

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Rebecca continued to chair the meeting.

1. The minutes of the last APCM on Wednesday 26 April 2023 were accepted.

Proposed: Richard Lynn

Seconded: Richard Coles

2. Matters arising

After discussion it was decided to keep the APCM to Wednesday evenings.

There was a mixed response to the suggestion that charities be asked to contribute to the sermon at Gift Day services as not all charities we support are Christian and some representatives would be uncomfortable preaching. The charities have been added to Monday morning prayer.

3. Treasurer's Report – Shawn Baggs

SB thanked Chris Stewart our assistant treasurer and the Finance Action Group led by John O'Brien for all their support throughout the year.

Income of £230,000 (primarily from giving, Gift Aid and hall income)

Expenses of £220,000 (mostly staff costs and Parish Share)

Assets excluding Kestrel Close are £85,000 but still a few roof loans to repay

Reserves of £35,000

4. Other reports

There were no questions about the reports included in the Annual Report from the PCC Secretary, Action Groups, Thomas Coram Foundation governor and Deanery Synod

Thanks to Alex Fahey who has been our representative on the governors at the Castle Foundation for three years. As we are trying to get into schools more it is important that we find someone to replace Alex as he has recently stood down.

5. Electoral Roll Officer's Report – Richard Coles

The roll is revised each year but every sixth year a new roll is compiled – next one in 2025.

The names on the revised roll have been displayed in the porch prior to this meeting. There are 150 names on the 2024 roll compared to 156 in 2023.

Richard Coles agreed to continue as Electoral Roll Officer for the next 12 months.

6. Safeguarding Officer's verbal report – Jenny Hyatt

The full report is included in the Annual Report. JH read out the formal statement as required by Church regulations.

'The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).'

Safeguarding has developed from a tick box exercise ten years ago to something that comes from our mission to care for others. As a church family we are all responsible, whether or not we work with children or vulnerable adults and if you would like to do the training please see Jenny. If you see anything you are unsure about please contact Jenny or Rebecca immediately.

Thank you to Richard Lynn who helps with DBS checks.

7. Churchwardens report on fabric and furnishings

No comments on the report

8. Thanksgiving- RF
Sunnyside's Psalm of Praises – Psalm 136

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love endures forever

Pastoral Care activities and helpers
Messy Babies
Messy Church
Sarah and Stephen Tizzard
Housegroups
Shirley our office administrator

People who serve
Gift Aid
The life of Jane Coles
Church families and others with whom we
have links

Thank you from Rebecca

Rebecca thanked everyone whose support has enabled her to serve at Sunnyside for the last seven years. We are grateful to Penny Harrison and Paul Craig who have agreed to chair the Mission Action Group and GDI. The tech team are doing such a brilliant job enabling our technology. Thank you to those standing down from serving at Sunnyside, Lesley as warden, Penny and Millie from the PCC. The support from the staff is always appreciated.

9. Elections to the Deanery Synod

As Charis has been elected as church warden there is now a place on Deanery Synod for two years. There were no nominations.

Elections to the PCC

Thanks to Millie Harrison and Penny Harrison who are stepping down from the PCC, Penny having completed two terms.

Laura Cook

Laura has completed one 3year term on the PCC and is standing for a further term.

Proposed: Peter Hyatt

Seconded: Jenny Hyatt

Chris Stewart

Proposed: Tim Lines

Seconded: Penny Harrison

Laura and Chris were elected to serve until 2027. We still have one vacancy on Deanery Synod and one vacancy on the PCC. Please talk to Rebecca or Kath if you are interested in either vacancy.

10. Appointment of Independent Examiner

We talked last time about going out to tender for this position. The Finance group decided to ensure that Geoff demonstrated independence and ability and attested to this on record which he has done.

Geoff Mann was reappointed as Independent Examiner until the APCM in 2025.

Proposed: Shawn Baggs

Seconded: Ian Fyfe

11. Vicar's report

Rebecca's report Looking Forward is on the church website. Whilst we are on holiday she suggests we take the opportunity to visit other churches and report back on any interesting ideas in the buildings.

Rebecca will be on Extended study leave from 8 May-12 Aug when she will be focusing on different forms of prayer.

Q and A to the Vicar

- During the week we cannot enter the church via the lobby as it is in use by playgroup, so can we make entering the church from the main door more welcoming as it is dark and dismal at present.
- We need to invite Ecclesiastical Insurance to visit as it is six years since the church has been assessed.
- The automatic door into the lobby needs servicing as there are problems in damp weather and it remains open a long time so we lose heat in the winter.

12. Aim to make Sunnyside Fit for Future – Simon Lewis

Our new project title covers our emerging ambition to improve our hall, reduce our energy costs and make us 'greener'

Background

- Our gas boilers are according to our service consultants 'in reasonable condition considering their age' but the risk remains that they may soon break down, are expensive to run and generate carbon.
- In addition our hall building fabric requires updating and revamping.
- The C of E's target to reach net zero carbon emissions for all its buildings is 2030 and the UK government has signed the Paris agreement to reach net zero by 2050.

Our response

- We have set up the Capital Works Committee.
- We have commissioned a Feasibility Study to address how we might reach net zero and reduce our running costs.
- We are about to appoint consultants to progress our plans.

Possible Components-Our feasibility study (the best the Net Zero Officer at the Diocese has seen) summarises 3 recommendations-

- Improve the fabric of the hall and install an Air Source Heat Pump
- Install infra-red heating in the church
- install PV and batteries to generate electricity

There is also the opportunity to improve and upgrade our hall, kitchen and toilets and make it a more attractive and marketable place- a future focus of a new Fund Raising and Outreach Group.

Funding Options

- Future Savings - as the work comes on stream we should be able to make savings on our energy costs.
- Fundraising- a key component particularly as we need raised match funding for grant applications.
- Release funding from existing assets- key possibility to raise money prudently via a loan against Kestrel Close which would allow us to raise matched funding money speedily.
- Grants - a vital component being headed by Anthony Culley.
- An initial budgeted £25k has been allocated to meet consultant fees.
- VAT recovery is hoped for, but uncertain until tested.

Costs – unknown at this stage, however M & E solutions have been estimated at £155k. The architectural component is less defined at this stage.

Timescale and Next Steps

- Appoint the consultants and develop the design.
- Prepare & submit a planning application if needed & faculty application (8 weeks)
- Allow for an approval period (8 weeks)
- Complete the balance of the design (8 weeks)

By October 24 we should have a completed design and pre-tender estimate so we can tender a contractor. This is dependent on the grant application progress and fund raising success.

How can we help?

- Consider supporting financially
- Join/help the Fund Raising/ Outreach groups
- Contribute ideas e.g. how to generate more income in the hall, what is working well in other churches? Any other initiatives?

Comments

The Diocese had encouraged us to apply for grants for fees (unsuccessful) and capital works (applied for).

Infra-red heating requires time to heat up as it heats the person not the space. Designs and products are being fitted in churches. Dave Simons and Simon Lewis visited St James, Alveston and saw an installation (15th church to visit!)

13. Prayer

Rebecca closed the meeting with prayer at 9.00 pm

14. PCC meeting

Members of the PCC met briefly when Shawn Baggs was appointed as treasurer, Andrew Fairburn will continue as vice – chair and Kath Jones as secretary.

15. Future Meetings

The next scheduled PCC meeting is on Monday 24 June 2024 with Action Group meetings earlier in the month.