

**CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHGATE
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL MEETINGS
held in Church on Sunday 30th March 2021**

Meetings commenced at 11.15 am

Chair: The Rev'd Dr Chrichton Limbert, Vicar

Prayers: led by Fr Chrichton

In attendance: 21

(1) **ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS**

1. Minutes from previous meeting

Minutes from the previous meeting of 25 October 2019 were accepted nem com.
Proposed: Hilary Meur; seconded: Clive Woodhouse.

2. Matters Arising

None.

3. Election of Churchwardens

Serving Churchwardens Kate Carroll (KC) and Clare Boulton (CB) indicated their willingness to continue in their roles. Fr Chrichton (FrCh) took the opportunity to thank them very much for everything they had done so far in this unprecedented and difficult year and encouraged a round of applause.

Proposed: Ronald Lo; seconded: Patricia Ashby.
Proposal accepted nem con.

4. Any Other Business

None.

In the absence of any other business, FrCh closed the meeting and invited those not on the Electoral Roll to withdraw.

(2) **ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**

1. Minutes from previous meeting

Minutes from the previous meeting of 25th October 2020 were accepted nem con.
Proposed: Briony Hadjidaniel; seconded: Hilary Meur.

2. Matters Arising from the Minutes

None.

3.1 Presentation of the Electoral Roll

Patricia Ashby, the Electoral Roll Officer, presented her report which showed an increase since 2020 of 4 from 216 to 220. 8 names had been added (albeit not necessarily newcomers to the church); 3 members had died; 1 had moved away. Two additional Electoral Forms were received after the annual revision period and they will now be added to the new Roll.

FrCh proposed a vote of thanks to Patricia for her work in maintaining the Roll over the past year.

3.2 Vicar's Report

FrCh referred all present to the Annual Report.

- FrCh noted that he had presided over unprecedented times as no Vicar before him had ever been required by Law to shut the church. He acknowledged that many controls continued e.g. hand sanitising and roping off of church pews but was mindful of the fortunate pre-pandemic installation of the sound system in church, without which it would have been very difficult to operate successfully with the restrictions.
- FrCh noted that despite the Lenten course having to finish early, it had been a good Eco year and successful Christmas with 'Follow the Angels', ticketing of services and pre-recorded services. Figures of Church attendees plus those accessing online meant that over 1000 people had been able to celebrate with Christ Church, more than would have been able to do so physically. Similarly, numbers following the Travelling Crib round the parish online had been very high.
- FrCh particularly extended many thanks to Richard Brain, Director of Music, Kate Macpherson and the choir for their hard work setting up the regular weekly online services which had been shared not only across the country, but globally and invited a huge round of applause for their efforts.
- FrCh noted the huge upscaling of the Spire magazine, tripling its print run, delivering by hand/post and including gifts such as prayer cards and palm crosses. He extended huge thanks to everyone involved – Clare Boulton, Patricia Ashby, Caroline Robertson, Judith Limbert, Richard Brain and Clive Woodward.
- FrCh said the Parish Walk from St Paul's Cathedral to St Alban's Abbey was able to go ahead despite the walkers arriving bedraggled by the rain and that he had also completed his own weekly Parish Boundary prayer walk in place of usual Church services 27 times, a total of 168 miles.
- FrCh confirmed Amy Li having completed her Lay Reader training would be licensed by Bishop Pete of Willesden in person, in West Ealing, at 7.30 pm on 24th June. FrCh plus 6 people would be able to attend the proceedings which would also be live streamed. FrCh would publish the link online and in the pew sheet.
- FrCh said despite the future still being uncertain, the aim was to look towards September, when hopefully there would be fewer restrictions; to target the return of Servers and Sidesmen and to think about how to respond as the new world emerged. More immediately Evensong would re-start on 13th June.
- FrCh referred everyone to the Outreach committee report and their hard work, particularly the upskilling of so many people in response to the pandemic including their online videos.

- FrCh congratulated the Social Responsibility committee (SRC) on being able to donate £5,000 to local charities despite the pandemic and the church being shut and invited a round of applause.
- FrCh noted that Raymond Harris had stood down as a Sidesman after many years and wanted to record a vote of thanks to him for his contribution.
- FrCh referred everyone to Richard Brain's Music report and thanked him again for his work and highlighted his article in the next Spire magazine on Christ Church's choral and organ scholars.
- FrCh congratulated Sandra Anderson on her good efforts to maintain Christ Church as an Eco Church and highlighted her launch of the Friends of Christ Church Garden scheme shortly.

