



ST NICHOLAS BATHAMPTON

MINUTES

of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners for the Election of Churchwardens and of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on Sunday 25th March 2021 at 4.00 pm by ZOOM

Both meetings were chaired by the Rector, Jonty Frith (JF), who welcomed everyone and opened in prayer.

Annual Meeting of Parishioners for the Election of Churchwardens (open to all resident in the parish or on the church Electoral Roll)

1. JF thanked Anna Young and Paul Bryant for their service and support as churchwardens, having each stepped up at the right time, and being a real gift to the church.
2. **Election of churchwardens 2020-21.** There being no other nominations received, Anna and Paul were re-appointed unopposed and received an (unmuted) round of applause.
3. **Recognition of sidesmen.** JF expressed his gratitude for the (Covid-restricted) work of the sidesmen, and to Jane Buckley for co-ordinating the rota. Jane read the current list of sidesmen, who were thanked in anticipation of the resumption of on-site services of worship.
4. JF led a prayer for the churchwardens.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting (open only to those on the church Electoral Roll)

Present:

Margaret Askew (MA)	Angela Donald (AD)	Carl Fullaway	David Warboys
Ray Bennett (RB)	Robin Donald	Andy Lloyd Williams	Rita Warboys
Judith Book	Molly Edge	Peter Lloyd Williams	Annette White
Paul Bryant (PB)	Phil Edge	Mike Peddar	Nigel White
Jane Buckley	Hannah Findlay	David Peill	Margaret White
Ann-Marie Conn	Becky Frith	Chris Perry	Ian Williams (IW)
Tim Conn	Jonty Frith	Sylvia Perry (SP)	Jan Williams
Hilary Crellin	Samuel Frith	Nigel Shepherd (NS)	Anna Young (AY)

1. **Apologies** for absence were received from David Lascelles and Ian White.
2. **Minutes of the 2020 APC** were unanimously approved (proposed AY, seconded MA).
3. **Reports:**
 - a. **Electoral Roll** (normally posted on the noticeboard in the church porch but available upon request): there were 6 new members and 6 who had left the Roll, giving a total of 92, of whom 64 were living in the parish.
 - b. **Parish review:** Hilary was thanked for compiling the booklet that had been distributed beforehand electronically.
 - c. **Financial statements 2020:** Rita Warboys was thanked for her work in preparing the accounts. IW commented, regarding the statement in the Parish review (p.2) that *'It is PCC policy to balance general income and expenditure each year...'*:
 - expenditure exceeded general income in 9 of the past 10 years,
 - the present trend was towards a smaller deficit, for which we should be thankful;
 - the overall surplus in 2020 (as in most other years) was due to an increase in the value of our investments.JF pointed out that all our resources, including reserves, were to be used for the glory of God, and not hoarded.
The Financial Statements were unanimously approved (proposed RB, seconded NS).
 - d. **Fabric** (see page 23 of the Review): JF gratefully acknowledged the diligence of the Fabric Committee for the looking after the building and churchyard so well.

e. **Deanery Synod** (page 9): noted.

4. **Elections:**

- a. **Appointment of independent examiner** for 2020 accounts: subject to confirmation of his willingness to serve again, the meeting unanimously approved Andrew Morrison's reappointment (proposed PB, seconded AD).
- b. **Parochial Church Council** (4 representatives: 3 to 2024; 1 to 2022). Samuel Frith, Carl Fullaway and Rita Warboys had finished their terms of office, and Emily Peill was standing down for health reasons. Four nominations had been received and consequently the following people were elected unopposed:
 - Hilary Crellin (to 2024)
 - Carl Fullaway (re-elected to 2024)
 - David Peill (to 2022)
 - Nigel White (to 2024; initially as a non-voting member until having been on the Electoral Roll for 6 months)

It was noted that Rita was willing to continue as Treasurer, and that Margaret White was now a full member of PCC (having been on the Electoral Roll for >6 months).

5. **Rector's Comments**

Without repeating what he had written in the Annual Review, and not wishing to cause upset to anyone whose name was not specifically mentioned, JF expressed big thanks for some outstanding contributions to church life: there are many things done by many people that go largely unnoticed, but God sees them all.

Fabric Committee is very proactive and has been doing great work, as noted above.

Rita Warboys' calm demeanour has made the job of Treasurer look easy for so long. Although she would continue in this role, JF suggested that it might be good for a Deputy Treasurer to be appointed. PCC might want to co-opt this person to assist with financial matters at PCC meetings. JF asked for people to consider if they might be called to serve in this way.

Benefice Administration. Having stepped in as Administrator, Hannah Findlay had made great progress with tidying up the church office and computer files but changing family and work commitments meant she did not now have the time to continue in the Administrator role. Her valuable contributions as Parish Safeguarding Officer and in Junior Church are more demanding due to Emily's health. Hilary Crellin had recently helped by collating the Annual Review and the Electoral Roll, and the possibility of her soon being appointed as Benefice Administrator was being explored.

We are checking our compliance with *Church of England Policy on Safer Recruitment*. This has implications for other groups, e.g. Steps in Faith. After 20 years or so, Peter Lloyd Williams was now wishing to hand over the leading of *Steps in Faith* meetings to someone else, although he would retain oversight for the group, which is joint between St Nicholas and Bathampton Methodist Church. One church would need to take responsibility for its oversight, and JF would speak to the new Methodist minister about this.

We should give thanks to God for his continued provision, that we would continue to bear fruit for him both as a body of his people and individually as we grow in Christ-like character. *'Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain.'* (1 Corinthians 15:58)

6. **Any Other Business / Questions:** none had been submitted in advance.

David Peill commented that Emily Peill was stepping down as Safeguarding Officer immediately. Sylvia Perry asked what was happening about World Mission, to which JF replied that he was handling this at present until a new subcommittee could be convened: missions to be supported for the remainder of 2021 had been approved by PCC (Church Mission Society during May/June).

7. **Date of next meeting:** Sunday 27th March 2022.

8. AY led a **closing prayer**. The meeting ended at 17:05.