



MINUTES OF ALL SAINTS' CHILTON ANNUAL PAROCHIAL MEETING AND ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2014 AT 7.45pm AND 8.00pm RESPECTIVELY IN THE CHURCH

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The Rector, the Revd Dr Jonathan Mobey was in the Chair and 21 parishioners were present, including the Revd Pam Rolls and Carolyn Vickers, Church Administrator.

The Rector welcomed everyone to the meeting, and read from Romans ch 12, starting from v9. The passage speaks of love and hospitality, and the Rector wished to emphasise the importance of hospitality.

#### ANNUAL PAROCHIAL MEETING

1. Apologies for Absence had been received from Mrs Dina Tisdall, Mrs Helen Brook, Mr Philip Garner, Mrs Ruth Poole, Mr Nigel Mobey, Mrs Jennie Mobey, Mrs Rosemary Rolls and Mr James Hellem.
2. Minutes of the Last Meeting. Acceptance of the minutes was proposed by Mr John Pigott, seconded by Mr Andrew Hayes, and accepted unanimously.
3. Election of Churchwardens. The Rector thanked Mrs Naomi Gibson for her support and hard work over this, her second year in office. He especially appreciated her organisational and person-skills. Mr Andrew Hayes was retiring, after serving for 5 years. He had previously served for a similar period, with 10 years between, and had consistently demonstrated a gentle style, with thoroughness and an eye to detail. He was presented with a Garden Centre Gift Card, as a small token of appreciation from the congregation.

Two nominations had been received for 2014.

Mrs Naomi Gibson proposed by Dr John Berry, seconded by Mrs Carol Pigott

Mr Alex Reich proposed by Mrs Naomi Gibson, seconded by Mr Andrew Hayes.

The above were duly elected unanimously.

The Rector then took the opportunity to pay a special tribute to Rev Pam Rolls. She had been a wonderful support to him over the last year, and was deeply appreciated by all. She works hard to serve her Lord in this place, and not for her own glory.

#### ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

1. Minutes
  - a) Minutes of the Last Meeting Acceptance of the minutes was proposed by Mrs Liz Morris, seconded by Rev Pam Rolls, accepted unanimously, and duly signed.
  - b) Matters Arising from the Minutes At the previous year's meeting, Mr Gordon Cowan, Electoral Roll Officer, had been asked how the drop in numbers on the Roll at the complete renewal for 2013 compared with previous renewals. He had responded immediately after that meeting, with the statistics for the years from 1997 to 2013. These showed that numbers had been fairly stable, (at around 80), with each year's revision, but at the complete renewals of the Roll, in 2002, 2007, and 2013, numbers had dropped by 3, 9, and 20 respectively. The high drop between 2012 and 2013 was partly due to 5 deaths, 4 moving away, 3 being away from the parish at the time of the renewal, and 2 not renewing, due to infirmity. He anticipated 4 to 5 people would be added soon after the Annual Meeting.
2. Elections
  - a) Deanery Synod Representatives We are entitled to 2 representatives, who are to serve for 3 years. There had been only one nomination

Mr John Pigott proposed by Mrs Naomi Gibson, seconded by Mr Stuart Gibson

He was elected unanimously, leaving one vacancy, which could be filled later.

- b) PCC Members There were 3 vacancies for 3 years, and 2 for 1 year, now that Mr Alex Reich had been elected Churchwarden. The following had been elected unanimously.

Mrs Helen Brook proposed by Mrs Carol Pigott, seconded by Mr John Pigott  
Mr James Hellem proposed by Mrs Carol Pigott, seconded by Mrs Audrey Slater  
Mr Stuart Gibson proposed by Mr John Pigott, seconded by Mrs Carol Pigott  
Dr Carina Lobley proposed by Mrs Susan Packer, seconded by Mrs Carol Pigott  
Dr Lobley was elected to serve for 1 year, leaving a single vacancy for 1 year.

- c) 2 PCC Members to serve on the Joint PCC The JPCC consists of the clergy, with Churchwardens and Treasurers of both parishes, plus 2 members elected from each PCC.

Mrs Liz Morris and Mrs Carol Pigott were proposed by Mrs Audrey Slater, seconded by Dr John Berry, and duly elected.

- d) Sidesmen Mrs Naomi Gibson wished to thank all those who had served as sidesmen this year. They were always welcoming, and she felt other parishes envied us. The following were proposed to serve as sidesmen in the coming year, and they were accepted by the meeting

Dr John Berry	Mrs Judy Burbage	Mr Jerry Burbage
Mrs Grace Garrett	Mr Andrew Hayes	Mr Dave Kerr
Mrs Hazel King	Mrs Elizabeth Morris	Mrs Carol Pigott
Mr John Pigott	Mrs Audrey Slater	Mr Jeff Stopps

Mrs Slater reminded the meeting that all PCC members usually serve as sidesmen. They would be included in the list at the next PCC meeting.

