

St Peter's with St Mark's Hospital Church

Annual Meeting 2019

Sunday 24th March 2019 at St Peters Church, Maidenhead

Present: There were 75 people present at the meeting.

Apologies: John Barringer; Liz Barringer; Charlotte Cox; Wendy Frampton; Trevor Edwards; Alan Jell; Marion Jell; Anita Li; Allan Machin; Isabelle May; Lesley McLeod; Fran Sharp; Lizzie Stone; Tim Stone; Richard Thorogood

Annual Meeting of Parishioners (Vestry Meeting)

1. **Apologies** as listed above
2. **Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners 29th April 2018**

Charles Hollingsworth proposed that the Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true record. Larry Galliford seconded the proposal. The Minutes were approved and signed without amendment.

3. Election of Churchwardens

Jean Stevens and Ian Knight are proposed. Ian Knight was nominated by Sue Fleet, seconded by Fran Sharp. Jean Stevens was nominated by Sue Wilson, seconded by Howard Goldsmith.

As the number of nominations matched the number of available vacancies (2), Ian and Jean were duly appointed as Churchwardens.

David Short prayed for the newly elected Churchwardens Jean and Ian.

The meeting was closed.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)

1. **Apologies for absence** – see list above
2. **Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on 29th April 2018**

Ann Trevor proposed and Francis Pra-Lopez seconded the proposal that the Minutes be accepted as a true record. This was approved unanimously by the meeting and the Minutes were signed without amendment

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

4. Declaration of Any Other Business

Two items were declared and discussed at this point of the meeting.

Vicarage – David Short and his family have been living in temporary accommodation awaiting redevelopment of the current site, which has been a long and involved process. David expressed his thanks for help from the PCC, in particular the small working group supporting him in his communications with the Diocese and the RBWM Planning Department. In the last couple of weeks, it had become clear that the Planning department will reject the plans because of a tree preservation order issue. David has had meetings this week to discuss this issue, and as a result has received an email from the Diocese confirming that they wish to cease the project to redevelop Courthouse Road site. The Diocese said that it was frustrating, but despite collective best efforts there was no apparent suitable resolution to the difficulties with the tree at the front of the site.

The Diocese offered two options for going forward with the vicar’s accommodation. 1. David and family to move back into the vicarage (which will need considerable refurbishment, the cost of only some aspects of which will be paid for by the Diocese), or 2. Another property could be purchased to act as a new vicarage. These options would be discussed and explored over the next few weeks, and David would keep the congregation informed as and when he had further news.

Children’s Minister – In order to move forward with our vision, we were still looking to fill this appointment, but we had not yet been successful despite a number of interviews taking place. This role will be split between working with our current children 0-13 and working within local schools (5 infant and junior schools are in our Parish). We will continue to search for the right person to fill this appointment.

The meeting paused for prayer regarding these two matters.

5. Elections to the PCC

The following candidates had been proposed:

Candidate	Proposed by	Seconded by	Period of Office
Jessica Smith	Charlotte Cox	Ruth Flynn	2019-2022
Tony Bronnimann	Stephen Cronbach	Ian Knight	2019-2022
David Robinson	Larry Galliford	Sandra Young	2019-2022
Julie Hopkins	Alan Berry	Hazel Cronbach	2019-2022

As the number of nominations (4) matched the number of vacancies, the above were duly appointed. David Short thanked the outgoing members of the PCC for their commitment and work.

David took the opportunity to remind the meeting of the purpose of the PCC and invited people to be in prayer for the coming year about the vacancies that may arise next year.

All of the new members of the PCC have been elected for a period of up to three years.

The appointments to the PCC were warmly received from those present.

6. Appointment of Stewards/Sides people/Deputy Wardens

Deputy Wardens (St Peter's)

This is a new role and Deputy Wardens will have the delegated responsibility of ensuring that the Sunday Morning services at St Peter's are run well and efficiently. While this will help to relieve the pressure on the two Churchwardens on Sunday mornings, unlike the churchwardens they will have no legal responsibility.

Howard Goldsmith proposed and Carole Streeter seconded that those listed below be accepted as Deputy Wardens at St Peter's. All present were in favour of this proposal.

1. Andrew Fleet
2. Stephen Cronbach
3. David Robinson
4. Christine Berry
5. Tony May
6. Jeremy Stevens
7. Sandra Young (Reserve).

Stewards and Sides People

Tom Collison proposed and Kate Higley seconded, proposed those listed below as stewards for St Peter's & Sides people for St Mark's. All present were in favour of this proposal and the individuals were duly appointed.

