



Minutes of the Vestry Meeting and Annual Parochial Church Meeting (by Zoom)

Sunday 25 April 2021 at 4 pm

Present:

Lorna Atwell, Ann Bradfield, Ruth Bridgen, David Bridges, Ali Brooke, Patrick Brooke, Don Broom, Sally Broom, Ed Cearns, Marion Cobby, Brian Corby, Paula Corby, Andrew Crawford, Tom Culver, Revd Andrew Day, Graham Day, Sarah de Mas, Nicholas Denyer, Andrew Dobson, Katriona Dobson, Roger France, Kay Goodchild, Michael Goodchild, Sarah Goff, Sam Hayes, Selwyn Image, Margaret Ingram, Juliet Jackson, Margaret Johnston (Churchwarden), Yuce Kabakci, Gillian Kilgour, Sam Kuegler-Race, Simone Kuegler-Race, Anne Lindley, Moya Lonsdale, Veronica McDouall, Revd Devin McLachlan, Alison McRobb, Diane Milan, Liz Orme, Arvan Pritchard (Chair), Carolynn Pritchard, David Richards, Joye Rosenstiel (Churchwarden), Catherine Smart, John Sturdy, Richard Summers, Benedict Todd, Matthew Vernon, Gina Vivian-Neal, Alan Weeds, Stella Weeds, Jen Welby, Margaret Widdess, Richard Widdess, Joanna Womack.

1 Vestry Meeting:

- 1.1 The meeting started with prayer led by Revd Devin McLachlan.
- 1.2 It was confirmed that the Vestry Meeting was governed by different regulations from the APCM, and that a Chair would need to be appointed; Arvan Pritchard offered to chair the meeting, which was accepted.
- 1.3 The Chair welcomed all who were in attendance. As both meetings were taking place via Zoom attendees were requested to be on 'mute' unless they wished to speak and, if a vote was required, were invited to use the facility within 'Participants' for this.

2 Appointment of Vestry Clerk

- 2.1 Marion Cobby was appointed to record the proceedings of the Vestry Meeting.

3 Appointment of Churchwardens

- 3.1 The Chair expressed great appreciation to the two Churchwardens for all their work over the past year.
- 3.2 As there were only two nominations for the post of Churchwarden, both were declared as re-appointed for a further term:

Margaret Johnston: proposed by Anne Lindley, seconded by Sally Broom

Joye Rosenstiel: proposed by Margaret Ingram, seconded by Ann Bradfield

4 Annual Parochial Church Meeting:

- 4.1 The Chair welcomed all who were in attendance. As both meetings were taking place via Zoom attendees were requested to be on 'mute' unless they wished to speak and, if a vote was required, were invited to use the facility within 'Participants' for this.

- 4.2 The Chair reminded all those present that in order to vote, attendees would need to be a member of the Electoral Roll.
- 4.3 **Apologies for absence**
- Revd David Bagnall
Thea Cockcroft
Fiona Cornish
Julia Fleming
Louise Loxley
Revd Rodney Holder
Revd Shirley Holder
Jennifer Houghton
The Montgomerie-House Family
- 4.4 **Appointment of Clerk**
- 4.4.1 Marion Cobby was appointed to record the proceedings of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.
- 4.5 **Minutes of the previous APCM of 19 October 2020**
- 4.5.1 With no corrections to be made, the minutes were signed as an accurate record of the meeting.
- 4.6 **Report on changes to the Electoral roll up to 31 December 2020**
- 4.6.1 As outlined in the Annual Review, it had been decided to defer the revision of the Electoral Roll for 2020 due to the pandemic, in agreement with the Diocese and Vicar. However, it was noted that the numbers on the roll over the past year had increased to 236, with confirmation that joining the Electoral Roll online had been very helpful.
- 4.6.2 The Chair gave a vote of thanks to the Electoral Roll Officer, Anne Lindley, for all her work, as she was standing down from the role from the date of this meeting.
- 4.7 **Report on the proceedings of the Parochial Church Council and church activities**
- 4.7.1 The Annual Review had already been circulated– there were no questions or comments arising from this.
- 4.7.2 Margaret Johnston expressed thanks to all who had contributed to it, and for Marion Cobby for assembling and editing the final version; it was noted that it was outstanding to see how much had been accomplished given that the church had been closed for such a large part of the year.
- 4.8 **Report on the financial statements of the Parochial Church Council for the year ending 31 December 2020**
- 4.8.1 The financial statements had already been circulated – there were no questions or comments arising from them.
- 4.8.2 Joye Rosenstiel expressed gratitude to Graham Day, Treasurer, and the office staff for their hard work in the preparation of the accounts; thanks were also expressed to the congregation for their financial generosity and to all the staff who had been furloughed but who had enabled things to proceed as well as they had done.
- 4.9 **Report on the fabric, goods, and ornaments of the church ('The Churchwardens' Report') under section 50 of the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction and Care of Churches Measure 2018**
- 4.9.1 Joye Rosenstiel reported that she had planned to go through the inventory before lockdown so would do this once she could.

