

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting for the Parish of Tettenhall Wood

Held at Christ Church on 25 April 2021 @ 10.00am

Introduction: Rev Phil Wootton welcomed everyone to the APCM which was being held within the service

Apologies for Absence: John and Clare Shinton, Rachel and Adam Phillips, John and Bernice Oxley, Kathleen Williams, Hazel Guy, Liz Biddulph, Pam and Richard Shreeve and Jane Brough

Vestry Meeting:

Election of Wardens:

As there were no other nominations, the following were confirmed as wardens for the coming year:

Christ Church: Joan Collins

Good Shepherd: David Hughes

Opening Worship

- *Call to Worship*
- *HYMN: See what a Morning*
- *Confession*

Looking back over the past year

- **Minutes of the last meeting held on 27 September, 2020:** The minutes were agreed as being correct, with no questions being received in advance. No matters arising were raised.
- Electoral Roll Reports 2021: **Christ Church Good Shepherd:** The Electoral Roll reports were received. GS reduced from 56 to 54 and CC remained unchanged at 132. The families of those who had passed away since the last meeting are held in our prayers: Robin Martin, David Sedgley, Lilian Bashford, Brian Bradburn and Arthur Davis
- Finance Reports for the year 2020: **Treasurer's Report and SoFAs, Parish Trustees** The Treasurer's Report Statements of Financial Activities and Trustees Annual Report were received. Stephanie noted that the Annual Accounts had been provided to the Diocese for audit. It was noted that each church continued to give to charities, to pay our Parish Share, while showing a deficit for the year (when taking account of the two years' gift aid income received at CC). Stephanie thanked all on the team at both churches for all the work they do.
- **Combined report for PCC Secretary, Churchwardens, and Incumbent (2020-21)** The Combined Report of the PCC Secretary, Churchwardens and Incumbent was presented by Rev Phil, who read out the report. He thanked all those who had ensured that the life and worship of the parish has continued through this difficult time.
- *Prayer of Thanksgiving* – led by Rev Lin Vawer

Listening to God's word

- *Bible readings by Ben Hemming and Clive Childs*
- *Sermon by Caroline Seaton*
- *Hymn for Reflection: The King of Love my Shepherd is*

Looking forward

- Election of Church Officers – most will continue serving as for the past year and are duly appointed
 - Election of Deputy Wardens:
 - Good Shepherd: Jane Brough
 - Christ Church: Pam Humphrey
 - Treasurer:
 - Stephanie Hemming
 - Richard Humphrey (assistant)
 - PCC Secretary:
 - Sue Wilson
 - Deanery Synod:
 - Jane Woolf, Russell Taylor and Ben Hemming have agreed to continue

- PCC Good Shepherd: all reps have indicated they will carry on. 5 PCC members confirmed as continuing for GS: Hazel Guy, Chris Nickholds, Helen Bull, Lisa Williams and Gerald Lloyd
- PCC Christ Church: Les Key, Pat Morris, Angela Williams happy to remain on PCC. Roger Dipple: Nominated by Joan Collins and seconded by Richard Humphrey; Joy Dipple (now Reader PTO) expressed willingness to continue as an elected member - nominated by Pam Humphrey and seconded by Pam Bevan.

All above nominees were elected unanimously

Covenanting Churches: Vacancy at GS, Alison Bull to continue for CC.

Sidespeople: No nominations due to current restrictions

- Appointment of Independent Examiner: proposed to continue with the Lichfield Diocesan Board of Finance, proposed by Stephanie Hemming, seconded by Sue Wilson – agreed unanimously
- Future Challenge: conclusion of Incumbent's Report – *see below*
- *Prayers of Intercession: led by Samantha Haughtey and her daughters*

Liturgy of the Sacrament

Notices

- No items of AOB had been notified in advance.
- Date and venue of next APCM: to be held at Good Shepherd on Sunday 24 April 2022 at 10am.

Going out

- *HYMN: The strife is o'er, the battle won*
- *Dismissal*

Number Present: 40

APPENDIX: **Looking Forward – conclusion to Incumbent's Report**

So what happens next? What will the year ahead bring? Nobody knows! The diocese has begun a process called *Shaping for Mission* which will affect us all, but in the short term two words come to my mind: recovery and community.

Whilst there are great expectations, there is also much uncertainty. We have been through extended trauma, and we need time for recovery. Most if not all the people on that long list I thanked earlier are tired and need a break. Arrangements intended to last for months have gone on for a whole year, whilst the rest of life (briefly put on hold) has resumed. Unless there are others who can now step up to the plate, we will have to find simpler ways to operate. A period of recovery is required.

Renewing community will aid recovery. Isolation saps energy: community renews strength. Once it's safe and legal, we facilitate ways to meet face-to-face, to chat in person, and to tell our stories. We look forward to restarting groups like *Place of Welcome* and *Good Friends*, and holding coffee mornings or other small-scale events. And let's make sure we don't lose the connections made through phone calls over the last year.

In worship, our focus will return to the gathered community of faith, which is the heart of worship. At the same time, we will maintain something for those who cannot come to church. The longer-term plan is to record and share the actual service in church, but the interim may require something more simple. We need more volunteers willing to learn new skills to take advantage of technological opportunities.

We must keep looking outwards. 'Community' does not just mean ourselves. We may serve our wider communities if our churches act again as hubs for local people to come together. Christ calls us into community with all in need: we will soon have the opportunity to match last year's remarkable lock-down fund-raising for Christian Aid. Let's see that we rise to this challenge, and to many more.

Two ideas in the pipeline: first, when restrictions are eased, to hold a special service of thanksgiving; second, to look for opportunities for church outdoors.

May we go forward together in faith, continuing to share God's love, and live hope-filled lives through the year ahead.