St Peter's

1. Sue Fleet
2. Howard Goldsmith
3. Ian Cheeseman
4. Linda Goulding
5. Charlotte Cox
6. Helen May
7. Claire Bronnimann
8. Richard Thorogood
9. Anita Li
10. Caroline Oakley
11. Tony Bronnimann
12. Tim Stone (Reserve)

St Mark's

1. Barbara Buckle
2. Duncan Hopkins
3. Brian Belcher
4. Maggie McPherson
5. Roy Shimmin
6. Alan Frampton
7. Heather Grant
8. Wendy Robinson
9. Doreen Young
10. Wendy Frampton.

7. Appointment of Independent Examiners of 2018 Accounts

The company Wilkins Kennedy of Bourne End was proposed by Tony Bronnimann as the Independent Examiners of 2019 Accounts. This was seconded by Mark Gould. The proposal was accepted by all present.

In future years the PCC would seek competitive quotes for this role, to ensure that we are getting the best value for money.

Stephen Cronbach observed that he felt the current company offers a rate that we probably couldn't match elsewhere. David reassured the meeting that it may well be that we stick with the current company but in order to exhibit best practice quotes will be obtained.

8. Reports on Fabric, Goods and Ornaments, the PCC, and Deanery Synod

The Reports on the PCC; the Deanery Synod; and the Fabric Report were all distributed as part of the Agenda in order to save time. After those present were offered the opportunity to ask questions in relation to these, the Reports were duly noted for the record.

9. Electoral Roll Report

Adrian Young, the Electoral Role Officer, reported that every six years the preparation of a completely new church electoral roll takes place. This means that everyone is removed from the roll and people are invited to re-apply to be on it. 2019 was a year when a new roll was prepared. The next occasion for the preparation of a new roll will be in 2025.

The number of names on the 2018 roll, as reported at last year's APCM, was 174. The number of names entered upon the church electoral roll in 2019 is 172. Of those 54% reside in the parish and 46% do not.

10. Finance Review for 2018

The Treasurer Alan Berry presented a Financial Review of 2018 which was based on the Annual Report and Financial Statements for 2018, previously made available to the members via the website and hard copies where required. St Peter's and St Mark's operates as one Charity – members of our PCC are the trustees.

Hazel Cronbach was thanked for her outstanding work and for preparing accurate paperwork in record time this year as the Annual Meeting was earlier than usual.

An independent review was carried out by Wilkins Kennedy on 8th March 2019 and approval was given by the PCC on 11th March 2019.

Income & Expenditure 2018

St Mark's	£	St Peter's Unrestricted	£
Income	4,266	Income	200,111
Expenditure	5,353	Expenditure	159,716
Deficit	(1,089)	Surplus	40,295

Headlines:

- St Mark's income was in line with previous years – expenditure was higher resulting in a deficit. In 2018 St Mark's purchased from their reserves a new sound system (around £7,000) and a new Notice Board (around £2,500)
- St Peter's income was just over £200,000. The surplus was due to the delay in appointment of the Children's minister. Also, some works (roof survey and repairs) have been delayed due to priority being given to boiler repair and fire alarm repair.

Alan commented that each year we lose some regular giving, so it is particularly encouraging to see an increase in giving. He thanked the members for their continuing generosity, without which the ministry would suffer – no money no mission. Alan drew attention to leaflets in the foyer regarding ways of giving if interested.

Comments:

- As a charity we received nearly £30,000 in Gift Aid. Alan urged everyone to make sure they are registered if applicable (forms available).

- We received £10,000 from a bequest managed by Bishop Andrew to put towards our Vision.
- Diocesan Share – we paid almost £73,000. Currently we are receiving a Vicar, a Curate and housing for both of them, as well as a number of central support services.
- Other Expenditure in the Accounts relates to 360 transactions, for everything from Accountants fees to coffee after services. All expenditure is budgeted and controlled via our accounting system and processes.

Donations to Mission – St Mark’s

£1,243 was distributed to:

- Alzheimer Dementia Support
- Thames Valley Hospice
- League of Friends of St Mark’s Hospital
- Mission to Seafarers

Donations to Mission – St Peter’s

£17,174 composed of Tithe, collections and lump sum donations was distributed to:

- Mark and Rosalie Balfour in Guatemala via CMS
- Street Kids Direct
- Alpha Liberia
- R and R Recharge
- Yeldall Manor
- Christian Connections in Schools (CCIS)
- Open Doors

In addition, a £300 contribution was made to Maidenhead Foodshare from the Christingle services.

Summary of Balance Sheet

Parish Funds	£	Notes:
Unrestricted	112,946	Mainly St Peter’s Bank Account
Designated	66,768	St Mark’s
Restricted	68,833	Mainly St Peter’s Investments
Total	248,547	

In conclusion Alan advised that we are following a 3-year budget for 2019, 2020 and 2021 focused on our Vision. We are expecting a deficit in 2020 and 2021 as costs increase. However, our reserves are good and should support our Vision and any unexpected expenses. Anticipated risks could include roof repairs and unbudgeted expenses associated with the strategy for the Vicarage. We also need to give attention to the lighting and power circuits; the church boiler and the sound system at St Peter’s.

