

SAINT MARK'S CHURCH REIGATE
ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING - SUNDAY 28 APRIL 2019

Fr Martin Colton, Chairman of the Parochial Church Council was in the chair.

PRESENT:

Eighty parishioners.

APOLOGIES:

Apologies were received from twelve parishioners.

MINUTES:

The Minutes of the 2018 Annual Parochial Church Meeting were agreed and signed as an accurate record of what had taken place.

MATTERS ARISING:

There were no matters arising.

PRESENTATION OF THE ELECTORAL ROLL:

Presented by Mrs Alison Stagg.

After a complete renewal of the Roll this year, the new Roll, now on display at the back of the Church stands at 141.

Until the APCM this has been closed, apart from any alterations that are necessary.

After the APCM further applications to be included on the Roll may be made. For six weeks people have been encouraged to apply for inclusion on the new Roll, but as usual because of non-attendance at services or holiday plans the number of names are fewer than last year's total.

Unlike the Parish Directory, only names and addresses are recorded, as well as whether the person is resident in the Parish or not, so that the Roll is always on display.

As in previous years, I shall be pleased to hear of any changes of address, or people leaving the Parish for any reason, as news does not always reach me.

ELECTION OF DEPUTY WARDENS:

Mrs Jane Artis and Mrs Christine Ingram were re-elected for a further year. There were still two vacancies.

ELECTION OF PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Mr Terrence Hancock and Mr Paul Selvadurai were elected to replace Mrs Anne Cotterell who retired by rotation, and an already existing vacancy, each for three years. There still remains a vacancy for two years.

APPOINTMENT OF SIDESMEN:

The following were appointed:

Mrs S Baker-Hedge, Mrs C L Baughen, Mrs P E Bell, Mr M J Biggs, Mrs S J Biggs, Mrs S Collyer, Mrs J Cooper, Mrs A E Cotterell, Mrs E Davis, Capt K Dyde, Mrs T Hessey, Mrs K Lane, Mrs N M Lloyd, Mr C Pelekani, Mrs D Pelekani, Mr G R Piejus, Mrs H Starmer, Dr P A Walter, Mrs S Weatherald, Mrs H Westwater.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS AND PRESENTATION OF THE ANNUAL REPORT:

Fr Martin introduced the Annual Report and thanked everyone who had contributed to it and produced it.

Particular thanks were given to the St Mark's Buffers who meet each month to look after the cleaning of the brasses etc.

The results of last year's survey were published and a number of changes recommended have already been brought into use.

A presentation was then made to Mrs Shona Prosser who has relinquished her role as Parish Administrator. For the last seven years she has been the ever-present face in the Parish Office and will be much missed as she and her husband prepare to "emigrate" north of the border to Scotland.

REPORT UPON THE GOODS AND ORNAMENTS:

Presented by Mr Kenneth Packer:

Essential and advisable repair and maintenance work was carried out on the church, church hall and grounds during 2018 as the need arose by contractors, caretaker and volunteers.

The Quinquennial Report was carried out in July 2016 by the inspecting architect. High priority work to the church tower structure was identified within the report, requiring urgent investigation and remedial work. The Parochial Church Council (PCC) authorised the investigation and undertaking of remedial repairs to the tower within an agreed budget.

Extensive tower repair work was carried out during 2018. Additional work was identified by the supervising architect when the contractor was on site. To contain expenditure this work safeguarded the structure of the upper levels of the tower and addressed existing health and safety considerations at all levels. Further attention to stonework at the lower levels, up to approximately 12 metres above ground level may be required in future years. An annual safety inspection is now in being put in place to monitor the structure.

Work of a lower priority identified in the quinquennial report has been addressed on a programmed basis reflecting the relative priority or urgency of the work within overall budgetary considerations.

A new kitchen built and fitted to an industrial standard in an expanded area of the church hall was completed during the Autumn of 2018. This has significantly improved facilities available to hall users and hirers, including the Winter Night Shelter, Community Lunch Service and Voluntary Associations of Reigate and Banstead (VARB) Christmas meal for isolated, homeless, and disadvantaged members of our community.