### 3. Reports

- a) PCC report Copies of the Annual Report for 2013 had been made available in advance of the meeting, and the Rector thanked the PCC Secretary, and the Church Administrator, Mrs Carolyn Vickers, for all the hard work that had gone into producing it. Administrative work had increased over the year, with the extra printing of service sheets.
- b) Financial Report and Accounts The Financial Report and Accounts had been made available prior to the meeting, and were also available on the church website. Mr Stuart Gibson highlighted the main points. Expenditure for 2013 had been just under £33,000, which was just up on 2012. We had £500 excess income over expenditure, but had underpaid the Parish Share by £3,000. Pledged giving remained at 61% of our income, as in 2012, with tax reclaimed on gift aided giving at 15%. This will go down, as people have died, or moved away, as reflected in the Electoral Roll. (Tax income is reflected 12 months later) Plated giving, at 11%, is the same as 2012. Gift Aid has recently changed, with the rate going down in 2012, but from 2013 it can now be claimed on loose money in the offertory plate, up to £5,000 pa. This equates to £1,250 pa, claiming at 20%, so these two changes even each other out. Mr Gibson went on to thank everyone for their generosity, putting money into our "normal" (i.e. general) funds week by week, and also for specific gifts, when fund-raising for things such as the path project. The Parish Share is the biggest call on our finances, at 57% of our expenditure, even though we underpaid by £4,000 and £3,000 over the last two years. It is our policy to give to Charities and Missions, amounts of 10% to overseas and 5% to home missions, based on the previous year's income. So our giving for 2014 will be based on our income for 2013. Our investments are earning a low rate of interest, as is the case for various funds nowadays, but we may stand to benefit in future with the removal of VAT from some church projects.

Mrs Slater queried the transfer of £625.33 from Church Hall Fund to the General Fund. This was for Connect, and a Fabric cost. She also asked if we were tied to the Diocesan Board of Finance, as their interest rate is so low. The Lydia Thomas Chilton Gift Fund had been investing with M&G, with a regular rate of 3-4% over the last few years. Mr Gibson thanked her for the information, and would investigate the possibility.

- (i) Appointment of Independent Examiner Jane Moreton, of Harwell, was prepared to continue as our Independent Examiner. She was proposed by Mr John Pigott, seconded by Mrs Liz Morris, and unanimously accepted by the meeting.

The Rector thanked Mr Gibson for his stalwart work, having been Treasurer for 17 years. There is an immense amount of work involved, and everyone appreciates the way he keeps on top of it.

- c) Fabric and Ornaments Report This report had been produced by Dr John Berry, and circulated prior to the meeting. He expanded upon it, by saying how he was still pleased to quote the last quinquennial survey, in which the architect had commented on everything being in good condition, and Dr Berry was very thankful to all those who looked after the church in any way. He was able to report that all the electrical main switchgear had now been tested, and the certificate was in the Log Book. The Fabric Committee were actively pursuing quotes for the new paths. They had visited Pembroke College to see examples of surfaces, and had discovered that there were two types, resin-bond, and resin-bound, which were, surprisingly, quite different specifications. Two quotes were needed, for identical specifications, for comparison purposes, and to be able to seek grants. The "window" for grant applications would open in July. Two new notice-boards had been made, and placed in the porch; new curtains had been made and put up in the kitchen, and wiring in the organ loft had been tidied into trunking. Dr Berry wished to thank all those who had given materials, labour and time, to do this work. Pierre Woodward had made a new table in elm wood, for communion, among other uses. This was a beautiful addition to the church, and Rev Pam Rolls had thanked the anonymous donor via email, with a photo of the table attached. Mrs Judith Russell had organised, and done, a lot of work in the churchyard. A chestnut tree had been felled, and a cherry tree had now been found to have died, and would be felled shortly. Dr Berry would shortly arrange for the churchwardens' names to be changed on the main noticeboard. He also wished to thank those who looked after the altar linen, brass, and communion ware.

In response to a question from Mrs Judy Goodall, he said that the paths would run from the Humfrey Stevenson gate, (by the car park), to the main door of the church, and down to the lych-gate. There is a short section of path from the Humfrey Stevenson gate to the car park, which has not been surfaced, and is very muddy. PCC would be asked to ascertain ownership of this piece of ground, with a view to getting it surfaced.

The Rector thanked Dr Berry, and the whole Fabric Committee, for all their diligent care of the church.

