



ST MATTHEW'S & THE MINSTER

CHELTENHAM

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Tuesday 10th April at 11.30am in St Matthew's Church

Chair: Rev Richard Coombs, Rector of St Matthew's & The Minster

Richard welcomed everyone to the **Annual Parochial Church Meeting Part 1**, he asked everyone to discuss with someone sat near to share things they were thankful for in church. Then people were asked to share with the meeting.

Richard formally opened the meeting with a prayer summarising the points of praise from the last year.

1. **Apologies for absence were received from:**

Luke and Cate Blackburn, Nigel and Sheila Bowden, John and Jo Checketts, Nicola Coombs, Ceridwen Deacon, Delia Graham-Clarke, Moira Johnson, Helen and Gordon McConville, Tony and Kaye Nevill, Peter and Christine Ormerod, Hugh and Clare Palmer, Oliver and Caroline Parker, Alison Pascoe, Gill Sage, Rachel Tarling, Tim Tarling, Sarah and Richard Tilson, Nicky Woollatt, Dan Wright

Attendees were not recorded.

2. **The minutes of the meeting held on 20th April 2021 were accepted as a true record.**

3. **There were no matters arising from the previous meeting.**

4. **Reports**

Prior to the APCM the Annual Report was made available to church members, on the church website, via email links and a limited number of printed copies. The Annual Report included reports from all ministry areas.

- i. **Electoral Roll Report p.4:** Last year, it was reported that there were 283 names on the Electoral Roll, with 20 of these people living within the Parish boundaries. This year the roll was amended only.
- ii. **Fabric** (*Annual Report pp9-11*). Church Ornaments: Bill verbally added to this that the silverware was safely stored and that the Diocese inspects both churches' terriers every 5 years. No questions were posed on the Report. Bill continued to thank Godfrey Tarling for his dedication and expertise as Chair of the Buildings and Fabric Committee for over 10 years. Henry Williams,

Roger Stephens and Roger Abbott were also thanked for their DIY skills which they use for all the jobs around the churches – may unseen. Ian Perry was also thanked as he steps down from the governance roles he has undertaken over the years. Finally Andy Ponting, who steps down as Planned Giving Officer was thanked. Bill finished thanking Richard and Clare Salisbury for the pleasure it has been to work with them over his term as Church Warden.

iii. **Deanery Synod Report** in The Annual Report on p8 was taken as read and there were no questions.

iv. **Finance**

Adrian Bowcher presented highlights of the report circulated via zoom. He starting by thanking Andy Ponting for his attention to the Planned Giving over many years. The Annual Report and Accounts are prepared as a Corporate Benefit Entity. Major risks are assessed regularly. Adrian produces accounting data each meeting for PCC which then feeds into the independent examiners, currently Randall and Payne, for preparation of the Annual Accounts. The independent examiners made no notes of major concerns.

INCOME: This has still been impacted by the pandemic. Fewer collections and room bookings over the last two years has affected income. However, overall income is recorded at £506k with one legacy of £56k which counteracts the surplus.

EXPENDITURE: This was £459k for 2021. Staffing costs have greatly increased, which has mostly been covered by generous donations over the last two years. Although there has been significant investments in computer systems and equipment this has resulted in a reduction in expenditure on paper costs.

Adrian noted that the PCC chose to use a legacy for the boilers project at St Matthew's which will show in Accounts 2021-2022.

The Treasurer proposed that the Annual Report and Accounts as presented were approved. Vote passed with one abstention.

The Treasurer proposed that a new independent examiner be recruited during this year and appointed by the PCC, due to dissatisfactory service with current independent examiner. Vote passed unanimously.

Questions were invited:

-Question raised about the types of boiler to be installed; whether they'd be environmentally friendly. It was explained that though they will be gas boilers, the PCC took advice from the Diocese, particularly with their Net Zero Carbon policy. It was explained that St Matthew's is a vast church to heat and that the B&F Committee have sought to source and install the best equipment with the technology available in order to try and meet the Church of England's Net Zero Carbon policy. The B&F will have half (three) boilers will be hydrogen ready gas boilers. With a view to adding a heat exchange system in the near future.

