

PARISH OF ST. ANDREW, ENFIELD

Minutes of the Vestry Meeting and 96th Annual Parochial Church Meeting, Saturday 16 April 2016, 10.00am in the Parish Centre

Vestry Meeting

1. Prayers

- 1.1. The Rev. Dr. Steve Griffiths opened the meeting with a prayer and remembered Jacky Parnell, following the death of her father.

2. Minutes of the Annual Parishioners Vestry Meeting, 2015

- 2.1. The minutes of the meeting held on 18 April 2015 were approved unanimously.

3. Election of Church Wardens

- 3.1. Steve Griffiths introduced the election process and the rules usually governing elections and terms of office. Three nominations had been received for the election of churchwardens:

- 3.1.1. Vicky Wiggins, nominated by R H Merrifield, seconded by Robert Malleson;

- 3.1.2. Fliss Cox, nominated by Claire Reilly, seconded by Claudia De Rienzo

- 3.1.3. Kara McCrory, nominated by Emma Oppong-Addai, seconded by Claire Whetstone

- 3.2. The three nominees were elected en bloc.

- 3.3. Vicky Wiggins paid tribute to the dedication Jacky Parnell had shown over her time as a warden.

- 3.4. Steve Griffiths led the meeting in prayer for the new wardens, remembering Jacky and Kara in their difficult personal circumstances on this day.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

1. Apologies for absence

- 1.1. Apologies for absence had been received from: Beryl and David Holiday, Colin and Anne Griffiths, Robert and Kitty Malleson, David Cater, Stephanie Lane.

2. Minutes of the 2015 Annual Parochial Church Meeting

- 2.1. The minutes of the meeting held on 18 April 2015 were approved unanimously.

3. Matters arising

- 3.1. There were no matters raised.

4. Parochial Church Council Report

- 4.1. John Tanner introduced the PCC Report. He highlighted the PPC's work on the financial position, the Mission Action Plan and the creation of MABS.

5. Financial Report

- 5.1. Claire Whetstone presented the Financial Report. She noted that a small surplus had been achieved in 2015, compared to a significant deficit in the previous year. Donations and legacies had increased as well as other income from hiring of the Parish Centre. Expenditure on charitable activities had increased as a result of MABs, boiler expenditure and the completion of the organ restoration project. Savings had been achieved through the joining the cross-parish buying scheme for utilities. A shortfall on the organ fund had been covered by other income. For 2016 a surplus is forecast.

- 5.2. Steve Griffiths thanked Claire Whetstone for her work as Treasurer and David Wiggins, Vicki Wiggins and David Lamberti for their work over the last year.

- 5.3. Steve Griffiths noted that the budget remained tight despite the achievements of the finance team, since a number of major commitments were externally funded. There needs to a major effort to increase income over the coming year. David Wiggins noted that the accounts had been reviewed by the independent examiner Mr Richard Hill of Griffin Stone Moscrop & Co.

- 5.4. Patience Wilson proposed, seconded by Mark Thebridge, the adoption of the accounts for 2015. They were adopted unanimously.

6. Electoral Roll Report

- 6.1. Vicky Wiggins announced that, at the date of the meeting, there were 238 persons on the electoral roll, an increase of 20 over the previous year.

7. Fabric Report

- 7.1. Steve Griffiths introduced the Fabric Report, reflecting on the significant work of the experienced members of the buildings advisory group over the last year. He highlighted a number of key works carried out. He noted that major commitments remained given the significant backlog of works

7.2. In discussion the following points were raised:

- The loose plasterwork in the north aisle had been removed and sealed. This will shortly be made good in the next few weeks with work on the Rainton memorial area to follow. The proceeds of the summer fair would be dedicated to this, as would other events as they are planned, including summer concerts and any surplus organ recital receipts; and
- The water heater in the kitchen will be replaced if it cannot be repaired.

8. Deanery Synod Report

8.1. Patience Wilson presented the Deanery Synod report. There were no points raised in discussion. Steve Griffiths noted that there would be a strengthening of deanery activities as a focus for mission over the coming year.

