

ST MICHAEL'S AND ALL ANGELS, SUNNYSIDE

7.30pm in person at church and via zoom on Wednesday 29 April 2026

ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

Present:

J Allnutt, S Baggs, L Beloe, P Boddam Whetham, N Boddam Whetham, E Butcher, C Cartwright, R Coles, M Craig, B Davies, S Davies, P Davis, A Fairburn, K Fairburn, R Fardell, P Harrison, R Heath, J Hyatt, P Hyatt, J Kirkby, K Jones, S Marshall, K Randall-Stratton, D Simons, P Simons, C Stewart, E Stewart, J Taylor Papadimitriou, S Tizzard, J Willacy, J Wright, (31)

Zoom:

S Tizzard, D White, 4 others (6)

Apologies:

J Allnutt, G Batchelder, M Batchelder, S Bright, J Cartwright, J Cook, L Cook, P Craig, L Culley, L D-V, M Finch, C Geoghegan, J Harbron, S Harbron, M Harrison, C Hitchins, T Hitchins, S Lewis, J O'Brien, C Vesey, D Vesey, P Wager, T Wager C Wigmore, R Wigmore, M Willacy (26)

1. **Welcome** Rebecca welcomed everyone to the AMP and thanked Nicci and Paul for the refreshments.
2. **Prayer** AF opened the meeting with prayer.
3. There were 31 attendees in church, 6 on zoom and 26 apologies.

4. Election of Churchwardens

Thanks to Andrew Fairburn and Richard Coles for serving as churchwardens in 2025 – K Randall Stratton made a presentation on behalf of Sunnyside.

Nominations for churchwarden 2026-2027

Nicci Boddam Whetham is standing for church warden for the first time

Proposed: Jackie Harbron

Seconded: Kath Jones

NBW is elected to serve until the APCM in 2027 and as churchwarden she is automatically a member of the PCC.

We still have a vacancy for a warden – more details from Rebecca

This meeting was immediately followed by:

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Rebecca continued to chair the meeting.

1. The minutes of the last APCM in April 2025 were accepted.

Proposed: Richard Coles

Seconded: Elaine Butcher

2. Matters arising

None

3. Treasurer's Report – Shawn Baggs

Thanks to Chris Stewart and the Finance Committee who have been very supportive during the past year. It has been a challenging 12 months for Finance as they adjust to a new Independent Examiner and deal with the continual downturn in income. The examiner's review has been very thorough but complimentary. The PCC will have an extra meeting in May to address our financial situation.

Questions:

Parish giving scheme- More people need to tick the 'inflation linked' box as only 20% do so at present. It would be helpful if those givers who register as anonymous would add their name so they can be thanked and it would help with planning.

Gift aid has reduced proportionally to giving.

Hall rates have been reviewed to make them comparable to other halls and are being increased gradually to reach the full new rates next year.

Parish share- The diocese reduced the rate recently. When ER numbers drop there is an approximate 3 yr time lag before the share is adjusted. Consideration is not given to the fact that 75% of Sunnysiders live outside the more affluent area of Berkhamsted.

We are grateful that Shawn has agreed to remain treasurer for a further year.

Accounts unanimously received

Proposed: Shawn Baggs

Seconded: Pam Davis

4. Other reports

There were no questions about the other reports included in the Annual Report - PCC Secretary, Action Groups, Castle Church of England Federation Foundation governor and Deanery Synod.

5. Electoral Roll Officer's Report – Richard Coles .

The roll currently stands at 122 compared to 124 in 2025.

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).'

Thanks to Richard Lynn who is stepping down after assisting with safeguarding checks for a number of years.. Please speak to JH if you could help with this work. She is grateful to Rachel and Sarah for their support.

JH spoke of a low level safeguarding concern outside the congregation that had been successfully handled with great sensitivity by the team. She advised us all to continue to be vigilant.

RF thanked JH for all the work she does to keep up to date as the C of E keep developing the requirements for Safeguarding.

7. Churchwardens report on fabric and furnishings

Thanks to the wardens for their update.

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

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

We have much to be thankful for:

Messy Babies

Flowers in church and the grounds

Stephen's worship

New families in Messy babies, church and youth club

Space to be at Thomas Coram

Homegroups

Striving to be an inclusive church

Rebecca and her mentoring

Contributions to Monday prayers

The PCC and Action Groups

Daniel and his carers

Brilliant Community Café team

Gardening , tech & coffee teams

Quiet pastoral care throughout the year

9. Thank you from Rebecca

There are so many people she would like to thank. Mark Batchelder steps down after many years heading the Maintenance Group. Chris Stewart leaves the PCC but will continue as Assistant Treasurer and liaise with the Independent Examiner. Lesley, Simon and team put in many hours developing the Fit for Future project. The staff team and the many Sunnysiders who supported RF during her mother's illness. The tech team who continue to keep us all online.

10. Elections

Thanks to Richard Coles and Charis Geoghegan who complete their first term on the Deanery Synod this year but are standing for a second term. Pam Davis is standing for a first term. Deanery Synod members are elected every three years for a three year term and are automatically members of the PCC.

Deanery Synod

Charis Geoghegan

Proposed: Charles Wigmore Seconded: Gail Batchelder

Pam Davis

Proposed: David Vesey Seconded: Liz Henderson

Richard Coles

Proposed: Jenny Hyatt Seconded: Jane Lines

Thanks to Pam Davis and Katie Randall Stratton who have completed their first term on the PCC. Katie is standing for a second term and Pam will represent Sunnyside on the Deanery Synod. We are grateful to Chris Stewart who is standing down from the PCC since being elected in 2024.

PCC

Katie Randall Stratton

Proposed: Kath Jones

Seconded: Jenny Hyatt

Jackie Harbron

Proposed: Paul Craig

Seconded: Kath Jones

Rachel Heath

Proposed: Judith Allnutt

Seconded: Liz Beloe

Jenny Hyatt

Proposed: Pam Davis

Seconded: Susan Eustace

We still have vacancies on the PCC. Please talk to Rebecca or Kath for more information.

11. Appointment of Independent Examiner

The Finance Committee recommended that we reappoint Melanie Crooks as our Independent Examiner.

Proposed: Shawn Baggs

Seconded: Peter Hyatt

12. Vicar's report

RF shared a vision she had of St Michael and the angels reaching out into the town. Her report will be included in the Sunnyside newsletter and is available on the church website.

13.AOB

On behalf of all Sunnysiders Richard Coles thanked Rebecca for the enormous amount of work she does- much of it behind the scenes.

14. Prayer

Jenny Hyatt led the closing prayers before Rebecca dismissed everyone with a final blessing at 8.40pm

15. PCC meeting

Members of the PCC met briefly to appoint Shawn Baggs as treasurer, Nicci Bodham Whetham the vice – chair and Kath Jones as secretary.

16. Future Meetings

The next scheduled PCC meeting is on **Monday 11 May 2026**

The provisional date of the APCM in 2027 is Wed 28 April.