

# Annual Parochial Church Meeting, 2015 - St. Peter's Draycott - Minutes

*Held on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2015 at 6:30 p.m. in the church.*

The meeting was preceded by a said service of evening prayer led by Thea Oliver. Tricia Heckbert opened the meeting and took the chair.

## **1. Attendance and apologies**

The following were in attendance: David Cheetham, Nikki Devitt, Richard Dingley, Chris Green, Tricia Heckbert, Colette Jeff, Gordon Jeff, Alison Jeffries, Janet Jeffries, Tricia Lumley, Thea Oliver, Barry Rose, Buffy Rose, Lynda Whittle. Apologies were taken from Tricia Corrick, Hewart Jeffries, Rob and Sue Walker.

## **2. Minutes from meeting on 13th April 2014**

Minutes from the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 13th April 2014 have been available for inspection and were provided at the meeting. They were agreed to be an accurate record.

## **3. Vestry Meeting for the Election of two Church Wardens**

The present churchwardens were prepared to stand again for the following year. No further proposals were received. David Cheetham and Dorothea Oliver were therefore duly declared duly elected for the post of churchwarden for 2015/16.

## **4. Statutory Reports**

Statutory reports were all circulated in written form (see separate document), and discussed.

The following points were raised against specific reports

### a. Electoral roll

Should the electoral roll be made publicly available (given the letter and spirit of the Data Protection Act)? What is legally required?

*ACTION:* PCC to check. It could be that names only are required

### b. PCC proceedings. Nothing further. Chris Green thanked.

### c. Financial report and accounts.

David Cheetham clarified a point: Last year we were technically in deficit by £2,300 (in terms of the balance of income and expenditure). This is not the same as being in debt by this amount- we have adequate funds in reserve. Also the Parish Share will be less next year- by perhaps £2000- so the relative deficit this year should not alarm us unduly.

NB. The parish share pays for clergy, pensions and housing. In a vacancy, it also covers the expense of bringing in clergy from outside to take services.

Lynda suggested that the deficit might be met by a reduction in parish share we paid.

The counter-suggestion from Gordon was that this year we pay, since we have the funds- and reconsider next year.

Alison said that there was a longer-term threat from diminishing congregations. Is there a long term plan, as this is surely unsustainable? No-one could answer this!

### d. Fabric report. This was accepted with thanks to David.

### e. Deanery Synod report

This week there was to be a meeting with the NHS and the recovery from flooding on the agenda.

Thank you to our representatives.

It was proposed that the statutory reports should be accepted *en bloc* (proposed- Richard Dingley, seconded Thea Oliver). All were in favour, and all reports were accepted.

**5. Other reports**

Other reports were also circulated in written form. Under the 'Church Magazine' we discussed the timing of the combined issues. We had moved these to fit with Cheddar, but now we are getting Kings of Wessex to print them we should revert to our old system. This means having combined issues for December and January, and for August and September.

**6. Election of Laity to the Parochial Church Council for 2015-16**

The following had been proposed and seconded for election to the Parochial Church Council for 2015-2016: Richard Dingley, Chris Green, Tricia Heckbert, Alison Jeffries, Janet Jeffries, Colette Jeff and Barry Rose. All had indicated that they were willing to stand. They were declared duly elected. They will join David Cheetham (church warden), Thea Oliver (church warden) and Tricia Lumley (Deanery representative) who are on the PCC *ex officio*.

It was proposed that these be elected *en bloc* (RD proposed, TO seconded- no objections).

**7. Appointment of sides men and women**

There are currently five sides men and women. Gordon has kindly agreed to join them- so we have enough!

**8. Appointment of independent financial examiner**

Alan Rowntree was happy to act as our independent financial examiner for a further year. David proposed that we ask him again, Nikki seconded, and there were no objections. This was accepted by the meeting.

**9. Closing Remarks from the Church Wardens**

*Thea Oliver*

It had been a memorable and generally a good year. Chris Butler and Sue Rose were both missed- but Thea was happy to report that Chris was in good health and settling in well in her new parishes.

The vacancy was proving much easier to manage this time around because of Hilary and Judith, and the Ministry team. The new arrangements were working well so far.

We should not panic over Finances for the moment! We are really doing very well.

We have a number of weddings, baptisms and funerals in prospect- there is no slackening in our usual church activities. We have even logged some new departures – the jointly hosted hustings, WI meeting and yoga.

Thanks to all who are helping the church carry on as a vibrant place to come to!

**10. Any other matters of important to the Parish**

Further discussion took place on the Parish Away Day (when we were assisted by Andrew Hemming). We would try to follow this up.

**11. Closing prayer**

The meeting was closed by saying the Grace together.