9. Election of PCC members

9.1. The following nominations had been received for membership of the PCC, there being 3 vacancies:

9.1.1. David Andrews, nominated by Claudia De Rienzo and seconded by Claire Reilly;

9.1.2. Claire Reilly, nominated by Rex Bourne and seconded by Claudia De Rienzo; and

9.1.3. Claire Whetstone, nominated by Vicki Wiggins and seconded by Debbie McGill.

9.2. They were elected unanimously.

10. Appointment of sidespeople

Lesley Barnes Elisabeth Brooke Michael Cansfield Claire Cooper Andrea Edwards

Sarah Hargreaves Sue Holmes Dinos Kousoulou Barrie Lane Robert Malleson

Debbie McGill Clive Parker Carole Shuttle Gill Tibbs Sue Woollard

Fliss Cox

10.1. The above had indicated a willingness to serve. They were appointed unanimously.

10.2. Steve Griffiths noted that the functions currently carried out by the wardens at services might be extended to sidespeople to support the wardens. The retirement of Vincent Stokes would also mean some realignment of roles.

11. Appointment of Deanery Synod representatives

11.1. Patience Wilson and Barrie Lane continued to serve as a Deanery Synod representative until 2017

12. Reports from Committees and Organisations

12.1. In discussion the following points were raised:

12.1.1. Fliss Cox introduced the Wardens' report. She highlighted: the Quinquennial; the wardens' meeting with the Bishop; and the discussions leading to the forthcoming appointment of a curate;

12.1.2. Steve Griffiths led the meeting through the other reports tabled at the meeting. In discussion:

- it was asked how the choir saw itself developing. The challenges of funding for a Director of Music were noted. Choir members are to discuss with the school governors the possibility of establishing a junior choir. A vote of thanks was recorded to the choir;
- the work of MABS was highlighted with reference to its work in specific cases; along with the interactions being taken forward by the Dads' Group. Thanks was recorded for the hard work and achievements of Jo Griffiths and Barry Easton;
- it was noted the school governors had discussed mindfulness, and it was also noted that the Schools Chaplain will raise meditation and prayer spaces in school with the Head teacher;

12.1.3. Olive Cope expressed her thanks to all of those who had contributed to the celebration of her fifty years of ministry and her retirement.

13. Appointment of Auditor

13.1. Jeremy Taylor proposed and Sue Woollard seconded the motion that Mr Richard Hill of Griffin Stone Moscrop & Co should be appointed as independent examiner for 2016. The motion was approved unanimously.

14. Vicar's Report

14.1. Steve Griffiths introduced his report and highlighted the main issues covered, in particular the emerging picture around attendances, where average weekly attendances had increased from around 200 to just under 400. Most of the growth was in adult attendances as a result of the increase in the number of mid-week services. The proposed introduction of a monthly messy church should encourage increases in child attendances where there has, however, been a 5% increase. A focus on festivals would encourage children's attendances further. Setting aside the new mid-week services there had been a similar 5% year on year increase in adult attendances, with particular increases in the Sunday 8am service attendance. There are concerns about attendances at Parade Services. This is being monitored but there may be a relationship with the changes in numbers attending the 10.45am service following parade service.

14.2. Barry Easton responded to questions about the attendance of the 4th Enfield Scout Group at Parade Services and set out what he is doing on a regular basis to build links with the uniformed groups.

14.3. Steve Griffiths outlined the spiritual growth of the church over the last year, including the inclusive communion policy and the number of confirmations. Note was taken of the ministry work of MABs and the initiatives being considered by the Mark 3 Reference Group. Thanks were expressed for the establishment of the mid-week services.

14.4. Over the coming year there will be a further strengthening of the Anglican identity of the church, recognising the significant progress and deepening which had been achieved over the last year. In part there needed to be a more visible demonstration of the church's history. There would be a focus on: the establishment of messy church in the autumn; the arrival of Lizzie Baughen as curate; developing a trained and commissioned lay ministry to; and further work on the fabric of the Church and the Parish Centre.

14.5. Steve Griffiths gave his thanks to Olive Cope, the Wardens; the Treasurer and finance team; Simone Berndes, and everyone who is actively engaged in ministry. A vote of thanks was noted to Vincent Stokes in the light of his upcoming retirement. Steve Griffiths expressed his particular thanks to Jo Griffiths for her support over the last year.

15. Questions from the floor

15.1. The following points were raised:

15.1.1. Permission had been given to remove the squirrels from the clock tower in the next week;

15.1.2. There will not be a like for like replacement of the verger role with Vincent Stokes' retirement. This will be considered at the next substantive PCC meeting;

15.1.3. Contributions to the e-Zine should be sent to Steve Griffiths for inclusion. It was possible for copies to be printed and given to those without internet access. Steve Griffiths would be writing to those who had received the hard copy parish magazine and volunteers were willing to help arrange e-Zine subscription;

15.1.4. The Mark 5 reference group is considering recycling and options for the Parish Centre.

16. Closing prayers

16.1. Steve Griffiths closed the meeting with a prayer.