

APCM ST PETERS CHURCH BISHOPS WALTHAM

27th April 2025 Bishops Waltham Church

Present: James Hunt, Amanda Wollam, Liz Webb, Mandy Cawood, Nigel Barnfield, Paul Emmerson, Robin Felix, Luke Hawkins, Vicki Powell, Keith Wickert, Charles Crossley, Roger Higton, Fred Dickenson, Sylvia Dickenson, Jane Inder, Les Craddock, David Williamson, Godfrey Hebdon, Barry Longman, Vicki Powell, Vanessa Emmerson, Kate Smyth, Di Hunt, Marjorie Worth, Angela Montague, Celia Morant, Rosemary Weir, Mary Blow, Emma Nash

James welcomed all and Keith prayed for our meetings

Annual Meeting of Parishioners

Liz Webb has been nominated for the role of Church Warden by Paul Emmerson and seconded by Nigel Barnfield.

Mandy Cawood has been nominated for the role of Church Warden by Nigel Barnfield and seconded by Paul Emmerson.

All voted in favour of their appointment

James thanked them both for their contribution.

APCM

1 Apologies for Absence: Richard Blow, Rosemary Easton, Claire Alcock, Ian Wollam, Jill Craddock, Rosie Greenlees, Miriam Levy, John and Jill Tooze, Wendy Cooper, Matt Barker, Kate Richard, Pat Gover, Tim Gover

2. Minutes of the last meeting held on 28th April 2024 were unanimously agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.

3. Matters arising: These will be covered in the meeting.

4. Statement of Financial Activities for the year ending 31st December for the PCC;

Nigel Barnfield presented a very comprehensive picture of our finances. Our income in 2024 was £254364. £125222 had been given on the planned giving scheme. The remainder had been received from a range of sources, including donations, plate collections, tax rebate.

Our expenditure in 2014 was £292176. We contributed £104800 as our Parish share and the remainder was spent on a range of outgoings eg utilities, salaries, youth outreach, the churchyard, admin etc

In 2025 we have an income forecast of £194,000. We expect £122,000 to be received from planned giving, and to receive £29,000 in tax relief and the remainder from donations, legacies, fees, contribution from St Marys in Upham, interest and fund-raising activities. We have an expenditure budget of £217,200 and our Parish Share contribution will be £109,000..

We began the year anticipating a gap of £23,200, though this has reduced to £20,071.

A question was raised about whether we have a fundraising team? James explained that we have a stewardship team which meet two or three times a year. In May there will be teaching on giving in our Sunday services and subsequently a letter will be sent to all in our worshipping community. Other options will then be considered e.g. a stewardship day.

On 2024 the Parish News gave £4500 towards costs of communication. The Hall and Stables are self funding and we have recently been able to improve the facility including a new kitchen.

Robin Felix proposed and David Williams seconded a proposal that we accept the accounts and all voted in favour.

6 Report on the Electoral Roll: This year we have been required to produce a new electoral roll as required every 6 years. We now have 191 on roll compared to 234 on the previous roll. This enables us to have 3 reps on Deanery Synod and 12 lay members sitting on the PCC. The hub data management system was used and 75% of the applications were completed on line and 25% on paper. New applicants can be added to the roll, but these have to be agreed by the PCC.

A question was raised re whether people understood the reason for joining the roll? Electoral roll membership enables you to vote at the APCM and stand for election to the PCC. It is not required to belong to the church.

7. Annual Report: We have been encouraged to see new people joining all our services, 8,9 and 10.30 and our Thursday morning service. The number of funerals has remained consistent although there have been fewer weddings and baptisms. We have 30 different groups within the church including our Connect Groups. We would welcome helpers at many of our groups. The Baby Bank is now meeting on the 3rd Saturday of each month in the Stables and is going well offering clothes recycling, supporting many families and the environment.

The Church Log Book and Church Copy Register are available to be seen in the church office.

Volunteers will some be visiting church as part of a project by the V and A recording every item in church. A bound copy of the record will then be produced and the V and A will hold one copy and we will be given another. Prior to this volunteers will be sought to ensure we clear any unwanted items from church.

8. Elections and Appointments to PCC: Luke Hawkins, Amada Wollam, Di Hunt, Rosemary Weir and Theresa Pratt all leave PCC at the end of their period of office. Luke has agreed to continue in his safeguarding role and Amanda Wollam will continue recording meetings.

Miriam Levy has been proposed as a PCC member by Amanda Wollam and seconded by Liz Webb. Vicki Powell has been nominated by Mandy Cawood and seconded by Claire Alcocj k and Kathryn Rickwood has been nominated by Liz Webb and seconded by Nigel Barnfield.

All were unanimously voted on to PCC.

We do have 2 vacancies on PCC. We aim to have a diverse PCC, representing male and female, a range of ages and service representation.

Appointment of Independent Examiner: Paul Emmerson proposed and Nigel Barnfield seconded a proposal that Louise Burton is appointed as independent examiner of our accounts. All voted in favour.

9, James talk: The focus for the coming year will continue to be continuing with the many good things we are doing. We need to focus on who we are in Jesus. We need to walk, listen, talk, and eat with others as Jesus did. The Guadian recently reported on how many are turning to Jesus at present. We need to rediscover the spiritual disciplines: fasting, keeping the Sabbath, hospitality, worship, scripture, prayer.

10. Any questions: A question was raised re remodelling of the church. T

he back 2 pews will be removed soon to create a larger area for coffee and circulation. A question was raised re whether the gallery will be involved in the remodelling. We do not currently have resources to do this and we need to maximise the potential of the building as soon as we can with the resources we have. Kate shared that removing the pews at St Marys has made a very positive difference to the use of the church building.

Thanks were expressed to the Community Payback scheme which has worked to improve the churchyard. A letter of thanks will be sent from the PCC when they finish their work.

James is now Area Dean designate. He will become Area Dean at a service on Ascension day on 29th May 2025. James is talking to others about what they hope this role will provide.

James is also applying to the Diocese for Strategic funding to enable the appointment of pioneer roles.

Notes taken by Amanda Wollam