- Mission Giving, a detailed question was submitted by email prior to the meeting. Ian Davies and Adrian will reply separately.

- The total from the Christmas Appeal in support of Al Massira was greater than previously advertised. This is due to large donations made privately after the total was announced.

Richard thanked Adrian for all his work as the Church Treasurer.

Annual Parish Meeting

(At this point the Annual Parochial Church Meeting is “interrupted” by the Annual Parish meeting, the sole purpose of which is to elect Churchwardens for the coming year).

Richard Coombs began the Parish meeting by expressing his thanks to the churchwardens, Clare Salisbury and Bill Harvey for serving so faithfully during another challenging year.

Richard was delighted to announce that Clare had agreed to stand again. Bill Harvey stepped down after three years/two terms as Warden. Richard thanked Bill for all he contributed to the team and was presented with a small gift.

Nominations for their elections:

David Evans – Proposed: Sue Knight Seconded: Andrew Bruckland

Clare Salisbury – Proposed: Sarah Collacott Seconded: Clare Palmer

Both Wardens were elected unanimously.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting Part II

5. Elections

i. **Nomination/Election of PCC members (10):** Nominations received as follows:

Elected for a second term:

Liz Horder: Proposed: Peter Ormerod Seconded: Bryan Lawry

Dan Wright: Proposed: Janion Neville Seconded: Clareece Neville

Co-opted last year, now to be elected

Oliver Parker: Proposed: Jonny Thomas Seconded: Paul Chesworth

Sarah Tilson: Proposed: Clare Salisbury Seconded: Rachel Hargreave

Tony Whitbread: Proposed: Rod Pellereau Seconded: Caroline Pellereau

Elected for first term:

Chris Hermes: Proposed: Bill Harvey Seconded: Robert Sutton

Anna Gorick: Proposed: Thomas Nowell Seconded: Tony Whitbread

Sarah Dixon – to be co-opted

Andy Horton – to be co-opted

Natalie Storey – to be co-opted

ii. **Nomination/Election of Deanery Synods members (1):** Nominations received as follows:

Nerys Joyce: Proposed: Rachel Hargreave Seconded: Rod Pellereau

Vote to accept the nominations of all those above to the PCC and Deanery Synod carried unanimously.

iii. **List of Welcomers and Sidespeople:**

The Minster, the 11 o'clock

Jenny Aldridge	Margaret Failes	Tony Neville
Michael Bishop	Liz Horder	Kay Neville
Jean Bishop	Claire McKirgan	Robert Sutton
Alex Dyson	David McKirgan	

St Matthew's, the Ten O'clock

Emma Abbey	Sarah Harris	Nichola Pettman
Philip Abbey	Bill Harvey	Maureen Salter
Joseph Abbey	Chris Hermes	Anna Sanders
Jeff Allen	Anna Lazlos	Andrew Sanders
Tristan Blick	David Lazlos	Lily Sanders
Trevor Blundell	Helen McConville	Ethan Sanders
Heidi Bowcher	Gordon McConville	Julia Sawers
Margaret Brooks	Angie McCoy	Andy Sawers
Andrew Bruckland	David Meakin	David Towers
Claire Chesworth	Alison Miller	Margaret Towers
Paul Collacott	Graham Nicholls	Nouk Wachs
Sarah Collacott	Janet Nicholls	Valerie Waller
Karen Cox	Hannah Ouston	Jacqui Whitbread
David Evans	Jack Ouston	Michael Wintersgill
Kate Evans	Clare Palmer	Eleanor Wintersgill
Alastair George	Hugh Palmer	
Jayne George	Caroline Parker	