- d) Electoral Roll Report Mr Gordon Cowan reported that the roll had been revised. There had been 60 on the roll at the last Annual Meeting, and there were now 71, an increase of 11. Of these, 9 were non-resident in the parish. It had been a case of swings and roundabouts, comparing last year's fall of 20, and this year's rise of 11. 12 names had been added to the roll, and one removed, through the sad death of Mrs Gwen Pearce.

The Rector thanked Mr Cowan for his time and thoroughness, in keeping the records and up-dating the roll.

- e) Deanery Synod Report Mr John Pigott reported that All Saints' had been entitled to have 3 representatives on Deanery Synod in 2013. These had been Mrs Naomi Gibson, Mr Philip Garner, and himself. One of them had always been present at any meeting in the year. At these meetings, the running of the Deanery is discussed, together with anything currently relevant to the Church of England, either within the Diocese of Oxford, or nationally.

In 2013 the major item under discussion had been the implementation of the new formula for the Parish Share. The Deanery had agreed to phase this in over the next five years, with some benefices initially subsidising others, as an act

of Christian charity. Some benefices would see their share rise, others would remain static, and the Deanery would review this annually. The Deanery Plan had been much debated, as there would be a reduction in stipendiary clergy from 8 to 6 across the Deanery. Harwell with Chilton would remain largely unchanged, but within the deanery there would be a possible further combining of benefices, and a moving of parishes to other benefices. The Deanery had forwarded a plan to the Diocese, based upon these suggestions, with a request for a specialist person to be appointed to cover the Didcot expansion. The growth of new housing within the deanery had also been debated, with special emphasis on the growth around Didcot. The deanery is seeking funding for a full-time "pioneer minister" to work initially in Great Western Park. The Diocese may provide this funding, but local funding may be needed to supplement this.

At the recent February meeting, the paper "From Anecdote to Evidence" had been discussed. This had been the result of findings from the Church Growth Research programme, 2011 – 2013. It showed some churches had experienced significant growth, but there had been no single common theme, as there are a number of common themes/features to be found in growing churches, and the Report highlights those. Each church had pursued their own programme. It was interesting that all cathedrals had experienced overall growth in numbers, especially in weekday attendances. Each parish, including All Saints', has been asked to consider this paper, and the reasons for growth. The other responsibility of the Deanery representatives is to elect representatives to the Diocesan and General Synods. Finally, the Wallingford Deanery is now part of the Dorchester Archdeaconry, and was looking forward to working with Bishop Colin, and the new Archdeacon.

Mr Andrew Hayes asked if (should we be unable to meet our Parish Share in the future), we could adapt our reserves policy to cover any shortfall.

Mr Gibson responded that we had done this in the past, but there would inevitably be a limit to the amount by which we could deplete these.

- f) Church Heating Mrs Sylvie Thompson, chair of the Heating Committee, reported on this. As the current heating system is now 52 years old and spare parts for our fan heaters have limited availability, a new heating system needed to be considered. At the PCC meeting of 7<sup>th</sup> May 2013, it was decided to set up a Heating Committee to proceed with this as the Fabric Committee already had a very heavy workload.

A meeting with Natalie Merry from the DAC was arranged on the 16<sup>th</sup> July 2013 to establish the possibility of a raised floor for the installation of under-floor heating. Natalie proposed contacting our Church Architect Phillip Waddy, who recommended CBG Consultants to carry out a survey and produce a report with recommendations including cost estimates. At All Saints' PCC meeting of 7<sup>th</sup> January 2014, PCC approved the cost of £ 600 for a heating survey to be carried out by CBG Consultants. On the 9<sup>th</sup> January 2014, some members of the Heating Committee met Chris Swinburn from CBG Consultants at All Saints' to carry out the survey.

A Feasibility Report has been produced outlining the different options, installation and running costs and recommendations for the heating system.

The Heating Committee held a meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> March 2014 to discuss the Feasibility Report (Revision B) and to decide which option to propose to the PCC standing committee, and to ask for the approval of £900 for the Performance Specification.

The use of a 'low mass' under-floor heating system is strongly recommended for the main body of the church and vestry. Radiators are recommended for use in the chancel where under-floor heating cannot be provided.

As there is no gas in the village, various fuel sources (Electric boiler and LPG fired boiler) were considered including renewable energy technologies (Air source Heat Pumps and Solar Photovoltaic Panels). An energy and cost analysis (installation costs and running costs with payback analysis) for the various options was carried out.

The baseline option of an Electric Boiler has the lowest capital cost and although the running cost is significantly higher compared with the other options, the overall cost over 20 years is still the lowest based on current energy use.

It was decided that the best way forward would be to install UFH with an Electric Boiler (phase 1) with the possible installation of Solar Photovoltaic Panels or Air source Heat Pumps at a later stage (phase 2). As All Saints' Church is a Grade II listed building, it will require full planning permission from the local planning authority and the involvement of Conservation officers.

