

MINUTES of St. Hilda's Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on Sunday, 25th April 2010 in the church.

Vestry Meeting

Peter Harris was thanked by the Vicar for the four years he has spent as church warden, some of that time falling during the interregnum; Peter himself responded sincerely, saying that he was looking forward to being able to become more involved with the spiritual life of the church. David Dyke and Pauline Jones had been proposed and seconded to act as churchwardens for 2010 - 2011 and were elected unopposed. Pauline herself sent her apologies through Alastair, as she was unable to return from San Francisco due to current flight problems.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

The meeting took place in the main church building and was attended by 42 people, slightly less than in 2009.

1. Apologies: Pauline Jones, Renate Wilkinson, the Gibbens family, Peter Stokes, Jean Downs, Michaela Hinton.

2. Minutes of the APCM 05/04/09: Agreed unanimously and signed.

3. Matters arising from the above Minutes: None.

4. Church Council Annual Report 2009: Paul Hinton took the meeting through the main points of the Report and then invited comments/amendments. The following points were raised:

David Ellis - requested that Roger Saunders' name be added as an additional organiser of the Table Tennis Club.

Catherine Lewis - requested that greater prominence be given to the effectiveness of the church's website.

Subject to these points, Wendy Dyke proposed, Martin Hadlington seconded:
"that the Report be adopted"

and this was carried unanimously. The Secretary was thanked for his role in producing the Report and he in turn thanked those who had contributed information.

5. Annual Church Accounts Report 2009: David Hickman introduced the Report and took the meeting through its main points. He then invited comments and the following were raised:
David Ellis asked where the £50 donation to the choir fund was and David explained that it had not yet been transferred from general funds.

Catherine Lewis asked why we had given no money to Missions in 2009 and David explained that the payment of £750 had to be delayed until January 2010 and thus does not appear on last year's accounts. Fran Ellis and John Wilkinson both stressed the need to give regularly and generously to our Mission partners, John reminding us of the recommendation of the General Synod that tithing be considered. Paul Hinton stated that we are aiming to raise £2000 for our five Mission partners in 2010 and all at the meeting agreed to fully support this. David also stressed that there were many individual contributions to Missions that did not go through the church accounts and so the £750 did not represent the true picture. Catherine Lewis asked if we could try placing Gift Aid envelopes in the chair backs for people to use; Julie Nixon replied that this had been done before but had been discontinued due to the high amount of envelopes that were destroyed. However, at Paul Hinton's request, it was agreed that this should be reinstated. Alastair Jones asked if Mission partners could be changed? David Hickman replied that we used to have a committee that organised this but this no longer operated. Paul Hinton asked Alastair to bring any suggestions to the PCC for consideration - there were historical reasons why the existing Missions were supported and at this point Pat Pitt gave some background to the Melanesian Mission.

There being no further comments, Alastair Jones proposed, Ron Palmer seconded:

"that the Annual Financial Report 2009 be adopted"

and this was agreed unanimously.

David Hickman was thanked for all the efforts he had made in compiling the Report and he in turn

thanked Ron Palmer, Peter Stokes, Mandy Saunders and Gerry Nixon for the various roles that they played in helping with the church finances. Paul Hinton requested that anyone who wished to do so should shadow David during 2010 with a view to taking over from him as Treasurer in the future.

6. Electoral Roll Report: Wendy Dyke reported that there were currently 116 names on the Roll, an increase of 8 from this time last year. Of these, 55 were parish residents and 61 non-residents.

Julie Nixon proposed, Martin Hadlington seconded:

“that the Electoral Roll Report 2009 be adopted”

and this was agreed unanimously.

7. Churchwarden’s Fabric Report 2009: David Dyke circulated copies of the Report for perusal. He thanked:

the Deputy Wardens, who do a very effective job and allow the churchwardens to participate properly in church services;

Peter Munn and Peter Stokes for all their help in organising maintenance work;

all those who help in keeping the church grounds tidy.

Anne Harris asked if any progress had been made with the asbestos report and the access audit?

David replied that the asbestos report was in hand and that Paul Hinton knew someone who was willing to undertake an access report.

The provision of children’s toilets in the church hall would be fully investigated soon.

Paul Hinton thanked Derek Latham, Rose Akeroyd, Mark Jennings and David Dyke for the work they had put in to obtain grants totally approximately £25,000 to help with the refurbishment of the church hall, which is proceeding apace.

8. Deanery Synod Report 2009: Peter Munn reported on three meetings, these being held on 29th April, 7th July and 17th November. The main items discussed were:

Church stewardship, a discussion led by Jayne Grunnell

The “Transforming Church” initiative

The possibility of a Deanery website

The “Hope not Hate” initiative

The clergy pension scheme

Catherine Lewis asked if we as a church were doing anything for the “Hope not Hate” initiative and Paul Hinton briefly explained what was happening.

Peter was thanked for his Report by Paul Hinton.

9. Election of Parochial Church Council Members 2010 - 2011:

The following people were proposed and seconded:

Richard Haynes, Martin Hadlington, Jon Goodwin, Derek Latham, Joyce Lewis, Julie Batham, Jean Line, Elizabeth Gibbens, Janet Gaunt, Pat Crofts, David Hickman, Wendy Dyke.

The existing Deanery Synod representatives [Peter Stokes, Gerry Nixon, Rose Akeroyd, Peter Munn] would continue in office for a further year.

Paul Hinton thanked the retiring PCC members [Victoria Gibbens, Ron Palmer, Mark Jennings, Connie Jinks, Jean Downs, Sue Eaton, Paul Snookes] for their efforts during the year.

10. Appointment of Sidespeople 2010 - 2011:

Peter Harris thanked all those who performed this most vital task of welcoming people into the church. The following church members have agreed to act as sidespeople for 2010-11:

Pat Crofts, Joan Davies, Anne Duggan, Wendy Dyke, Janet Gaunt, Julie Gerrard, Alan and Judith Gibbens, Bill Griffiths, Anne Harris, Robert Hickman, Pauline Hills, Irene and Sadie Hughes, Jean Line, Julie Nixon, Pat Pitt, Fredrica Brogan, Carole Southall, Janice Stirrup, Betty Tombs, Les Warburton and Jean Weyham.

Fran Ellis reminded the meeting that our “mystery worshipper” for Transforming Church had advised us to consider having more young people to act in this ‘welcoming’ role. Paul Hinton stated that he has asked Pauline Jones to look at the whole question of welcoming people into church.

11. Appointment of Independent Accounts Examiner 2010: David Hickman stated that Mr. Trevor Clarke has agreed his willingness to continue for 2010 and again would charge no fee. It was agreed unanimously that he be reappointed.

12. Chairman’s Remarks: Paul Hinton reminded us of the need to be an ‘open’ church that listened

and tried to understand the needs of the community. He was very pleased that the current Baptism and Confirmation class had eight people, four of whom had no particular connection to St. Hilda's but had expressed their desire to be baptised.

He stated that he would be asking the PCC at its first meeting to approve a plan for 'Transforming Church' which would seek to create a Community Profile. He also expressed his desire to see the church open on more frequent occasions. He finished with a challenge to all those present to consider how we should stay strong in our faith.

There being no other business, the meeting closed with prayer at 1.40 p.m.

Signed as a correct record: _____

Date: _____