

**Minutes of St Peter's AGM**  
**17 April in St Peter's**

**Present:** Nick Alexander (chair)  
Jackie Post (minutes secretary)  
Plus 61 attendees (see attached list)

**Apologies:** Gwen Fulcher, Claudia Perham

- |  | <b><u>Action</u></b> |
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| 1. Nick Alexander opened the meeting with prayer.  |                      |
| 2. <b><u>Minutes from last years AGM.</u></b><br>These were accepted as a true record and signed. One small amendment was made under the elections section, with the addition of the names of the wardens elected. These minutes were proposed by Eric Humphreys and seconded by Sheila Spaul. |                      |
| 3. <b><u>Matters Arising</u></b><br>None.  |                      |
| 4. <b><u>Annual Reports</u></b>  |                      |

**Vicar's Report**

Nick Alexander gave his vicar's report. He reported that 2015 was a significant year with the appointment of an associate vicar and the purchase of a vicarage by the diocese. There were many encouraging services throughout the year, and Nick particularly highlighted mini church which flourished. During 2015 we held 2 thanksgiving services for a child, 4 weddings, 1 wedding blessing, 9 funerals and 1 memorial service. There were no baptisms.

Moving on to 2016, Nick reported that Sunday School is temporarily in hibernation at the moment and he extended his thanks to Carol Nurcombe for all her work with this over recent years.

The ministry team continues to do assemblies in schools in our parish.

We have 5 small groups attached to St Peter's, with about 40 people attending weekly, fortnightly or monthly.

Hazel Humphreys retired from her role as Lay Pastor at the end of 2015, but she continues with a very active ministry. In order to fill some of the gap left by Hazel stepping back, we are forming a pastoral support group with 3 commissioned visitors for St Peter's – Anne Dixon, Cindy Hudson and Julia Alexander.

Little Fishes continues to flourish at the Hyndman Centre. Their work is interdependent with mini church. Great thanks were given to Rosie Perham and Marie MacInnes for running this. Nick presented some flowers to Rosie to mark 10 years of heading up Little Fishes. Rosie emphasised that it is very much a team work.

In the autumn, Sheila Spaul retired from overseeing Lunch and Chat, and Hazel Humphreys has taken this on.

Men's work flourishes throughout the parish.

Prayer is an important focus of our church, and at St Peter's we run a

monthly prayer breakfast and 2 monthly prayer meetings.

At St Peter's we said goodbye to a number of people through death in 2015: Murray Clifford, Maud List, Eileen Gyseman, Peggy Smith and John Thompson.

The Hyndman Centre continues to be well used and managed. Many users were affected by the recession a couple of years ago, but despite this the Centre continues to flourish. Thanks were given to David Crofts and the Hyndman Centre Management Committee.

Over the last year we have run a Journeys course and a Christianity Explored course. This has evolved into a discipleship group.

Nick thanked Jackie Post for her hard work throughout the parish.

As a church we will be launching a new Sunday afternoon congregation in May, and a cafe style all age service in autumn.

We are looking forward to reaching out into the community with a fun day and other initiatives. We hope to employ a youth and family worker using the bequest from Daphne Swatman.

Nick gave his thanks to David Crofts, Lionel Simpkins, Hazel Humphreys and Eric Russell, PCC members, occasional preachers, the worship group led by John Dixon, David Crofts and Jackie Post for choosing music, the social group headed by Ian Nurcombe, and all the many others serving in the many roles on the rota. He also thanked Malcolm for his support, and Julia for her support from a distance.

Finally, thanks were extended to the wardens, Peter Boyt (who has served 6 years in total as warden and deputy) and Cindy Hudson (who has served 2 years as deputy warden). Peter has overseen the removal of the reredos, installation of a new heating system, and the renovation of doors and of the floor in loo. Cindy has been a huge support, both seen and unseen. Presentations were made to both. Peter thanked Cindy and the church for all of their support.

#### Wardens Report

Peter Boyt gave a short report. The major event of the year was Nick's licensing. The main fabric work was replacement of front door.

#### Treasurer's report

This was given by Eric Humphreys. Accounts have been on display in church for the required period. If there are any questions on these, please do ask Eric.

Eric reported that we have a fantastic opportunity for the church with a new associate vicar. We need to rise the financial challenge of this. Giving did increase substantially last year. This is a sign of faith in our future. Gift aid will increase along with the increase in giving. Eric urges people to sign up for regular giving.

We do have a very generous bequest from Daphne Swatman but this is for a very specific purpose and can't be used towards the increased parish share. However, we can use it for mission and outreach work so the money has arrived at a very appropriate time for our new vision initiatives.

Eric reported that in line with parish guidelines, we have supported a variety of missions over the last year; some local, such as BCY and Sporting '87 and some overseas, such as SIM and Open Doors.

Eric finished with thanks to Joy Banham, who does much of the day-to-day work, and Stuart Lowe, who does all of the work on Gift Aid. He also

thanked the collection counters, headed by Mike Golston. Finally, he extended his thanks to Jackie for work in the office, including some invoicing and quarterly remittances to the diocese, which does make the work of the treasurers so much easier.

Stuart Lowe spoke briefly about gift aid, and pointed out that rules for gift aid have changed. For those who don't pay tax, we can now claim some gift aid back. If people fall into this category, Stuart would urge people to switch from direct debit to the envelope scheme for giving. He thanked Eric for all his work.

5. **Electoral Roll**

As at today, there are 320 on the parish roll of whom 152 are resident in parish. This is a modest rise from last year. There has also been a modest rise in regular attendance at St Peter's.

6. **Elections**

**Wardens**

Ian Nurcombe was elected as Church Warden, proposed by John Dixon and seconded by Michael Golston.

David Ayrton was elected as Deputy Warden, proposed by Stuart Lowe and seconded by Ian Nurcombe.

Both roles will take over officially from 17 May.

**PCC**

Jackie Post and Phil Hymers have both come to the end of their term as PCC representatives. Both are willing to stand for another term and were duly elected.

Jackie Post was proposed by Stuart Lowe and seconded by Grahame Cryer.

Phil Hymers was proposed by Joy Banham and seconded by Peter Boyt.

**St Peter's Committee**

John Dixon was proposed by Stuart Lowe and seconded by Phil Hymers and was elected to St Peter's Committee.

Nick expressed his thanks to all of those standing for office.

7. **AOB**

None.

The meeting closed with prayer at 12:45pm.



