

PARISH OF DENTON WITH SOUTH HEIGHTON AND TARRING NEVILLE

Sunday 24 April 2022

1. Annual vestry meeting: Sunday 24 April 2022

This year's Annual Vestry Meeting and Annual Parish Council Meeting took place during the normal morning praise service.

i) Apologies received – see below. Meeting Attended by 66 adults.

ii) The Minutes of the Vestry and APCM meetings held on 18 April 2021 were reviewed. A few weeks prior to the meeting these were circulated on the church website and hard copies were made available to anyone who wanted one. No questions were received regarding these minutes, therefore the motion to approve them was proposed by Natasha Sheppard, seconded by Kerry Redding. There were no abstentions and no one declined to vote, therefore it was a unanimous vote to accept these minutes, so they were approved and signed.

iii) Louis gave thanks to the Churchwardens – Maria Greco and Nicky Still - for all their hard work and continued service throughout 2021. They are always supportive, always encouraging. Both Maria and Nicky are willing to stand for re-election again for another year. Maria has been proposed by Katy Hildersley, seconded by Brenda Anderson, and Nicky has been proposed by Katy Hildersley, seconded by Ruth Reynolds, forms available on request. The congregation voted unanimously for both, therefore they were duly re-elected.

2. Annual Parish Council Meeting

- i. **Apologies:** None received.
- ii. **Minutes of previous APCM.** As above, these were circulated, and approved for signature, along with the Annual Vestry meeting minutes.
- iii. **Electoral Roll Report:** Stuart Still has now taken on the role of Electoral Roll Officer as our previous officer Mary Williams stood down at the 2021 APCM. 2021 was an interim year and the Electoral Roll just had to be updated therefore at the end of December 2021 the number on the roll was 90, 26 of whom are non-residents.
- iv. **PCC Report:** Ann Anderson, Secretary advised that we started and ended 2021 with 13 members on the PCC. During the period 01st January-31st December 2021 the PCC held 6 meetings. Due to Covid restrictions in place for some of the year, 3 of these meetings were online, 3 were held in the Church Hall. A couple of these meetings saw two thirds attendance due to Covid; the other 4 were almost full attendance. We were able to hold the APCM in person in April 2021 during the Morning Praise Service, which was attended by 54 regular church members who were on the electoral roll. There were 2 members of the PCC who had completed their 3 year term; both chose to be re-elected for a further 3 years – these were Rachel Smith and Tricia Lockyer. There were no other changes to the PCC, no new members in 2021. LW gave thanks to Ann for her commitment and efficiency as she enters her 7th year in the role.
- v. **Treasurer's Report:** Paul Giles read out the financial review document, as stated in the Trustees Annual Report. Louis advised that Paul is now stepping down from the PCC and his role as Treasurer after 5 years. Louis reminded us that Paul took over the role in 2017 under very difficult circumstances. He didn't want the role, and he wasn't asked to do it. He just knew that he could do it and so he offered. We will always be so grateful for that. Paul was presented with a gift as a token of our appreciation and Louis advised that this role will now be taken over by Sean Beckett. Paul will still be available to assist Sean with the handover.
- vi. **Churchwardens' Reports:** Maria Greco read out the Churchwardens report, as it is in the Trustees Annual Report. There was nothing further to add.
- vii. **SQP (Simple Quality Protects) and DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service/Safeguarding):** Ruth Reynolds, Safeguarding Officer gave her update, as per the Trustees Annual Report. Ruth provides a report to the PCC at every meeting, and there were no safeguarding issues throughout 2021. Louis reminded everyone of the importance of safeguarding and led a vote of thanks to Ruth for all that she does but in particular her work in safeguarding.