- 4.9.2 It was noted that, ironically, the fabric was probably in better condition due to lockdown. Gratitude was expressed to the vergers and clergy for having taken such great care of the fabric and all that was owned by Great St Mary's.
- 4.10 Report of the proceedings of the Deanery Synod**
- 4.10.1 There was nothing to add further to the information in the Annual Review.
- 4.11 Election of seven parochial representatives of the laity to the Parochial Church Council for three years**
- 4.11.1 Retiring members of the PCC were thanked for their contribution to the work of the PCC.
- 4.11.2 As there were fewer nominations than spaces, the following were all elected for a 3-year period:
- Lorna Atwell: proposed by Margaret Johnston, seconded by Brian Corby
Gordon Campbell: proposed by Julie Campbell, seconded by Joye Rosenstiel
Juliet Jackson: proposed by Stella Weeds, seconded by Kate Denmead
Liz Orme: proposed by Frank King, seconded by Michael O-Callaghan
Joanna Womack: proposed by Joye Rosenstiel, seconded by Fiona Cornish
Catherine Smart: proposed by David Bridges, seconded by Margaret Ingram
- 4.12 Appointment of Independent Examiner**
- 4.12.1 Graham Day proposed the re-election of Staffords, which was seconded by Joye Rosenstiel and carried unanimously. Thanks were recorded to Staffords for their excellent work.
- 4.13 Any other matters of parochial or general church interest - Revd Devin McLachlan**
- 4.13.1 Thanks to retiring PCC members were re-iterated and new members were warmly welcomed.
- 4.13.2 Appreciation was noted for the growth of the congregation during the pandemic and for the way in which the whole GSM community had pulled together in so many different ways.
- 4.13.3 Regarding the future, some of the immediate details were not known, due to the ongoing pandemic, but the vision of GSM remained clear and a priority for the coming months.
- 4.13.4 GSM was looking forward to the return of Adrian Daffern from his sick leave at the beginning of May, and it was confirmed that he would work part-time initially. Work was being undertaken on job descriptions to balance the workload between staff more effectively.
- 4.13.5 It was confirmed that Jon Sanders would be joining the team as a full-time curate after his ordination to the Diaconate in June and that David Bagnall would be priested in June, with celebration of his first Eucharist on the evening of his ordination.
- 4.13.6 The PCC and Finance and General Purposes Committee had been looking very closely at the finances, mindful of the challenges that the pandemic had brought, and appreciation to the many new volunteers was expressed who had helped to put the church in a good position for the year ahead.
- 4.13.7 It was noted that worship patterns had changed quite frequently over the past months and there was a plan to establish a regular worship schedule over the summer to implement from the autumn.
- 4.13.8 Gratitude was expressed for all the contributions made by both lay and clergy during the period of lockdown.
- 4.14 Churchwardens' report**
- 4.14.1 Margaret Johnston and Joye Rosenstiel thanked those present for re-electing them as Churchwardens, which they considered to be a real privilege.
- 4.14.2 Coffee mornings of groups of six in gardens were being planned for Christian Aid Week – further details were available from Lorna Atwell.
- 4.14.3 The clergy team were congratulated for having adapted so well to the demands of the pandemic and for having embraced the new technology which allowed so many to join in with worship at GSM both around the UK and from overseas.

- 4.14.4 The clergy, Children's Minister and Director of Music were thanked for their great leadership and inspiration and for their many individual contributions to the church activities over the year.
- 4.14.5 The Lay Vice-Chair, Arvan Pritchard, was thanked for his work over the years as he was retiring from the role in addition to retiring from Deanery Synod.
- 4.14.6 The Director of Operations, Richard Summers was thanked for his work and that of the vergers and shop staff in the preparation for the re-openings and for all the tasks undertaken during lockdown. He was asked to pass on the thanks of the meeting to them all.
- 4.14.7 Those staff whose roles at GSM had ended due to the pandemic were remembered with gratitude.
- 4.14.8 Thanks were expressed to all who had attended the meeting and for their collective contribution to the life and community of GSM.

The meeting ended at 16:35 with the Grace.