

These “draft” minutes are for information, and will be agreed, amended as necessary and/or confirmed at the APCM which is to be held on Sunday, 12th May 2024

Minutes of the Vestry meeting and Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on 30th April 2023

Chair: The Rev. Annie Goldthorp, Vicar

Opening Prayer

An opening prayer was said for both meetings.

Vestry Meeting

1.Election of Churchwardens for 2023-2024

Iain Gillespie had stepped down as Churchwarden, but will be continuing as Church Treasurer. Nominations had been received for Stan Nelson and, at the meeting, Lucinda Fuoco stepped forward to become our second Churchwarden.

Stan Nelson – Proposed by R H Best and Seconded by Judith A S Ward

Lucinda Fuoco - Proposed by Sarah Banes and Seconded by Meriel Flux

Stan and Lucinda were duly elected as Churchwardens for the forthcoming year 2023-2024.

A very warm welcome was given to Lucinda.

NOTE – AFTER the meeting it was confirmed that Lucinda needs to be on the church electoral role to stand for election as a Churchwarden. An Extraordinary Vestry meeting will now take place on 21st May, once Lucinda is on the church electoral role.

Minutes of Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) held on 30th April 2023

1.Apologies

Apologies were received from the following people:- Angela and Tony Faint, Olivia Fenion, Julian and Jean Dipper, Holly Pennell, Vanessa and Allan Loach.

2. Signing of Minutes of APCM and Matters Arising

The minutes, having been distributed beforehand, were accepted as a true and correct record of the meeting and were duly signed. There were no matters arising.

3. Trustee’s Report for 2022 (Financial Report and Vicar’s Report)

All of the reports are in the APCM Reports booklet, which had been available to read during the last few weeks. Iain presented the Annual Trustees’ report, being a summary of Annie’s vicar’s report and his Financial report, which was accepted, and then signed by Annie.

There were no questions concerning the Reports.

4. Treasurer’s Report and signing of accounts

Iain had produced a Treasurer’s report for the Financial year, plus a summary of same. He advised that his Financial report was in the APCM reports document and confirmed that last

year was a good improvement on most things. The accounts had been examined by Don Anderson and approved by him. It is not clear as to whether Don is willing to examine the accounts for us again next year. There were no questions raised. Annie thanked Iain for continuing to do a splendid job for us. Viviane Hall proposed that the accounts be accepted, and this was seconded by Heather Nason.

5. Churchwardens' Fabric Report and Presentation of Terriers and Log Books

The Churchwardens' report is as detailed in the APCM booklet. Iain reported that it was a year when very little was done to the fabric, as funds were being built up, although basic maintenance had continued on the church.

The log books for Hempton and Deddington are available to look at.

6. Electoral Roll

Jane Green reported on the latest revision of the electoral roll. Those on the electoral roll remained at 93 members, there being no additions or subtractions to the roll. In 2024 the electoral roll will be completely redone. Iain mentioned that the former name of Pat Britain should read instead as Pat Russell (her married name).

Annie thanked Jane for her work on the electoral roll.

7. Review of all other Reports contained in the APCM booklet

The **Friends of Deddington Church** became an independent charity during the course of last year, the effect of which enables the charity to focus on people outside the church in seeking to get funds to maintain the church building. Many of those approached value the building as an historic centre to the village. £75,000 was raised last year enabling the charity to pay for the new porch that is being done. The Church is currently in pretty good shape.

Annie thanked Andrew Green of FODC, on behalf of the meeting, for the valuable contribution of the FODC charity to the maintenance of the church and that we are incredibly grateful.

There is one correction needed to the reports document on page 9, where it should read **Deddington Deanery** and not Dorchester.

Annie thanked those who had written reports.

The next Quinquennial report, which informs us of repairs required, is due in 5 years time, although we are still processing the 2017 report.

James Kennard, in his role as Director of Music, addressed those present on issues pertaining to his 2022 report. Within the last calendar year, a good start was made with fund raising for the organ and subsequently, with the required funds raised, the work is planned to go ahead this summer once DAC approval is received. The choir is still shrinking and in order to secure the strong lead for worship, it is still an area of need. James thanked those present for the positive steps taken in fund raising for the required works needed to the organ.

Annie thanked James for his important work for our church music.

Annie felt that looking at the number of reports within the APCM Reports document, that we are a very active and busy church, with very interesting things going on. Annie added her thanks for all that we do, and all that has been done last year. Annie is sad that it is her last APCM, but feels she is leaving a much brighter and livelier working church. Annie said, that whatever your part and role in this church is, thank you very much.

There were no comments on other reports.

8. Election of Deanery Synod Representatives for 2023- 2026

Nominations had been received for Angela Faint, and Sarah Banes also agreed to become a Deanery Synod representative. They were duly elected, as follows:-

Angela Faint – Proposed by Meriel Flux and Seconded by Sarah Banes

Sarah Banes - Proposed by Viviane Hall and Seconded by Heather Nason

We are entitled to have up to 3 representatives on Deanery Synod, there is therefore 1 remaining vacancy for the coming 3 year period.

9. Election of Parochial Church Council members for 2023 – 2026

Nominations had been received for Caroline Condon and was duly elected as follows:-

Caroline Condon - Proposer: Meriel Flux Seconder: Sue McCouaig

As Sarah Banes has now been elected as a Deanery Synod rep, it creates one vacancy on the PCC. Sarah encouraged those present to consider becoming a member of the PCC.

10. Appointment of Sidespeople for 2023 – 2026

Wendy Burrows maintains the list of sidespersons, and in the absence of an updated list, it has been assumed that the current list will continue.

11. Appointment of Independent Examiner of Accounts

Iain has messaged Don Anderson, to enquire as to whether he is agreeable to act again as our Independent Examiner of Accounts for 2023-2024.

12. Any Other Business

Christopher Hall said that **Christian Aid** week is coming up. He mentioned that we are all concerned about what is happening in Ukraine, Sudan and other places, at the moment. Malawi is the Christian Aid focus for this year and Helen and Tony Cox who worked for Malawi for 12 years, will share their knowledge of Malawi on Saturday, 13th May, when there will be a bring and share lunch in church. Malawi is suffering Cyclone Freddie, which hit the country for 34 days. Malawi has also suffered with increased costs with grain not getting out of Ukraine. There was a small article in the April Deddington News about Ukraine.

Stan, as churchwarden, mentioned that the process of choosing a **new incumbent** is on the way. Helpers are needed in every aspect of church life i.e. concerts, stewarding events etc.

Christopher Hall mentioned that it is one of the responsibilities of the church wardens to ensure that there are clergy to take the services, and he informed the meeting that 4 clergy are meeting this week to think and pray about this, although he is not saying they will look after all the services.

Finally, Stan thanked Annie, for all that has been achieved within the church.

Annie took the opportunity to thank Iain Gillespie who has stepped down from his role as Churchwarden after many years, for his hard work and commitment. Iain was presented with a bottle of wine and a large "signed" card, and from the collection made for Iain, he was also presented with a gift voucher for the Deddington Arms, theatre tickets and a Flying Chipmunk experience! Christine was also presented with some flowers.

13. Closing prayer

Annie concluded the meeting with The Grace.