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# CHRIST CHURCH, CHILWELL

## ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING MINUTES

Date: Monday 27 March, 2017

Venue: Christ Church

Time: 7:30pm

Chair: Penny Wallace and Clint Redwood (wardens)

Secretary: Ruth Price

There were 73 people present for the meeting.

### 1 Welcome: An act of worship

Opening prayers, and welcome

Clint Redwood

Sung Worship

Mark Attwood

### 2 Apologies for Absence

Ruth Price

Apologies were received from:

Janis Patterson, Richard Pratt, Roger and Rachel Hird, Tony and Janet Smith, Trish Roberts-Thomson, Helen Hobbs, Keith Stevenson, Graeme Renton, John and Anne Stafford, Matthew Howe, Anne Marjoram, Shaun Crandley, Sally Hodges, Carol Pentelow, Stephen Clarke, Gill and Pete Benson.

### 3 Election of Church Wardens (i.e. Annual Vestry Meeting)

Penny retired to the vestry for this item.

Penny has offered to stand as a warden for another year to keep continuity while we are without a vicar, but as she has already been church warden for the maximum continuous term of six years, another year will require a vote by the members of the church at the APCM. Clint proposed that Penny be allowed to stand for one final year. 64 voted for the proposal, 0 voted against and there were no abstentions. Penny returned to the meeting. She told the meeting that she was very happy to stand for another year, but would be standing down next year so another warden will need to be found.

Clint was unanimously accepted to stand for another year without a vote as there were no other applications.

Candidate	Proposed	Seconded
PENELOPE WALLACE	CAROL PENTELow	ISABEL ADAMS
CLINT REDWOOD	REBEKAH REDWOOD	JUDITH RENTON

## 4 Review of 2016

### a. Children and Families work

Greer Jones

Greer showed a video of activities that had happened over the year with the children and family's work. She started by thanking all the volunteers who help with the activities. She encouraged everyone to read the Annual Review to find out all that had happened in 2016. The highlights of 2016 were that it was a year of growth in all areas; she was able to push forward with the holiday club where over a hundred children turned up. Greer's mum made the transatlantic trip to help at the event. With George, she has started Messy Church to reach out to the community around us. This outreach has been combined with Easter Egg hunt and Christmas Crafts which were established events in the church calendar.

In 2017, Greer wants to continue to grow the groups, especially on Sundays with prayer and encouraging the children to feel part of God's story. Once a month, there are prayer stations where children can explore different ways of praying. The Sunday groups continue to look at people in the bible – young and old, and how they join in with God's work on earth. At the end of the school term Greer hope the children will see that they can join in too.

### c. Young People's Work

Sky Chiweshe

Sky also started with a video showing the youth enjoying different activities. He hoped that it was clear from the video that the youth see themselves as a family and he often sees the older young people helping and inspiring the younger ones which is really encouraging.

In 2017, Sky has a number of initiatives including:

- Building on the relationship started in 2016 with Central College, spending time with tutors and students as they use the facilities of the church, especially the lounge.
- Developing relationships with the youth team at Notts County football club, with Liam O'Boyle, and supporting the players if they don't end up with a contract with a professional team.
- As Pathfinders continue to grow, it needs more space, and perhaps two rooms are needed, one for activity and one for chilling out.
- The spiritual and personal development of the older youth through a small groups, enabling them to take the Christian message to friends and family.

Sky challenged the church to get involved – we are all responsible for our young people's growth and development. Pray for the work and how we can get involved – there are many ways, including engaging them in conversation after church.

### d. Christians Against Poverty

George Russell

The Nottingham South West CAP Debt Centre is based at Christ Church and in a few months will have been established for three years. So far 130 people with critical debt have been contacted.

George has organised an evangelistic event at the Commercial Inn where 35 came and 11 responded. Of those 35, 11 were being supported by George through the CAP work and four of these people responded positively to the gospel.

The discovery cafe, an initiative started on the back of the Bishop's visit, is soon to end but this has been very encouraging and has resulted in one man becoming a Christian who had been going to different churches for many years.

Financially, CAP has been greatly supported by diocesan grants over the last three years, however this was a fixed term agreement which has now stopped. George will be applying for grants but there will be a slot at a service dedicated to George's work with CAP in the next few months where information will be presented on how congregations can help.

In 2017, George foresees a greatly increased demand on the services as a CAP centre nearby has closed, and he has started working with Framework which is bringing others into the focus of CAP. George would particularly like to recruit a lady volunteer who is available to visit clients on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, plus anyone who would be able to help with administration work. There is a prayer group who prays for his work, who he is very grateful to, and any others who wish to pray for the work would be much appreciated.