- viii. **Rectors & Youth Report:** Louis began his report by speaking about the need to rejoice in our young people. If we don't have children and babies in the Church, we will die. And if we don't take seriously our need to resource and grow our children's work we will not have any children. So please rejoice in the young people we have and do everything we can to encourage and support those who are doing the frontline work of teaching and running these groups;

Sunday Club: Ruth, Tricia and Jenny have been teaching in Sunday Club for many years and we need to acknowledge how grateful we are

Frogs (primary school age); Ruth, Stuart, Hannah, Michelle and Rebekah

Sparks (secondary school age): Jenny, Tim, Charlie and Rebekah

Bumps and Babies (pregnant mums and babies under 1): Katy H, Maria, Brenda, Chris and Dave

Little Fishes (toddler group): Jenny, Jane, Hannah, Michelle and Sue

Louis also thanked the members of the Denton Community Challenge committee (DCC): Tim and Nicky

Thanks to everyone who makes our Sunday morning services work: all of you who welcome, read, lead prayers, run crèche, make coffee, wash tea towels, clean or arrange flowers. Particular thanks were given to Maria who puts together an ever more complicated rota every few months, to Nicky who puts the PowerPoint together, and Rosemary who does all the photocopying each week. Thanks to our musicians and singers – Stewart, Joan, Jenny Parker, Hannah, Rebekah, Krisha, Natasha and Beth. And thanks very much to David for all the sound equipment he sets up, and gets working for us each week. David also looks after the churchyard at Tarring which is a huge help. Thanks to the laptop operators on a Sunday, usually some of our younger people. Thank you to Nick, Gill and Kerry who continue to look after Denton churchyard so faithfully.

Thank you again to all of you who serve in so many ways. Let me remind you of the earlier sermon, when it comes to your giving, your serving, and your faithful obedience don't just see the cost. Look at the worth of Jesus, look at who he is and what he has done for us. Whatever you pay or give or labour for him, Jesus loves your devotion, and you will never lose out. Let's keep going and let's keep encouraging each other to keep going.

- ix. **Questions:** One question was submitted in advance by Geraldine Hawes – “What are the costs associated with having a Parish Administrator, and how do these costs compare with previous years?” Answer: The administrator is paid an hourly rate instead of an annual salary so this figure varies; however the cost last year was £2835 which is the lowest whole year figure since the role began on the 01.9.2018.

Next question from David Reynolds “Any information regarding Jez's replacement?” Answer: Notice has been served that Jez's house will be put up for sale; we have no influence on this as the Diocese own it. That, coupled with the fact the number of curates in the Diocese has been restricted to ¼ of previous number it is unlikely that we will get another curate as there is no money for one. So we need to think carefully about equipping the church for ongoing ministry, and we are all encouraged to continue to see the need and serve wherever we can.

Natasha Sheppard asked “Are we planning to bring back the Parish news at anytime?” Answer: No plans to, as it took a lot of time to edit and produce and the arrangements fell apart during the pandemic. However, please speak to LW if you feel very strongly about this.

Geraldine Hawes asked “Do we have a face book page?” Answer: Not at the moment, we took down our previous page as we had no one to manage it, so it would need a bit of thought. Rachel Smith then asked us to thank Louis and his family for everything they continue to do for us.

- x. **Approval of the Trustee's Annual Report:** The motion to approve the 2021 Report, including the financial accounts was proposed by Geraldine Hawes, seconded by Rachel Smith. There were no abstentions and no one declined to vote, therefore the congregation voted unanimously in favour to accept this report.

- xi. **Election of PCC 2022/2023:** According to Church Representation Rules each member has to be elected for 3 years, on a rolling basis so that not all members retire at the same time. This means instead of re-electing all members every year we only need to elect certain committee members at a time. This year we are re-electing Katy Hildersley, David Reynolds and Ann Anderson. Ann has also agreed to stay on as PCC Secretary. We have 3 members stepping down this year; Paul Giles, Joan Parish and Katy Lowries – and 3 new members joining; Sean Beckett as Treasurer, Stewart Kinning and Mia Balkham. All nomination papers have been completed. All Parishioners voted unanimously in favour of these elections.

The meeting closed at 11.25am with prayers.

Signed..... Date.....