St Matthew's, the 6.30

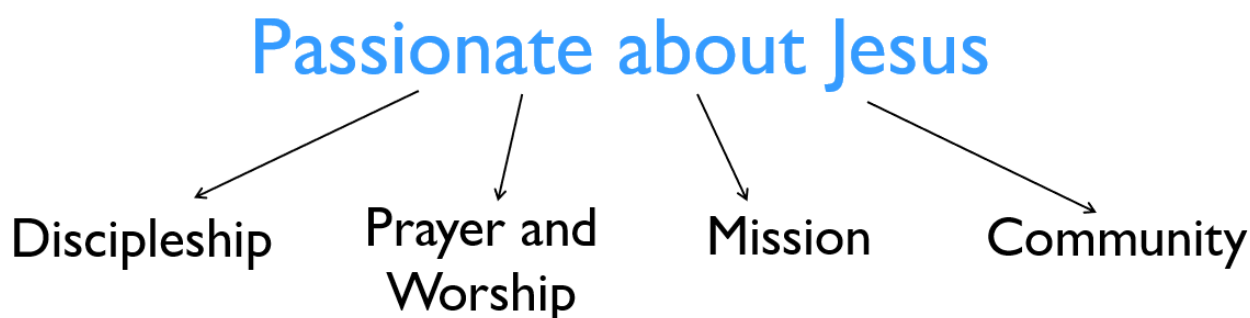
Sophie Anelay	Kyle Hobbis	Bill Powell
Joel Bent	Lydia Holloway	Jordan Stocker
Sarah Brown	Andy Horton	Ben Varghese
Emily Cupper	Helen Howes	Becca Youings
Ceridwen Deacon	Tom Nowell	

Vote to accept all those listed above as Welcomers and Sidespeople carried unanimously.

6. Rectors address (see Annual Report)

(Note that Richard's address was followed by his vision for the year ahead on PowerPoint and summarised below)

Richard opened saying how great it was to be able to meet in person. Here we look back at the Strategic Priorities set for 2021/2022 and look ahead to 2022/2023. Firstly a reminder that all we do is brought under our mission to be Passionate about Jesus and to share this message with everyone.



Strategic Priorities for 2021/2022

- Re-establish Relationships – made great efforts to reconnect the church family post-pandemic with many events across the last year.
- Double Students, Young Adults and Families – perhaps not managed to double, but number of families have grown, Central Small Group membership doubled, more students at the 6.30 and re-establishing connections in youth work.
- Minster as a Missional Hub – whilst work on the Minster Exchange was awaited last year, Minster Welcomers are more intentional in welcoming visitors.
- Missional Opportunities with Other Churches – difficult to get going as Cheltenham churches re-establish relationships in their own churches. It is hoped that Love Cheltenham will take place soon. Richard continues to pray with other town centre church leaders.
- Care for Creation – not much progress made on this in 2021 but a care for creation Sunday was held, some Small groups did the A Rocha course. Energy usage has been cut with introduction of new LED lightbulbs, the boilers are to be replaced, the office has greatly reduced paper usage, the Churchyard project has biodiversity at its heart.

Strategic Priorities 2022/2023

Whole Church more Missional

- Whole church Alpha course in Autumn 2022
- Develop outreach ministries
- Mission with other churches
- Care for Creation

Minster

- The Minster to become a missional hub
- The 'Minster Quarter'

Pastoral Care

- Everyone to have someone responsible for their pastoral care

Youth

- Equip young people to be passionate about Jesus and share that passion with others
- Reach young people within the parish and wider town for Christ

Children and Families

- Integrate Bright Lights Families into the St Matthew's Community
- Promote ALL-IN (both at 3.30 and 10 o'clock) to non-church families

18s – 30s

- Grow in love for God and for each other
- Equip young adults to live out and share the gospel in their contexts

7. Question Time

Questions were invited:

- A question was asked about the church response to caring for the planet as well as people in the world. It was responded that the environmental impact of developments in the church has been taken into account and doing the best possible with current technologies.
- Thanks for the Friday Focus and other churchwide emails was given, but to enhance this with feedback on events past, such as how various courses are going or have gone.
- Question was asked whether the Cotswold Bible Focus was happening this year? Sadly it was cancelled last year and as yet it is unclear whether it will be scheduled this year.

Closing Prayer

Reverend Clare Dyson closed the meeting in prayer.