As well as providing improved facilities for community use it is anticipated that the new facilities will increase the income stream from hall lettings.

The PCC are most grateful to the team of volunteers who planned and managed the project and the individuals and organisations who have donated funds for the project. The individual funding organisations are gratefully acknowledged in the Report and Accounts for 2018.

An on-going programme of renewing and updating service books is now complete.

A review and updating of the inventory of the ornaments, goods and chattels belonging to the church has been carried out. This has included new and existing furniture and equipment within the Church Centre.

The church, hall and grounds including the car park have been regularly maintained and improved. New signage and relining of parking spaces was carried out consequent to the new leasing arrangements for week day commercial parking.

The maintenance and safety of the church's electrical systems, and regular PAT testing of all electrical appliances and equipment was carried out or supervised to a professional standard by David Simmons. We are grateful for his voluntary service in this area.

The first stage of a programme for the upgrading, improvement and increased energy efficiency of the lighting system within the main church has been completed.

THE CHURCH ACCOUNTS:

Mr Brian Rowbotham presented the Accounts for 2018. They had been particularly complicated this year due to the Kitchen Project Fund which had to be set up separately from the Church and Church Hall Funds. An explanation of various items of expenditure were given, and the congregation were thanked for their generous giving during the year. With the large cost of building maintenance during the year, it is now essential that we start to re-build our reserves once again. In the current year (2019), with further maintenance expenditure, there is likely to be a small deficit. The Treasurer was warmly thanked for the enormous amount of work he had undertaken in preparing the accounts and making sure that they were completed, examined and published in good time.

APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER:

It was proposed by Mr Ian Archer and unanimously agreed that Mr Ian Matthews of Kingston Smith LLP, should continue as our Independent Examiner.

REPORT ON DEANERY SYNOD:

Presented by Mrs Patricia Bird

The first meeting of the second year of the Reigate Deanery Synod was held on 13 June at St Francis, Horley.

Following Evening Prayer Fr Andrew Cunnington gave a thought-provoking sermon on the Second Mark of Mission, 'Teach'. He spoke of 'Gathering' (Jesus teaching the people), 'Focusing' (Jesus talking about his death) and 'Scattering' (the disciples spreading the good news).

Kim Honey reported on "Thy Kingdom Come" which took place between Ascension and Pentecost. There was a wonderful gathering at the top of Reigate Hill on Ascension Day evening. Also, the Prayer Space in Redhill had a steady trickle of visitors.

Fr Andrew is to lead a Pilgrimage to Lindisfarne from Easter Monday 2019.

The 18 October meeting was held at The Good Shepherd, Tadworth. Reverend Anna Moore led the Third Mark of Mission, 'Tend' by telling us of her weekly visits to the Wayside Community in Croydon Road. It is part of Keychange, a Christian charity placing time value in people, creating strength in local community and enabling life choices. The house is a stable place to live for nineteen residents aged between 18 and 59, staying about two years.

It was announced that there would be Prayer Spaces and Prayer Walks across the Deanery during the week of 30 May to 9 June and another open-air service on Ascension Day on Reigate Hill as last year.

After having served for seven years Fr Andrew will step down as Area Dean.

The final meeting was held here at St Mark's on 26 February. There was a debate resulting in a motion calling for the Diocese and the wider Church to be more pro-active about knife crime. The Deanery motion was passed to the General Synod and it is hoped that it will be discussed at the General Synod meeting in July.

Reverend Anita Colpus, Vicar at St Luke's, has taken over as Area Dean.

Your Parish Representatives on the Reigate Deanery Synod are Anne Cotterell, Sarah Cousins and myself. We are allowed two more representatives so please speak to one of us if you wish to know what is involved - as there are only three meetings a year it is not too onerous a task.

OTHER BUSINESS:

There was no other business.

Chairman 11 October 2020