

**Minutes of the Thatcham Annual Parish Meeting by ZOOM on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2020 commencing at 7305pm.**

**Attendance: Revd Mark Bennet (in Chair), Revd Nicola Hulks, Revd Brenda Harland, Revd Leonard Onugha, Revd Angela Brennan, retired priests Ven Michael Harley and Revd John Coombs and 31 residents of Thatcham**

**Apologies received from: Gay and Tony Collie, Alison Dean, Peter Harvey-Di Gioia, Debbie and Colin Waters, Viv Druce, Pam Hicks and Henry Moffatt.**

**The Revd Mark Bennet opened the meeting with prayer.**

01 Minutes of the meeting held on 9th April 2019 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

02 Election of Churchwardens  
Paul Bullock, Colin Waters and Chris Watts were proposed and seconded and elected to serve as Churchwardens for the year 2020/2021

Mark thanked the wardens for their work in the past year and Glenn and Viv for their service over many years.

**The meeting ended at 7.40 pm**

\_\_\_\_\_ Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_ Date

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**Apologies received from: Gay and Tony Collie, Alison Dean, Peter Harvey-Di Gioia, Debbie and Colin Waters, Viv Druce, Pam Hicks and Henry Moffatt.**

**Minutes of the APCM on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2019 were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true record.**

**Matters arising**

**None**

**Annual Report**

**Proceedings of the PCC as summarised in the Report were noted.**

**Fabric of St Mary's and the Log Book.** It was agreed that the logbook for 2019/20 and the amended Inventory be agreed and placed in the records of St Mary's.

**Inventory.** It was noted that two altar candles presented by Revd Marion Fontaine in memory of Win Easen and blessed by Bishop Steven had been added to the Inventory together with the air conditioning equipment installed to the Ringing Room and Tower Roof in December 2019/February 2020.

The report of the activities of St Mary's and St Barnabas Churches in the past year was presented to the meeting. Following a proposal from Mark Bennet, seconded by Mary Baker, it was adopted unanimously.. Thanks were expressed to all those who contribute to the work in the parish.

It was reported that there were currently 192 names on the Electoral Roll as revised 1<sup>st</sup> October 2020.

Other matters noted from the Report included:

Mark expressed thanks for the work of all those groups and the individuals responsible for the wide and varied activities recorded in the Annual Report.

In particular, he referred to the work of the Safeguarding team in dealing with the constant stream of requirements, revision to policies and guidance and in keeping up to date the certification people working with children and vulnerable adults. Leanne had prepared a draft annual policy update for the APCM which had been circulated. Attention was drawn to the recognition of concerns regarding 'spiritual abuse'. The Policy statement for 2020 was approved without dissent.

**Presentation of Accounts**

Chris Watts presented the accounts as approved by the PCC on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2020 as amended as recommended in the report and statement of Simon Witcomb the Independent Examiner. He expressed thanks for help received over the year from Peter Harvey Di Gioia, Bernadette Ellison and Ann Watts.

Chris noted that the Parish Share had again been paid in full and within the required timetable thus qualifying for the maximum available rebate. The General Account for St Mary's had shown a surplus of £5,500 for 2019 and a in the cumulative surplus of £3,567 and the General Fund for St Barnabas had shown a surplus of £765 over the year. ,

Proposed by Mark Bennet, seconded by Steve Rice and agreed unanimously that the Accounts for 2019 be approved. The meeting thanked Peter, Bernie, Ann and Chris for their work on the Accounts.

#### **Appointment of Independent Examiners**

The Meeting accepted the recommendation that Tax Avenue Accountants of Turnfields Gate, Thatcham be appointed to examine the accounts for 2020

#### **Election of representatives to Newbury Deanery Synod**

The meeting received nominations for Antony Collie, Lourdes Cottam, Mary Stagg and Chris Watts to be elected as representative for St Mary's and St Barnabas Churches on Newbury Deanery Synod for the period 2020/4

#### **Election of PCC 2017/8**

John Hicks, Leanne Fowler, Bernadette Ellison and Lourdes Cottam were elected to PCC to represent St Barnabas.

Chris Druce, Margaret Holmes, Lynne Starr, Ann Watts had all served 3 years and were due to stand down. Steve Rice had decided to resign from PCC. The meeting accepted the nomination of Viv Druce, Kevin Dunwell, Ann Watts and Emma Watts to membership of the PCC. Chris Druce agreed to allow his willingness to be co-opted as representative of the Social Committee to be referred to the next meeting of the PCC.

In summary the PCC includes

Ex officio members,

The clergy:

Revd Mark Bennet, Revd Nicola Hulks, Revd Brenda Harland, Revd Leonard Onugha and Revd Angela Brennan

Churchwardens:

Paul Bullock, Colin Waters and Chris Watts.

Deanery Synod Representatives for the period to 2020/4.

Tony Collie, Lourdes Cottam, Mary Stagg and Chris Watts

Elected Lay Members:

Christine Rice (2019), Viv Druce (2020), Kevin Dunwell (2020), Ann Watts (2020) and Emma Watts (2020).

Appointed by St Barnabas:

John Hicks, Leanne Fowler, Bernadette Ellison (up to 2 vacancies)

Co-opted members (subject to annual PCC approval):

Treasurer – Peter Harvey-Di Gioia

Safeguarding Officers – Leanne Cox and Ann Dibble

PCC Secretary – Mike Stevenson

Bellringers – Mark Backhouse

Social Committee – Chris Druce

CTiT – (2 vacancies - a representative from each of St Mary's and St Barnabas Churches)

(Giving a total of 24 members with up to 6 vacancies (up to 4 representatives of St Barnabas and 2 representatives to Thatcham CTiT)

Mark thanked all those who have agreed to serve on the PCC from 2020 and expressed thanks to all who had served over the last year.

#### **Rector's Remarks**

Mark thanked all who were working for St Mary's and St Barnabas Churches both within the congregations and in the wider community and referred those present to his comments made during consideration of the Annual Report.

**Open Forum**

It was noted that the newly elected Churchwardens do not take up their duties until given their charge by the Team Rector (under Regulations approved by the Bishop of Oxford under provisions required to prevent the spread of Covid 19).

Mary Baker informed the meeting that £353 had been raised for Christian Aid in connection with the recent AGM. Mary and Sarah Bennet expressed particular thanks for support for Christian Aid in this time of great need.

The meeting also noted with gratitude the tremendous ongoing response to the appeal from West Berkshire Foodbank to mark Harvest celebrations.

**The meeting with the Grace at 8.30 pm and was followed by Evening Prayer led by the Team Rector.**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Chairman**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Date**

**The next meeting the PCC was scheduled to take place using Zoom at 7.30pm on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2020.**