

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING HELD IN
ALL SAINTS CHURCH ON SUNDAY, 25 OCTOBER 2020**

Present: Revd R Opala
Mrs J Thompson (Treasurer)
Mrs S Reid (Reader) Mrs J Watt and Mr O Searle (Churchwardens)
PCC – Mesdames D Baker, P Hayton, SA Hewitt, J Jung, P Searle, D Turner, Messrs R Baker, N Roberts, J Saxton
5 members of the congregation

Mrs S Simpson-Holley (Chair)
Mrs J A Pyle (Secretary)

1. Revd Opala opened the meeting with a prayer.
2. Apologies for absence were received from Mr & Mrs I Donaldson and Mr & Mrs J Taylor.
3. The minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on 28 April 2019 had been distributed and copies were available in Church. The minutes were agreed as a correct record.
4. **Election of Parochial Representatives of the Laity**
 - i. **Deanery Synod.** Mrs Reid is standing down as a member of the Deanery Synod. The Chair thanked Mrs Reid for everything she has done whilst a member. Three representatives – Mrs D Baker, Mrs S Simpson-Holley and Mrs D Turner had been nominated and seconded and were unanimously elected.
 - ii. **Parochial Church Council.** Mrs P Hayton, Mrs P Searle and Mr N Roberts were due to retire this year. All had expressed a wish to continue and had been proposed and seconded. New members Mrs S Reid, Mr R Baker and Dr J Saxon had also been proposed and seconded. All were unanimously elected.
 - iii. **Independent Auditor.** Mrs Thompson is standing down as Treasurer and Mr Roberts has agreed to take her place. This means that Mrs Roberts can no longer be our independent auditor. The Chair said Mrs Roberts has been an excellent independent auditor and thanked her for all she had done.
 - iv. **Sidespersons.** Mesdames D Baker, SA Hewitt, P Ridgway, A Slade, J Thompson, Messrs R Baker, J Chandler, L Cook, J Corner, B Holley, B Jung, M Lewis, C Reeves, J Saxon, J Taylor
5. **Electoral Roll.** Mrs Reid reported that there were 130 on the Electoral Roll.
6. **Annual Report.** The Chair proposed that this be taken as read as copies had been circulated and were available in Church. This was agreed.

Revd Opala thanked Mrs Thompson for all her work for the Parish. She was presented with a bouquet of flowers and a gift.

7. **Financial Statement for the year ended 31 December 2019**

Mrs Thompson gave her report and said the Annual Accounts were made available earlier in the year by e mail and paper copies were delivered also. The accounts show that the expenditure well exceed income resulting in a deficit of £14,880 but no claim was made for Gift Aid in 2019 so two years will be claimed in 2020. The monies received to be Gift Aided were down by £1,400. The amount of Planned Giving, which is not Gift Aided, has again risen from donors no longer paying tax. Collections are slightly lower. Event income and donations have remained similar. The fees for special services reflects the drop in weddings in 2019 after a significant number in 2018.

The reduction in the Ministry expenses reflects the reduced proportion payable within the new Benefice. The increase in Sundry Expenses is partly due to setting up the website and licences for showing of films. The Freewill Offering to the Diocese was increased to £36,000 and paid in full.

Church House donations remained similar. All expenses have increased. A surplus of £1,176 was achieved. Many thanks again to Pat and Owen Searle for all their time and hard work involved in the running of Church House.

The Fabric and Bequest account is supplemented by the dividends from investments. A grant application for improvements to Church provided £7,272. The account supported the purchase of the new notice board and the film projector.

Finally, the trend of decrease in income and an overall increase in expenses does not bode well for future years. The PCC aims to maintain reserves to cover 3 months' worth of monthly expenses of approx.. £4,000, i.e. £12,000.

Mrs Thompson expressed her thanks to Mrs Roberts for being the Independent Examiner of the Accounts.

She thanked everyone for supporting her through the 11 years she had been Treasurer and wished everyone well in the current situation.

Mrs Simpson-Holley said we are looking at ways to increase our income. Mr Searle said on the notice board there is a breakdown of what it costs for a minister - £70,000 a year of which our share is 40%. The amount we pay to the Diocese covers 28% of Revd Opala's salary. We have 130 people on the Electoral Roll and if each gave £10 a week it would enable us to do more in relation to growth and outreach in witness to the community in which we live.

The Chair offered a formal vote of thanks to the Churchwardens and Mrs Searle for all the time they have devoted to the Parish and Benefice.

8. **Annual Report on Fabric, Goods and Ornaments of the Church.** All this information is in the Annual Report.
9. **Report on Proceedings of the Deanery Synod.** This is contained in the Annual Report.
10. **Rector's Report.** This is contained in the Annual Report.
11. **Other Matters of Parochial or general Church Interest.**

Revd Opala said he had met the new Archbishop of York on a zoom meeting for clergy and readers. The Archbishop said Covid 19 has challenged the traditional ministry and pastoral work when the churches were locked but a new form of chaplaincy ministry has been created in a beautiful way. Revd Opala said his wife

has been appointed a Covid Chaplain and asked that she be contacted directly if something happens in the village and she will be happy to offer support. The Benefice has now been in place for one year.

Mrs Jung said, on behalf of the congregation, she would like to thank Revd Opala and Lisa for all they have done in the Parish and Benefice, particularly the pilgrimage and for getting us together on the zoom services.

Revd Opala closed the meeting with a prayer.