields. Gift Aid included in these figures of £15,000 was 12% of the total income.

Unrestricted expenditure for 2018 was £201,000 – with £48,000 spent on planned projects (funded from legacies) the remainder, the regular expenditure, was £153,000. Of this 52% was spent on the Parish Share, being 31% on ministry and 21% on diocesan overheads. The remaining 48% (£73,000) was spent on the day to day running costs of the church.

The £127,000 regular income does not quite cover the regular expenditure of £153,000 resulting in a deficit of £26,000 which was up by £1,000 from 2017.

In summary, she noted that we have much to be thankful for from all sources, especially the legacies from past members, but that we must continue to seek to cover regular expenditure with regular income.

She thanked Ian Burgess for preparing the slides.

Questions:

Lloyd Mullen asked if anyone had ever attempted to financially evaluate the cost saved by the many volunteers

Russell replied that they hadn't, but that the volunteers' efforts were as essential as any monies raised and he would like to record his thanks to them.

Russell stated that fundraising, gifts, legacies, regular givers and volunteers all make a huge difference to the life of St Mary's and thanked Noel, Angela and Miriam for all their hard work for the treasury.

He then went on to state that attendance at Easter services were the highest for 20 years and he thanked everyone for their part in all the work done to make them such a success.

He explained that the vision is to have St Mary's appeal to all ages, but that we still have a long way to go, especially for the 12 plus age group. We need to invest in order to continue to grow and integrate everyone. To this end, a Children and Families worker had been appointed very recently – Leanne Newman, a former primary school teacher with responsibility for RE, will begin working with our team of volunteers in September. He thanked the volunteers for all they do.

Russell stated that safeguarding is very important and thanked Dorothy Baxter, who has been our lead safeguarding officer for the last six and a half years. She has stepped down and her role has been taken up by Helen Crossley who will eventually be joined by one other person.

He feels very blessed to work with such a hard-working and capable ministry team and reported that Andrew Sykes and Barbara Gibson-Sykes are both undertaking training as pastoral assistants.

Progress continues on all projects - work begins on the new toilets in June and will be completed by September for the visit of the bishop and the final AV screen will be fitted by December.

The Hall is much improved following its redecoration and new chairs and installation of wi-fi are being considered.

A faculty will soon be applied for to move the ophicleide to its correct position.

Work with local schools continues to increase – Ewell Castle School will come for a weekly Monday morning service from September and they may introduce communion. They will pay for this use, which will help to defray daily running costs.

An internship has begun with Nescot College working on conservation and the environment in the churchyard and grounds.

A Julian Group has been introduced and the Bereavement Café continues to thrive, but so much more goes on behind the scenes thanks to the huge sacrifice of their time by so many willing volunteers – bell ringing, flower arranging, the Spring Market, the Village Fair, the Garden Party and social dinners, and by the servers, readers, musicians and the choir, and sidesmen and welcomers at regular services, weddings, baptisms and funerals.

Russell finished by expressing huge thanks to everyone!

Lloyd Mullen stated that we at St Mary's should not see ourselves as a small part of the world, but rather the other way round - as the majority.

3 RECEPTION OF A REPORT ON THE FABRIC, GOODS AND ORNAMENTS OF THE CHURCH

The report was received with thanks to all involved with the custody and care of the fabric goods and ornaments.

4 DEANERY SYNOD REPORT

The Chairman thanked Wendy Paxman for the report and Humphrey and Andrew Sykes for their representation of St Mary's.

5 ELECTIONS

Parochial Church Council: The Chairman thanked all those who had served on the PCC in the past year..

Nomination:

John Baker
Ian Burgess
Noel Burns

Proposed by:

Liz Divall
Gill Bird
Gill Bird

Seconded by:

Kathie Burgess
Nicholas Allsopp
Valerie Wood

In the absence of any other nominations, all were duly elected

Deanery Synod:

There were no nominations for one representative for one year

Sidesmen:

Upon the proposal of Rev Sue Ayling, seconded by Noel Burns, the list of sidesmen for 2019/2020 was unanimously agreed

Auditor:

Upon the proposal of Valerie Wood, seconded by David Dance, Kevin Mallett of L&F Accounting was unanimously appointed independent examiner for the year 2019

6 OTHER MATTERS OF PAROCHIAL OR GENERAL CHURCH INTEREST

Ray Eyres asked whether the hearing loop system would be replaced in the Church Hall
Russell replied that it had been removed during the redecoration and would be replaced

Ray Eyres asked how the organ repairs had been funded

Angela replied that all but £500 had come from the Arthur Mathews Organ Fund

Russell thanked Julia Mathews and Jonathan Holmes for their continued fundraising

Gill Reynolds asked whether there would be hot water for making hot drinks in the new toilets

Nicholas replied that there would be hot water, but for hand washing only, not for drinking

Vicar's concluding remarks

Russell thanked everyone for their attendance today, and for their continued support of and hard work on behalf of St Mary's. He also extended his thanks to those who were unable to attend today

Churchwarden, Nicholas Allsopp, thanked Russell and the clergy team, the PCC and Valerie and Kathie, on behalf of the congregation, for all their hard work – most unseen

The meeting closed with a blessing.

Signed: _____ (Chairman)