

**St Peter's Church Annual Vestry Meeting**  
**22<sup>nd</sup> April 2018**

Present: as attached list.

1. Apologies for absence were received from: Chris Ayrton Joan Russell, Mary Thomas & Phil Hymers
2. Election of Church Wardens

Rev'd Nick Alexander announced that Ian Nurcombe would be stepping down as Parish Warden. Phil Hymers had offered to stand as Parish Warden. He was proposed by Mike Golston and seconded by Shirley Holder. As there were no other nominations he was duly elected. Ian Nurcombe will remain in post until the Archdeacons Visitation on 2<sup>nd</sup> May.

David Ayrton was willing to stand again as District Warden. He was proposed by Pete Sharpe and seconded Stuart Lowe. As there were no other nominations he was duly elected.

3. A.O.B

There was no other business and the meeting was closed at 12.10pm.

**St Peters Church Annual General Meeting**  
**22nd April 2018**

Present: As attached list.

1. Apologies for absence were received from: Chris Ayrton Joan Russell, Mary Thomas & Phil Hymers
2. Approval of the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 9/4/17. It was agreed that these minutes were an accurate record of the proceedings of that meeting. The only alteration that was required was to add the year to the date. Proposed: John Dixon Seconded: Sheila Spaul. All in favour.
3. Matters arising: There were no Matters arising.
4. Annual Reports

i) Vicar's Report on the Proceedings of the Parochial Church Council, the St Peter's District Church Council, the activities of the Parish generally and the workings of the Deanery Synod.

Rev'd Nick Alexander commended the written reports contained in the View Magazine to the meeting. He continued by commenting that 2017 had been a year of great contrast. On the one hand there had been many encouragements in respect of the growth and development of St Peter's in a number of areas. However, there had also been considerable sadness at the departure of dearly beloved parish Vicar, Malcolm Rogers; the passing of Margaret Harvey, Pam Warriner and Barbara Clements and the loss of a number of dearly loved and valued members of the congregation over a disagreement about the handling of a pastoral matter involving a member of the music group. Following the Diocesan Bishop's involvement in this case, it was hoped that this matter has now

been resolved, at least in respect of its legal aspects, and NA sincerely hoped that the Church could now look forward to (an admittedly different) future but nevertheless a positive and exciting one.

This hope was based upon the considerable encouragements that happened in 2017.

The 8 goals set in 2016 were nearly all achieved and the church moved to developing further the new initiatives that arose out of those. The arrival of Caroline Vallance in May gave the children and families work an enormous boost and NA was extremely grateful for Caroline hitting the ground, not just running, but at enormous speed, taking on the Westgate Family Supporter Service (WFSS), creating a new youth club and afterschool club all within months of her start. Each of these activities had a considerable impact in their respective spheres. The work had seen the reach and influence of the church among families in the area, building on the work of Little Fishes and Sunday@4.

Sunday@4 was now an established part of the weekly routine and it was very rare that there were less than 20 people attending. There were now regularly 5-10 children in church on a Sunday and overall our Sunday attendance (at both services) was around the 100 mark.

Café Church was now also an established feature of the month being popular among families and seeing 10-20 children regularly attend. Inviting the School to services swelled attendance, sometimes above 100. The church was also close to being in a position to re-start a regular Sunday school, with 'special-event' Sunday School provision having gone down very well in 2017.

St Peter's continued to be influential in the local community through links with Westgate School (two governors now) as well as WFSS.

The second fun day (game day) saw over 200 people attend in late May. The Hyndman Centre continued to see 100s of people come into the church premises every month. Lunch & Chat, Tea & Chat and Little Fishes also continued to provide a strong and visible witness to the local area.

The Church's spiritual life continued to flourish too. There were major teaching series on church community and the Reformation. There was also a Lent Course Bible overview.

A new Monday evening home group had become established out of an Alpha Course and we saw three new members confirmed at St Mary's in November.

The interregnum had been 'a distraction' from the work at St Peter's for NA, so he was delighted growth and development of the church continued. He hoped that the appointment of a new parish vicar (hopefully soon) would enable him to focus back on the work at St Peter's and to pick up with the vision that he had cast last year with St Peter's and the Hyndman Centre becoming a 'campus' and centre for Gospel outreach into the St Peter's District.

To take this to the next level, NA planned (as soon as the new vicar is appointed) to undertake a full 360 degree review of the work of St Peter's.