George also thanks members of the PCC and the congregation without whose support the CAP centre would not be possible.

## 5 Casting a vision

Clint Redwood &  
Penny Wallace

The wardens looked at the current vision statement, at our values and what do we actually do both in the church and within the community and our work places. They commented that we haven't stood still since Alan left with new initiatives starting like Our Space and Messy Church.

The wardens presented a short term vision to keep us moving forward together until the vicar arrives and leads us with their vision. This was based on three questions – WHAT, HOW and WHY? The What? and How? are perhaps covered by the vision and values of the church, but do we know why we do what we do, both in church and in our life outside the church. Does the world need the church? We believe that the world needs the church to give it hope, vision and purpose.

The wardens would like the congregation to consider three areas for 2017 and more information about these initiatives will follow during the year:

**Pray** – go deeper with God in prayer. There is a “Thy Kingdom Come” global prayer event coming up with they hope Christ Church will get behind.

**Play** – go younger and more intentionally playful. There will be an all church social event in July and they will be challenging the church to get to know the parish more by different initiatives this year. There will also be a meal at the 7pm service on the fifth Sunday of the month so we can eat together.

**Prepare** – go wider and know the parish before the vicar arrives. Finish the improvements to the hall, run Christianity Explored courses, get involved in our community so we can be salt and light.

They also encouraged us to get to know ourselves better, especially to find out where our gifts and passions lie, so we can use them both within and without church life.

## 6 Approval of 2016 APCM Minutes

Ruth Price

No comments were made. Frank Robinson proposed that the minutes be accepted as they are, and Colin Slater seconded it. The minutes were approved with no opposition. Penny signed the minutes when the meeting had closed.

## 7 Elections

### a. Members of the PCC and Deanery Synod

Penny Wallace

There were four spaces available on the PCC and four spaces available for Deanery Synod representatives for Christ Church. There was only one application for PCC membership and four applications for Deanery Synod so all were carried without a vote.

## **PCC**

<b>Candidate</b>	<b>Proposed</b>	<b>Seconded</b>
JONATHAN BATCHELOR	CHRIS BRIGNELL	JENNY BRIGNELL

## **Deanery Synod**

<b>Candidate</b>	<b>Proposed</b>	<b>Seconded</b>
HELEN MATHER	PENELOPE WALLACE	MARGARET METCALFE
JUDITH RENTON	CHRIS BRIGNELL	RUTH PRICE
CLINT REDWOOD	REBEKAH REDWOOD	JUDITH RENTON
ANNE WILLMOT	RUTH PRICE	CHRIS BRIGNELL

There are three spaces available on the PCC, so if any member of the congregation would like to join the PCC this year as a co-opted member, they should contact one of the wardens who can explain what this entails.

### **b. Sidespeople**

Penny Wallace

These are people who organise the welcome teams, etc

TONY SMITH (9am), KEN LYON (10:45) and PETE & GILL BENSON (7pm) are happy to continue so all elected without opposition. Penny thanked them very much for all the work they put in to help the services run smoothly.

### **c. Assistant Wardens**

Penny Wallace

TONY SMITH (9am), LOUISE ROSTRON (10.45am) and ANNE WILLMOT (7pm) were all re-elected without opposition. Penny thanked them and looks forward to continuing to work with the whole team.

Three people are stepping down from the PCC this year. Alan Darley was much appreciated who was always gracious and polite, and Gary Stephenson will be missed with all his hard work as the Treasurer, humour and faith. A special mention was given to Graham Gardner who was much loved for his gentleness, organisation and loyalty. He will be remembered as a generous PCC member, a housegroup leader, Electoral Roll Officer, sidesperson and the key organiser of the successful events of the Centenary Year. Graham was presented with some garden centre vouchers.

## **8 Review of 2015**

Clint Redwood

The Review of 2016 was presented and Ryan Mellor and Chris Brignell were thanked for compiling it and they thanked everyone who contributed. It is available at the back of church and on line. No comments or corrections were noted. Members at the meeting were happy to accept this report.

The group was encouraged to read it if they hadn't already as it is amazing to see what is going on and what people are reached/served by members of the Church.

Gary Stephenson was thanked for his work in putting the Financial reports together.

**a. Report and Accounts for 2016**

This document is required by the Charity Commission and the Church of England. It represents the calendar year of 2015 and is the whole of the parish, i.e. Christ Church and St Barnabas. It is available to any member of the public from a number of websites, including our own. If you would like a copy, please email the church office or the PCC secretary who have copies.

