
CHRIST CHURCH, CHILWELL

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING MINUTES

Date: Monday 21 March, 2016

Venue: Christ Church

Time: 7:30pm

Chair: Alan Howe (Vicar)

Secretary: Ruth Price

There were 93 people present for the meeting.

2 Welcome

Opening prayers, and welcome

Alan Howe

Sung Worship (with Pam and Fran)

Fran Beedell

3 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from:

Mary Stanley, Ann Powell, Bob Epton, Ryan and Sally Mellor, Margaret Metcalfe, Roger and Rachel Hird, Kevin Twissell, Trish Roberts-Thompson, Keith and Lesley Stevenson, Jenny Brignell, David Henson, Matt and Kate Lyons, Anne and John Stafford, Jonty Howe, Shawn Crandley, Jill Kirkwood, Mike and Doreen Chappell, Anne and Clive Marjoram, Sally Hodges, Lea Hills.

4 Casting a vision. Slides are on the internet, and available from the church office.

a. Looking Back

Alan Howe

Alan started by summarising Bishop Paul's vision for the diocese. This was about us taking seriously the sharing of our faith and growing deeper in faith:

Wider – more people being impacted by the gospel and joining the family of Christ

Deeper – developing our own faith and understanding and the development of ministries

Younger – engaging with young people and the energy and vitality of our own faith

Alan also summarised his eleven years at Christ Church. Sometimes our plans don't go as we'd like, but we learn through them. He remembered:

Church Planting – we tried it but it was not the way ahead for us. Many of those involved with Pathway are still involved in Christ Church.

The Pure Dream – experiment with different style of youth work in our area. Again not for us, but started something different.

Ecumenical Partnership – worked for seven years with other churches in the area; lots of meetings and a steep learning curve, but again didn't seem to be the way forward.

Listening and Leadership Dreams – the Growing Leaders course was successful, but needed a

full time worker and the resources weren't there.

But we kept trying and learnt through everything. There were also many causes for celebration:

Multifunctional church – it is clear that removing the pews has been very positive for the church, most recently evidenced at the Easter Egg hunt.

Social Action – Hope, CAP, the Job Club have been wonderful achievements that the church has been involved with. Plus, Liam is helping us to understand other issues our community is facing.

Missional Church – we are beginning to understand how we can get involved with this in particular, COME as well as GO.

Love of Christ through us – we are learning how to walk in Christ's love and be welcoming to all.

Alan feels there is an ongoing sense of the best is yet to come. He thanked many people, but in particular, the wardens, Penny and Clint, the PCC, the staff team and all the volunteers who work so hard to keep all the activities going at the church. He also wanted to mention Simon Rostron with Mike, Andy and others who help to keep the fabric of the church in good shape, and Graham Gardner for masterminding the Centenary Celebrations.

He reminded everyone that our vision requires both finances and work – both which are faithfully given by the congregation. If we want things to continue as they are, we need to continue to give our money and time. Lots of small things need to be done to make big things happen.

Aslan is on the move:

At St Barnabas, the new children's and families worker is doing a great job and children are now coming into the church with their families.

At WOW, where there are 90 people coming, with a proportion seeing this as their only worship time in the week.

At CAP, where another person is now debt free and families from this ministry are coming to church events like the Easter Egg hunt.

With creative partnerships, as Greer gathers families who want to help families so lives can be changed.

b. Children and Families work

Greer Jones

Greer encouraged everyone to read the Annual Review to find out all that had happened in 2015 (there's a lot!). She showed a video clip to illustrate what has happened and looking forward to the future.

In 2016, there is a lot of activity within the Children and Families work groups, including 20 hours of dads and tots, 50 hours of happy tots, and 40 hours in each of the Sunday morning groups. This doesn't include the many hours of preparation and setting up/taking down needed for these groups to take place. Each activity probably takes around 200 hours all told, but we see roughly 3650 faces in a year – which is a great honour. Please consider volunteering and you can welcome some of these faces. The Sunday morning groups are expanding and 10 more volunteers will be needed in total by 31 July – please do prayerfully consider this. You don't need to regularly attend of the 10:45 service to help.

This next year will be a time of transition with the vacancy and we'll all need to pull together and step up to support each other. She outlined that her vision is that the staff, volunteers, and congregations will stay energised and excited about what God is doing in our communities. As we transition, she will continue to work with the community through schools work and activities which invite the community in but love outwardly. As the world transitions around us she aims to

stay current, relevant and constant for those she ministers. She will encourage growth within the volunteers whilst allowing them to thrive in the transition time as well. Let's not just survive, but THRIVE!

c. Youth Work

Sky Chiwishe

Sky showed a video showing the young people and activities in 2015. He reported that in 2015, the numbers of young people in the groups have grown significantly and now 35-40 11-18 year olds are regularly attending groups, which include the new groups Friday Flix, Youth Café and Hello Youth. Sky is proud of the ministry and those who are involved, and it attracts those of no religious background and those from other churches. He feels it would be unjust to take all the credit for how successful the youth ministry has been as we are where we are because of a very dedicated volunteer team that we have had for a number of years.