NA concluded his report by saying thank you to the following:

Ministry team: David C, Lionel, Eric, David Hussell & Caroline  
Church Wardens – David and Ian – presentation made to Ian N  
Jackie Post – presentation made

Treasurers – Eric and Joy. Stuart Lowe – Gift aid, Mike Golston – Cash – presentation made to Eric and Joy

Anne Dixon and the pastoral team – Cindy and Julia

WFSS team

PCC members

DCC Members

DCC Secretary Kate – presentation made to Kate

Diocesan and Deanery Synod reps

Occasional preachers

Music Group: John Dixon; Jackie and David C for choosing most of the music

Social Committee

S@4 team

Café Church team and musicians

Lunch and Chat Team

Tea and Chat Team

Home group leaders

Hyndman Centre Management Committee: David, Jackie, Maureen Cadge and Graham Cryer from St Ps

Readers, prayers, sidespersons, service organisers, flower arrangers, sound team, projectionists; book people, welcomers, tea and coffee servers, gardeners

Men's Bowls

NA also thanked those who gave financially to the church.

## ii) Church Wardens Report

IN thanked the church for his gift and then added to the report in the View by saying that the work to the roof was now completed. He thanked the many who had helped with the clear up illustration. The organ also would soon, hopefully, be fixed. He gave special thanks to his wife Carol for her support over the last two years.

IN commented that it had been a privilege to work with Nick Alexander. He had learnt a great deal from Nick and especially his gracious handling of things and dealing with some challenging issues in the last year. Quoting from a letter recently received from the Bishop concerning the difficult pastoral matter referred to earlier, he reminded the meeting that *'part of our responsibility as a member of a church is to be accountable to one another for our lifestyle and to expect that others, particularly in leadership, might engage with us if they consider our lifestyle inconsistent with the church's teaching. A vicar who failed to address such issues within his congregation would surely be failing in their responsibility.'* The church was very fortunate to have someone who was prepared to act in this way. IN said that the church needed to learn from these things and look to what God was calling us to do as a result.

## iii) Treasurers Report

EH confirmed that the full accounts were posted on church door as required by church law. He wished to point out some key things.

General Fund – funding of second minister. Pledges had been fulfilled. Giving had increased significantly. 2016/17 had seen a 'gift aid blip' but 2017 giving had kept pace. This money was spent largely on parish share (contribution gone up by about 50%) and this would need to be sustained. To pay for NA in full was costing an extra £16,500, which is a challenge

Daphne Swatman Fund. This fund supports Caroline Vallance's post. We would like her in post for more than 3 years but the bequest will only last three years. Other funding sources have been identified but more is needed

Mrs Peel Fund. The remainder of this legacy had now been received. Plans to use on future development of the building were to be worked on soon. Maintenance bills roof etc could be taken from this fund and which saves money from the General Fund. Thanks were given for the congregations support. Also to all those involved in the finances especially Joy Banham as accounts clerk. Stuart Lowe for the gift aid work and Mike Golston for the counting of the collection. Also Jackie for her support. EH wished Barbara Unwin good luck as she takes over from him.

## 5. Church Electoral Roll

Jackie Post reported on changes in roll since the last APCM. At the 2017 APCM there were 91 names on St Peter's Electoral Roll of whom 50 were resident in the Parish. Since then 11 names have been removed and a further 6 added. At the date of the meeting there were 86 on St Peter's Electoral Roll, of whom 49 were resident in the Parish. Jackie requested that any members not on the roll did apply to go on it. There are revisions of roll next year.

NA confirmed that it was 'a myth' that a bigger roll means an increased parish share.

## 6. Elections

NA confirmed that the departure of Eric Humphreys and Graham Unsworth left three vacancies on PCC, one being carried over from 2016.

The following had agreed to stand for election:

Duncan MacInnes – proposed by Mallie Sharpe and seconded by Yvonne Crack  
Philip Lloyd Jones – proposed by John Dixon and seconded by Jackie Post  
Ian Nurcombe – proposed by Mallie Sharpe and seconded by Cindy Hudson.

As there were no other nominations all three were duly elected.

There were 4 vacancies on DCC.

The following had agreed to stand for election:

Stuart Lowe – proposed Ian Nurcombe and seconded Barbara Unwin  
Gary McDowell – proposed Yvonne Crack and seconded by Sid Holder  
Gillian Fulton – proposed by Ian Nurcombe and seconded by Barbara Unwin  
Graham Prentice – proposed by Ian Nurcombe and second by Peter Unwin

Sidespersons were appointed as per the list contained in the Minute Book.

It was stressed that there was still a vacancy on PCC and the search for a person to fill this would continue. NA asked for people to consider it, and if they feel called to this work to speak to him.

Deanery Reps are in place until 2020.

## **Any Other Business**

Gillian Fulton wished to have it minuted that she believed that the house that the Diocese proposed to move Nick and Julia to was totally inadequate. There was an absence of a study and the general size was not appropriate for a Vicarage.

Rosie Perham pointed out that there was need for a new Christian Aid Rep as Graham Unsworth took over from Rosie last year. No rep at St Marys – appeal to go in notices.

There being no further matters arising the meeting closed with prayer at 12.59.