The meeting was opened to questions from the floor. There were no questions arising. If required Alan or Hazel would be happy to answer any further questions members may have.

Alan proposed and Sue Wilson seconded that the members accept the accounts. This was carried without dissent or abstention.

11. Any Other Business

There were no additional items raised.

This concluded the formal part of the meeting, which was followed by an informal review of the year.

Review of the Year

David Short gave us a verse for the year.

Psalm 27:11: Teach me your way O Lord, lead me in a straight path.

There are two parts to this verse, listening and following

David interviewed a number of people in twos, in a chat show format, talking about how we as a church have been listening to God and how have we been following God as part of our vision.

Interview 1: Growing Faith in Adults with Mike and Debbie Weatherley.

After attending an Alpha course, Mike and Debbie started coming to St Peter's about a year ago. They felt that Alpha was very thought provoking and led to them both wanting to continue their journey of faith.

They started attending church more regularly on a Sunday morning, which they enjoyed. Church was no longer a sombre scary place, as it had been when they were younger, but a place where it is a pleasure to be full of joy and fellowship. They found the sermons helpful in growing their knowledge of the Bible and applying their faith to their everyday lives.

Following the Alpha course, they joined a Connect Group which helped them to put what they had learned into practice and helped them to continue growing in faith. This led to them attending a new group, led by Debbie Watson and Stuart Barnby, which meets fortnightly in their own home. This group focuses on exploring mission and discipleship and thinking about how to reach out to people who do not have faith.

They recommended that everyone joins a Connect group, as a natural progression of growing one's faith and finding support and friendship on another level.

Interview 2: The Discipleship of Children with Andy and Mary Janes.

Andy and Mary lead our Ignite group on Sunday mornings (School Years 3-5). They want each child to really want to be there, to enjoy the experience, and learn more about what it means to be a Christian.

Children don't particularly read the Bible, so their challenge is to find lots of different ways of bringing the Bible to them with games, art, acting etc. Relationship building with the children not only takes place on a Sunday, but also during the week when they organise activities. For example, the day before they had taken the group to crazy golf and Jenner's Cafe. The leaders also set the children challenges during the week.

Andy and Mary decided to get involved in Children's ministry, because as Christian parents themselves they realise the importance of passing on their faith to the next generation. They want to make what they do for the children the very best it can be, so that the children look forward to the next time they meet.

Three out of four Sundays Andy and Mary are leading Ignite during the Sunday service. Therefore, they try and go to the St Mark's 8.00am service on those Sundays so that they don't miss out on their own spiritual growth. They also regularly attend a Connect group which helps their own faith and fellowship needs.

This year has been the first year for some time that St Peter's had offered a Discipleship Year. Laura Marlow, who has been on the Discipleship Year since September, has been helping with the group. Andy and Mary have seen Laura grow in faith and confidence as she works with the children.

Andy said that they are always looking for extra leaders and although it can be hard work it is a really rewarding role. He explained how a wide range of skills are needed – some people are up front, like he is, and other's like Mary are more in the background – could you help?

David thanked everyone who helps to disciple our younger generation.

Interview 3: Listening in Prayer with Ruth Knight and Brian Colthorpe.

Ruth is a Connect Group leader alongside her husband Ian and is also a Licensed Lay Minister. Brian is part of the projection team, and also has responsibility for the prayer bulletin.

The *Encounter* Prayer meeting takes place monthly on a Tuesday evening, during which prayers are said for the mission and ministry of our church, our mission partners, and for the world.

Weekly prayer meetings take place on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings. On Mondays there is prayer for pastoral needs of the church and local community. On Thursdays there is prayer for Children and Young People. On Wednesdays a passage from the bible is read together. Those present are encouraged to listen to what God might be saying through the passage, and to share this with the wider group.

Quiet days are another way the church engages in prayer. Ruth had recently attended a Quiet Day at Burnham Abbey which had been run by Kevin Colyer and Jo Ellington. It was a lovely setting and a great chance to spend time with God. The time to just get away and pray was so valuable.

Brian spoke about our Prayer Room which is open from 7am to 11pm on three different weeks of the year. Everyone is invited to sign up for different slots and to come and pray. It is an excellent resource, there are all sorts of ideas and inspirations, from prayer for worldwide situations to personal prayer. It is a really good place to take time out and pray, so next time we run a week of prayer, members were urged to sign up and experience the power of prayer – a two-way communication with our God.

David concluded by thanking all those who had taken part in the review, for their encouragement to us to listen to God and follow where He leads us.

Mark Gould led the meeting in sung worship, after which David closed the meeting in prayer at 14.00.