Sky thanked Jenny and Chris Brignell, and Jonty and Jenny Howe for their faithful commitment to the young people as they step down from this work in the summer. Their absence will be felt.

For 2016, Sky sees this as the year of excellence. They will work on good customer service and presentation – do all the kids have their needs met and feel welcomed into the group? But more leaders are needed to enable this to happen, particular women to chat to and chill out with the girls. There is space for 10 more people in the groups – please prayerfully consider if this is something you would like to be involved with. This year, Sky wants to be free to meet with parents and to be at services as well to encourage the rest of the church with what is happening with the young people. This is a year of excellence and it starts with building a team that will not only serve young people but also love and encourage them and each other in this challenging world for the years to come.

d. Pastoral Care

Fran Beedell

2015 has been a year where we have really shown how caring a church family we are as we have prayed and showed practical help to those who are in need or bereaved in the congregation. Fran encouraged the congregation to look at the Review of 2015 document which gives a good summary of all that is going on in the parish. She wanted to thank the teams she works with for their hard work and commitment both inside the church and in the community. There have been a significant number of bereaved people in our congregation last year but as we read in Is 61 we are all here to comfort each other; we have a garment of comfort rather than a spirit of despair.

There is a good support network of friends and small groups who are really helping each other and showing God's love, and Fran would encourage anyone who is not in a small group to get involved – it's the best place to find strength and support.

Fran confirmed that she will be leaving at Christmas. She has prayed about this, and planned it with Alan and Anne Willmot at her reviews. She feels it is the right time to step out into a new phase at a new church. She will definitely keep in touch with Christ Church and she is excited to see what God will do next here. Between now and Christmas, she aims to strengthen the teams and build on the numbers. God is faithful through our struggles – let's spur one another on.

e. This year and the Vacancy

Clint Redwood

Clint reported that the Vacancy does not start until 8 May, when Alan officially retires. The wardens have been in contact with the Archdeacon and the diocese to understand the next steps. As Christ Church has CPAS as patron, they will be running the Vacancy process. The PCC is then required to hold two meetings within four weeks of the notification of the Vacancy, to agree a parish statement, and vote on a number of set proposals. There is a PCC meeting planned for 9 May so this will be used as the first of these meetings. In advance of this, the wardens will prepare a draft parish statement, which will be discussed and revised in the first meeting and must be agreed by the second. Following this, the patron (CPAS) will advertise the vacancy.

Alan added that there was no reason to believe that there will be a long wait until a new incumbent is found, and he expects this will be a positive time where people can develop gifts and skills.

5 Election of Church Wardens (i.e. Annual Vestry Meeting) Alan Howe

| Candidate | Proposed | Seconded |
|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| PENELOPE WALLACE | ALISON SWINDALL | DANIEL WOOD |
| CLINT REDWOOD | PHIL WILLMOT | KAREN WALKER |

Elected by show of hands with no opposition.

6 Approval of 2015 APCM Minutes Alan Howe

No comments were made and the minutes were approved with no opposition. Alan signed the minutes.

6a Proposal to allow written advanced voting prior to APCM 2017 Alan Howe

Clint reported that a number of people have enquired about “postal” voting for the APCM. Since our current rules allow for members to be proposed on the evening of the APCM, postal voting is not practical. The following proposal is therefore put to the 2016 APCM for approval:

The deadline for proposals for PCC membership will be set as two weeks prior to the APCM date, in order to allow people wishing to vote in advance of the meeting to do so in writing and submit their votes to the office prior to the commencement of the APCM.

Mike Payne suggested that the proposal be amended to one week prior to the APCM date. Gill Benson seconded and it was put to vote. 6 voted for this proposal, 51 against, and 16 abstained.

Alan Howe proposed the original wording and it was put to vote. 82 voted for this proposal, 6 against, and 5 abstained.

7 Elections

a. Members of the PCC Ruth Price

There are six vacancies (four for 3 year terms and two for 2 year terms) and 12 nominations so each person was encouraged to stand up and tell the meeting why they were standing. Ruth read out the personal statements for those who weren’t able to attend the meeting:

| Candidate | Proposed | Seconded |
|------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| CHRIS BRIGNELL | PENELOPE WALLACE | FRAN BEEDELL |
| HANNAH CALLOW | MARGARET METCALFE | MICK ROSE |
| DAWN CLARKE | SHEILA PAYNE | SKY CHIWESHE |
| HELEN CRANDLEY | LIZ PATTISON | KATHRYN BRITTON |

| | | |
|---------------------|------------------|------------------|
| TIM HILLS | LIZ JORDON | SKY CHIWESHE |
| ROGER HIRD | ADELINE ROBINSON | ANNE MARJORAM |
| HELEN MATHER | FRAN BEEDELL | PENELOPE WALLACE |
| RYAN MELLOR | TIM HILLS | GINNY COOPER |
| MARGARET METCALFE | PHIL WILLMOT | ANNE WILLMOT |
| JANIS PATTERSON | FRAN BEEDELL | GREER JONES |
| CHRISTINE ROSEBLADE | PAUL BEEDELL | FRAN BEEDELL |
| ALISON SWINDALL | GRAHAM GARDNER | BRIAN HODGKIN |