FrCh said that as a result of Christ Church being the only holder of the Silver Rocha award in the Edmonton area, he had been contacted by Compassionate Communities, a London Diocese initiative linking to the 2030 vision of Caring for God's Creation, to lead the Eco charge for the Edmonton Diocesan area and be on the London wide steering group. The aim would be to get as many churches as possible to take up the Eco challenge and he had already been contacted by another church, which proved the message was spreading.

- FrCh echoed Clive Woodhouse's comments in the Christ Church Association report regarding Teresa Walden following her standing down and wanted a vote of thanks registered for her work both with the CCA bar committee and the bee keeping. Clive said, depending on covid restrictions, he intended that the CCA bar would re-open on Fridays in July aiming to resume normal opening in September. Fr Chrichton said he was delighted that the CCA had survived the pandemic, given how many places had not.
- FrCh congratulated Judith Limbert on her great work mentioned in the Children and Youth report and highlighted the knitted Holy family and the delivery of chocolates and advent calendars to various families.

FrCh requested that the Annual Report be accepted.

Proposed: Ronald Lo; Seconded Patricia Ashby. Proposal accepted nem con.

3.3 Finance Report

Clare Boulton (CB) presented the Annual Accounts to Ye 31 12 2020 and referred everyone to her report.

- CB confirmed that the pandemic meant it had been a 'strange' year financially. The combined income of the Church and Parish Centre was down c£70,000; day-to-day expenditure had remained the same with insurance, heating, etc., but overall expenditure had been down due to no 'one off' costs. Christ Church had been very fortunate due to the generosity of those in the regular Parish Giving scheme, some substantial one-off gifts, and donations from families who had funerals during that time. Consequently, the unrestricted fund had finished with a surplus of just over £12,000 so overall it had been a positive year.
- CB said despite the funds we have in reserve, regular income only covered regular expenditure so it was very important to think, moving forward, about how to fund new activities or issues that arise, e.g. work on the organ.
- CB expressed her thanks to Hilary Meur and Pat Hawkins for counting the SRC money; to the sidesmen for the two months when they could count the collection; to Mick Meur for the Parish Centre Management Committee but particularly for his help to her during covid.
- CB stressed that she was happy to share any more detail behind the finances and confirmed that £85,200 was paid to the Diocese as our common fund contribution in 2020 and that it will be the same this year.

CB requested that the examined Accounts be formally accepted.

Proposed: Clive Woodhouse; seconded: Jill Holiday. Proposal accepted nem con.

FrCh seconded CB's comments on their fortunate financial position vis-a-vis other parishes and the need to look for other forms of income. FrCh offered a vote of thanks for all Clare's fantastic work.

3.4 Fabric Report

Kate Carroll referred all present her report. In addition, she commented on the following:

- New architect Roderick Maclennan: KC said he was enthusiastic and experienced and hoped he would be able to meet people once covid restrictions lifted.
- Chancel Floor: KC confirmed this was still the main focus of activity but gaining Faculty had been a laborious process; the Diocesan Advisory committee had now agreed but she was awaiting the Chancellor's approval, hopefully in the next three weeks. FrCh confirmed that a lot of paperwork was required due to the complicated nature of the floor investigations.
- Tree maintenance in the churchyard: Enfield council and the Archdeacon had both agreed to the work which would take place in a couple of weeks.
- Mouse activity had been identified around the organ – Chase Pest Control were currently dealing with it.
- The Church Clock had stopped and Len Craft Public Clocks would send someone to investigate on 4th June.

FrCh voted for a round of applause for Kate.

3.5 Deanery Synod

FrCh referred everyone to the report and confirmed that the Synod had not been able to meet, although Ronald Lo confirmed it was anticipated a meeting might take place in July.

FrCh extended his personal thanks to his 'brilliant' Clergy team and said it was wonderful that Christ Church had so many clergy. FrCh said that as a consequence of Sandra Anderson and Amy Li being licensed, he had been appointed as an Assistant Area Director of Ordinands, working with those exploring ordination and had just started with his first two. Furthermore, Christ Church had been recommended as a good example to follow and consequently someone from St Paul's New Southgate who had just been accepted for ordination training, would be joining the congregation with her family next week.

4. Elections and Appointments

a) Representatives to the PCC

Angela Parker and Chris Howell had come to the end of their terms this month but both applied for re-election leaving 5 vacancies

Angela Parker	Proposed: Barbara Clarke Love	Seconded: Tessa Kumar
Chris Howell	Proposed: Kate Carroll	Seconded: Mick Meur

Following a vote both were elected nem com.

b) Anthony Croft Ezekiel Independent Examiner/Auditor

CB recommended the reappointment of Anthony Croft Ezekiel for the following year.
Proposed: Jill Holiday; seconded: Philip Miall. Proposal accepted nem con.

5. Any Other Business

None.

FrCh closed the meeting with a prayer.

Date of next Annual Meeting: to be confirmed.