



## MINUTES OF ALL SAINTS' CHILTON ANNUAL PAROCHIAL MEETING & ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING HELD ON SUNDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> APRIL AT ALL SAINTS' CHILTON

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Hazel Benton, PCC Vice Chair, chaired the meeting and welcomed 15 church members who were present as well as 3 members of St Matthew's Harwell. This included the Reverend Pam Rolls who opened the meeting by reading from Paul's letter to the Colossians, Chapter 4, verses 2-6. She encouraged us to devote ourselves to prayer as the foundation in all we do in the church and wider community. To have wisdom in the way we act towards people as we share the Gospel by words or actions to reach outsiders, and grace as we have conversations and answer questions and encourage and bless each other.

### **ANNUAL PAROCHIAL MEETING (APM)**

1. Apologies for Absence had been received from Deborah Evans, Jonathan and Gillian Hinton, Jan Radford, Rob and Marilyn Thomas.
2. Minutes of the previous Annual Meetings (APM & APCM) 2022  
The minutes of the last meetings had been circulated (with the other reports) via the church website and paper copies in the church.  
Approval was proposed by Yvonne Sanderson and Seconded by John Pigott.  
All voted to approve.
3. Election of Churchwardens.  
The current Churchwarden, Judith Russell was prepared to stand for another year. This will be her 4<sup>th</sup> year as Churchwarden.  
**Judith Russell** – proposed by Liz Morris, seconded by Naomi Gibson.  
  
Yvonne Sanderson is stepping down after serving 6 years and Alex Reich has agreed to stand.  
**Alex Reich** – Proposed by Yvonne Sanderson, seconded by Kate Wells.  
They were duly elected unanimously.

### **ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING (APCM)**

The agenda was taken out of order so that Elaine Shrimpton from Harwell did not have to sit through the whole meeting.

#### 7. Benefice Home Groups

Elaine explained that she works alongside Jean Barton to coordinate and promote Home Group activities for the Benefice. There are a number of Home Groups that meet at various times through the week during the day and evening to accommodate different needs and availability. It is hoped to encourage more people to attend groups and have a wider diversity of groups.

The group that Elaine attends has a format of prayer and singing followed by a bible study, discussion and then time for prayer requests. The members of Home Groups value the support and

fellowship of Christian friends as they study the bible with agreement and sometimes disagreement but drawing closer to God. The small groups facilitate prayer for other people in the group or further afield in a confidential environment complementing the meeting on a Sunday at the services. Elaine encouraged people to contact herself, Jean or Pam if they were interested in joining a group. She finished by reading Hebrews 10 verses 24-25 to encourage us. Hazel thanked Elaine for her contribution to the meeting.

### Elections/Appointments

#### 1. Deanery Synod Representatives

We are entitled to 2 representatives, to serve from 2023 to 2026.

No nominations had been received so both posts lie vacant. People were asked to consider serving on the Deanery Synod and to let Hazel or John Pigott know if they would like to do this.

It was explained that it involved attending 4 meetings a year. The discussions and decisions taken at Deanery Synod are taken up to General Synod so it is a way of being involved in the governance of the whole of the Church of England.

#### 2. PCC Members

The current membership of the PCC includes Hazel Benton, Debra Dewhurst, Naomi Gibson, Steve Hale, Liz Morris and Pat Moseley. There are 3 vacancies for 3 years.

#### Nominations for 3 years

**Stuart Gibson** – Proposed by Liz Morris, Seconded by Audrey Slater.

**John Pigott** – Proposed by Naomi Gibson, Seconded by Liz Morris.

They were duly elected unanimously, leaving a vacancy.

People were asked to consider serving on the PCC.

#### 3. Independent Examiner

Jane Moreton, of Harwell, was prepared to continue as our Independent Examiner of the accounts.

The Independent examiner was proposed by Judith Russell, seconded by Carol Pigott, and accepted unanimously. The Chair expressed thanks for the work that Mrs Moreton undertakes for us.

#### 4. Receiving the Reports

The reports for this year had all been published on the Church website and paper copies in church.