This proposal is scheduled to be discussed at the next PCC meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup> May 2014. If approved, CBG Consultants will be instructed to produce a Performance Specification. The next step would be to contact our Architect Phillip Waddy and obtain quotations from several contractors.

When all the required information is available, the DAC secretary, Natalie Merry, would be asked to put the proposed project on the DAC's agenda. (The DAC will be having meetings on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June and Monday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2014.) The DAC would then issue a Notification of Advice indicating whether the DAC endorses our proposal, opposes it or adopts a neutral stance. A public notice would have to be put up to alert the wider community of the proposal. Formal authorisation by Faculty of the Archdeacon or Chancellor and a form of petition would also need to be completed.

After a faculty has been granted, the work can be implemented by the contractor, with the aim of starting the installation of the under-floor heating in the autumn.

Mr Andrew Hayes commented that the two running costs would need to be known, firstly with continuous background running, and secondly with just 48 hours running prior to church services, etc. for PCC to be able to make an informed decision.

Mrs Audrey Slater asked if the capital costs were known, and Mrs Thompson replied that the cost of the electric boiler would be around £20,000 with £25,000 for total installation. There would be the additional cost of laying a new floor over the finished installation.

Mr Gordon Cowan asked how long installation would take, and Mrs Thompson hoped about two months.

Mr Alex Reich thanked Mrs Thompson for all the work put in to forwarding this project, and asked if, as Christians, we should be considering the environment, and ecologically-friendly solutions. Mrs Thompson replied that this was why phase 2, with solar panels and heat pumps were included in the long-term plan. There would be restrictions on these, but they were a possibility, for example solar panels on the south of the nave roof, where they would not be visible. Air source heat pumps would need to be in a vandal-proof enclosure, and both these options would also need the additional electric boiler for cold weather. Rev Pam Rolls commented that she had read in a local free paper that "more churches in Oxford Diocese were to have solar panels on their roofs". Mr Hayes added that we could look to use a "green energy" supplier of electricity.

Mrs Slater asked if the under-floor heating would extend to the kitchen, but it would not, because the door lintel was too low. She also queried the possibility of the heating installation work damaging the new path surface. There would need to be co-ordination of the work on both projects.

The Rector thanked Mrs Thompson and all the Heating Committee for the time and effort they had put into this project.

- g) Children's and Families Worker The Rector up-dated the meeting on the situation regarding employing a Children's and Families Worker. There was a direct correlation between church growth and work with young people and families. There had been support for this from both the PCCs of our churches and the wider church, with a good response to the earlier appeal for funding. A target figure had been set, which needed to be guaranteed before the task of advertising the position could be undertaken, and this had been reached. The initial position would be for a period of three years, and three applications had already been received, with just over three weeks to go before the deadline.

The interview date would be Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June, with a view to the appointment being taken up in September. There would be an interview, plus activity for the candidates to run with some children. The appointing committee, as agreed by the PCCs, would be Mrs Naomi Gibson, Rev Dr Jonathan Mobey, Rev Pam Rolls, Mrs Helen Brook, Mrs Liz Thorley, Mr Mel Gibson, and Mrs Vicki Luker.

4. Rector's Remarks The Rector referred back to his opening passage of scripture, from John's gospel. Although John emphasised the word "love" in this passage, there was also the term "hospitality", which had been in the Rector's mind a lot recently. He spoke of Rublev's icon of the Trinity, being three people seated at a table, with an opening at the front for us to be welcomed in. Often it is those who are "unworthy" who are invited to the feast, and we are exhorted to invite others, even strangers, to share in what we have. We are to provide comfort and love. He had experienced Chilton as a hospitable place, and our church provides a great welcome into God's presence. This necessity to provide hospitality has implications for the uses of our buildings, which we must bear in mind as we move forward into the future.
5. Any other Business
  - a) Mr Alec Samler asked if it would be possible to change the bell-ringing practice night from Mondays to any other day of the week. The only nights being taken up regularly were Tuesdays, with Wives Group and PCC meetings, Wednesdays with choir practice, and the Annual Church Meetings, which were always on a Monday. This left the existing Mondays, with Thursdays and Fridays available.
  - b) Mrs Naomi Gibson said that All Saints' had been blessed by the willingness and cooperation of many people, for whom we were thankful. She would also like to thank Rev Mobey, on behalf of All Saints' congregation, for his leadership over this last year, and also for the way he had coped with the challenges that had arisen, especially with the very early arrival of baby Thomas Mobey.

The Rector thanked everyone for their prayers for Thomas, and closed the meeting with prayer at 9.50 pm.

Carol Pigott  
Secretary