Instead of a PowerPoint presentation, Gary went through a handout which he hopes people will take home and read. A copy of this handout is available through the PCC secretary ([ruth.price@gmx.co.uk](mailto:ruth.price@gmx.co.uk)).

In summary, in 2016, Christ Church spent more than income, but we are blessed with reserves that have enabled us to do more than we would otherwise have been able to do.

**Questions:**

Q. Should we be concerned about the deficit?

A. The PCC has been aware for some time, but the Kingdom Growth money have clouded the issue. As we are now spending it on refurbishing the halls and lounge we can all see more clearly. The PCC will budget based on the income coming in.

Q. Does the congregational giving include gift aid?

A. Yes

Q. If we want more members of staff, how would we accommodate them?

A. Every minister the Church of England employ is given a house to live in, which is bought when they arrive and sold when they leave – this would include any curates assigned to Christ Church. If we employ someone, we should pay them enough so they can make their own arrangements for accommodation.

Q. Who are the paid staff listed on page 14?

A. Greer, Sky, George, Kerry and Kev. There is also Jo, but St Barnabas pays for her salary. It doesn't include Fran this year (2017).

The PCC has approved the reports and accounts. The meeting needs just to accept the accounts. All accepted the accounts except for one abstention.

**b. Election of examiner for 2017**

Gary used Community Accounting Plus for the 2016 accounts. He proposes that these are used again in 2017. There were no other suggestions or questions. This was carried unanimously.

**Looking forward to 2017**

In the forecast for 2017, the biggest expenditure is the Parish Share (Giving for Ministry) which is required from all Anglican churches to pay for the staff and administration supplied by the diocese. Gary is part of the group that apportions the shares and it can be noted that our share has been coming down due to a new calculation system based on the churches income, number of staff, etc. (see info sheet 3 from the handouts). The second biggest is staff who are a blessing to us (see info sheet 4). We pay at least the minimum living wage (realistic not government number) and provide a work place pension.

The forecast on info sheet 5 shows our expected expenditure and income based on current levels. There is a planned potential deficit on £71,000 which will come from ministry and reserve funds.

In 2018, the money from the house sale will run out and Gary encouraged the meeting to discover the vision for the children's and families work in particular. If we respond to the vision, not the

deficit, we should be able to hear God's purpose for this area. The PCC and DCC are looking into the long term strategy for lay ministry. For things to continue as they are, £6,500 per month is needed. Grants will be applied for, but the congregation will be asked to respond to the vision too.

Gary discussed different gift aid options. It should be possible to give using gift aid whatever your circumstances. Please see Gary or Karen Walker for more details.

**Questions:**

Q. House money runs out in July 2018 and we are looking for more money. I am concerned we won't be able to reach this.

A. There are grants, and some people may already be thinking that they need to review their tithe. But we don't intend to give any employee a month's notice – the situation will be reviewed at the end of 2017 and discussed with those affected.

Q. I am concerned with the ongoing deficit. Can we reduce our outgoings? Can we have an update in six months?

A. Many of the outgoings are fixed, but the PCC is discussing what we can do. The PCC will make a point of discussing the finances at every other meeting and there will be quarterly updates to the congregations.

Q. Can anyone who manages a budget cut back?

Those with a budget is being asked to source supplies as economically as possible.

**c. Planned Giving information**

Karen Walker

Karen introduced herself as someone who has been attending Christ Church for over 30 years and attends the 7pm service. She has been building up the role over time, taking responsibility for claiming Gift Aid, keeping records and doing the monthly forecast for Gary. However, recently she has taken over Paul Beedell's role too. She admits that the church has been perhaps a bit too discreet about giving, so she is trying to raise the profile and has developed a new donation form and some flyers telling people how to start giving. The intention is for these to be permanently available at the back for church for people to help themselves. She outlined different ways to give and the importance of gift aiding your donations. For more information please see or email Karen ([Karen@Christchurchchilwell.org.uk](mailto:Karen@Christchurchchilwell.org.uk)).

**10 General Questions**

Penny Wallace

Colin commented that the church has been blessed over many years as illustrated by the APCM this year. Would the wardens please contact the patronage secretary at CPAS to see if these reports could be sent to prospective candidates as it may encourage them to apply for the role of our vicar. Penny to action.

Thanks to Penny, Clint, Simon, Chris, Greer and Ruth for helping to make this meeting run smoothly.

**11 Closing Prayer**

Liam O'Boyle

Liam closed in prayer.