The reports are:

- a. Minutes of Previous Meeting
- b. PCC Annual report for 2022, Including the Electoral Roll report
- c. Fabric report
- d. Financial report and Accounts for 2022
- e. Safeguarding report

The minutes had been approved by this meeting, with the minutes of the Annual Parochial meeting (above).

The reports (b-d) and accounts had been approved by the PCC at their March meeting.

(The Fabric report and Financial report were included in the Annual report. The Accounts and Safeguarding report were separate.)

The Chair thanked Naomi Gibson and Jane Woolley for all the work that went into preparing the annual report and Debra Dewhurst for formatting it into the published version.

Hazel thanked Judith for producing the Fabric report and for all the work that she and the fabric committee carry out in the church and churchyard. Andrew Hayes also thanked Judith for the report. He urged the PCC to continue the work on the ramp for ease of access at the church entrance following on from recent Diocesan inspections suggesting a 1:28 ramp and removing the porch step. There followed general discussion both during and after the meeting. This will continue to be an item on the PCC agenda and costings explored.

Andrew also asked about the boundary wall and was encouraged that Middle House were sharing the responsibility of the upkeep. Judith informed the meeting that East House had recently been sold so it was uncertain what the new owners had been told about the property boundary.

Stuart Gibson, Treasurer, thanked the church membership for their generous giving of both money and time. He reported that the accounts at the end of the year were £1,000 in the red. He highlighted the challenges for the coming year with the need to fundraise for the work of the Administrator's salary now that Jonathan has left, as he generously used to fund part of this. Also the need to raise money to support the valuable work of the Children and Families Worker whose salary is currently being bolstered by the Church Hall Fund. Hazel also encouraged people to give generously to these vital roles in our churches which may not always be visible to us but essential for the running and future of the Benefice. There were no questions. Hazel thanked Stuart for all his hard work on the finance for the church.

Judy Gold was thanked for continuing in the role of Safeguarding Officer for the Benefice and producing the report with Sue Greatbanks from Harwell. There were no questions on the report but Alex Reich emphasised the necessity of this role to keep people safe.

5. Deanery Synod report for 2022.

There were no questions about the report.

6. Number on Electoral Roll

The All Saints', Chilton electoral roll remains at 65, of whom 12 people live outside the parish. 1 person has moved away, 2 people have sadly died, and 3 new people have been enrolled. Carol Pigott was thanked for updating the electoral roll.

(The list of sidesmen used to be presented to this meeting for approval, but has now been delegated to the PCC to approve at their next meeting)

7. Benefice Home Groups (covered earlier in the agenda)

8. Thanks

Hazel thanked Yvonne Sanderson for her service over the last 6 years in what was a very challenging time as it included the pandemic and all the extra restrictions and cleaning that needed to be organised. Yvonne thanked the congregation for their support and willingness to help when needed. Yvonne was presented with flowers and a voucher in appreciation.

9. Future arrangements for welcoming the new Rector and questions

Pam Rolls reported that our new Rector, Revd Jeremy Parsons' last Sunday in his current role was 30<sup>th</sup> April and he and his wife Ruth and one of their sons would be moving into the Rectory in early May. She reminded the congregation that Jeremy would be licenced at St Matthew's Harwell on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May at 7.30pm to which everyone is invited. She also mentioned that help was needed with the refreshments after the service.

The following Sunday there will be a 'Praise in the Park' service at 10.30am for both congregations in the Feast marquee in Harwell, where people can meet Jeremy and his wife Ruth. Pam again asked for help with providing cakes and serving refreshments after the service.

Andrew Hayes asked that the draft PCC minutes be displayed in the porch, this has lapsed since the pandemic, but minutes are available on the Church website.

The Chair thanked all the ministers and preachers including Pam Rolls, Jan Radford, Alex Reich and Kate Evans, and everyone who is not named who are equally appreciated, for all the ways they have blessed us during the interregnum and the extra pressure they have been under. She also thanked all the volunteers in the numerous ways they help to keep the church looking cared for and the smooth running of the services.

Closing Prayer

The meeting closed at 11.15am with the sharing of the Grace.

..... (Chairman)

Naomi Gibson  
(Secretary)