Voting using ballot papers was used to decide who would take the six vacant PCC positions. Ruth reminded those present that only members of the PCC could vote. The results were given at the end of the meeting but, for the purposes of the minutes they are given here. Five papers were spoiled (not signed). Those voted onto the PCC are (in alphabetical order):

Three year term: Dawn Clarke, Tim Hills, Ryan Mellor, Christine Roseblade.

Two year term: Chris Brignell, Janis Patterson.

Thank you to everyone who put their names forward; it was a difficult choice.

b. Sidespeople

Penny Wallace

These are people who organise the welcome teams, etc

Louise Rostron is stepping down as sidesperson for the 10:45 service. Penny thanked her for all her work and gave her flowers and a token to use in the creative quarter shops.

GRAHAM GARDNER (9am) and PETE & GILL BENSON (7pm) are happy to continue.

All elected without opposition. The post of sidesperson for 10:45 service is open and anyone who wishes to apply for this role should see either of the church wardens.

c. Assistant Wardens

Penny Wallace

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

Penny thanked Ruth for her work on the Review of 2015 and the other work that she had done to get ready for the APCM. Penny presented her with a huge bunch of flowers.

8 Review of 2015

Alan Howe

The Review of 2015 was presented. 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.

9 Presentation from PCC Treasurer including time for questions

Gary
Stephenson

a. Report and Accounts for 2015

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.

Gary gave an overview, summarising that the parish started with £350K. 87% of the income comes from individual giving (72% from congregation, 15% from gift aid). The rest is from lettings, grants (CAP), etc.

The biggest expenditure we have is the parish share. We give away 10% of our income, and there is also staff costs, events, running costs, admin, etc.

There were no questions at this point.

Looking forward to 2016, the parish share is the same as last year (no increase), outward giving has been reviewed and is continuing, staff costs are increasing (workplace pension starting in April 2016), and mission costs are lower. We are using designated fund for Greer's salary and the additional hours for Sky's job to make it full time. Jo Pudney, the children's and family worker at St Barnabas is on our payroll, but is paid for out of St Barnabas vision fund. The Kingdom Growth fund now stands at £87K and the subgroup continues to look at the proposals.

The income is an estimate and only known giving is included.

Challenge

The ministry funds for Greer and Sky's additional hours are allocated up to 2018. At this point, what next? If we want them to continue, we need to think how we will fund this.

We will probably have a new vicar by this time next year – he/she will bring a vision, plus we have the Bishop's vision.

How do we use our own skills/time/money? If we think of tithing, this can be applied to our time and skills as well as our finances. Gary estimates that 10 hours are about a tenth of our time awake – how do we use our time? God has given us skills – gospel, pastoral, and professional skills – how can we use our skills to forward God's work.

Gift aid is a significant income for us. If you give to the church and haven't signed up to gift aid, please sign up, or, if you don't pay tax, consider giving in cash as gift aid can be claimed from this from the government through the Gift Aid small donations scheme (GASDS).

Questions about the financial report:

Paul Kirkwood commented that our outward giving is £24.3K which is less than 10% of our income. Should this be higher?

Gary replied that it is 10% of **general** income, however the PCC can review this and make changes.

Karen Walker suggested that if we are looking at a likely budget deficit should we consider sharing staff with other churches.

Gary replied that it's a good suggestion and the PCC can consider this nearer the time. At the moment we are OK as we're using designated funds.

Accept and approve the accounts.

The Report and Accounts of 2015 document was received by those at the meeting.

b. Election of Examiner for 2016

Up until now we have been using Baldwins of Nottingham. Gary proposed that we consider moving to Community Accounting Plus who, although slightly more expensive, is also a registered charity set up to help charities manage payroll, employment/HR and accounts. As a charity accounting specialist they have particular expertise in the style of accounts we are required to produce. They use Quick Books themselves (which we are moving over to), so can offer software

support and advice as required. They will also be able to audit the books using a secure internet access.

This was put to a vote and Fran Beedell seconded it.

65 voted for this proposal and none voted against.

10 General Questions

Nigel Adams asked if it were possible for the congregation to contribute to the parish statement.

Alan replied that the process was for the parish to appoint representatives to gather information from the church. Clint also suggested that anyone who wanted to contribute views or opinions contact the wardens.

11 Closing Prayer

Alan Howe

The names of the new PCC were put up on the screen at the end so everyone knew who they could see if they wanted their views represented at the meetings. Alan closed in prayer.