



**Parish Church of St. Mary the Virgin Walney Island**

**Minutes of the  
Meeting of Parishioners (Vestry Meeting) and  
Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

**22<sup>nd</sup> May 2022 at 10:20am in St Mary's Centre**

**Meeting of Parishioners**

The meeting opened with prayer led by Jonathan Elvy.

Rhona Teale, PCC Lay Chair, led the meeting. There were 31 parishioners in attendance. Apologies were received from Monica Pugh.

Rhona opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and outlining the course of proceedings for the meetings.

Minutes of the Vestry Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2021 were agreed as an accurate record and were signed by the Lay Chair.

There were no matters arising.

Roger introduced the election of Church Wardens. Two nomination forms had been received for Maureen Dale and Rhona Teale. Both were duly elected unanimously as Churchwardens until the next Vestry meeting. Roger thanked both for their dedication and work in the running of the church in 2021 and for taking on additional duties in the absence of a vicar.

The meeting closed at 10.25am.



## **Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

This followed immediately upon the closure of the Meeting of Parishioners. These Minutes should be read in conjunction with the booklet of Reports which was distributed at the meeting.

Rhona Teale, PCC Lay Chair, led the meeting. There were 31 parishioners in attendance. Apologies were received from Monica Pugh.

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2021 were agreed as an accurate record and were signed by the Lay Chair.

There were no matters arising.

### **PCC Lay Chair's Report**

Rhona presented her full report which is included in the booklet of Reports.

She thanked members of St Mary's PCC who had supported her during the year and also thanked individually all those who contribute so much to church life. Rhona thanked Jack and Clare Knill-Jones, Martin Williams, Clive Shaw and Vernon Ross for their support whilst we have no vicar.

Rhona asked that we continue to work together to grow our church community on Walney Island and that a new priest is called to lead us very soon.

It was agreed that the PCC Secretary should send a letter of thank you to Martin Williams.

### **Churchwardens' Report**

Maureen referred everyone to the Churchwardens' Report available in the booklet of Reports.

Her report reflects the many events and activities undertaken across church during the year. In addition she thanked those involved with the successful Christian Aid Ploughman's lunch the previous day. Maureen stated the planned Burial Grounds Mapping Project was further delayed due to equipment failure. She thanked Monica Pugh and Arthur Watts for their preparation work in raising some gravestones for this exercise. Maureen asked everyone to keep praying that a new vicar is appointed soon. She thanked Steve and Mary Bacon for their support to the Churchwardens during the year in particular the writing of our Church Profile to attract a new vicar.

### **PCC Secretary's Report**

Roger summarised key points from the full Secretary's Report available in the booklet of Reports.

Since the last APCM PCC have met 6 times over Zoom and more recently face-to-face. We welcomed Keith Newby onto PCC following the last APCM and Janet Western who starts a second term. Sadly, Maria Waddington stepped down and we thank her for her contributions. Roger said that copies of the PCC Meeting Minutes are published on the church website.

PCC subcommittees continue to oversee the spiritual and operational needs of the church. They have ensured that safety and security requirements of our church buildings and surrounds are met and that our policies are up-to-date. Roger thanked all those who had contributed through time or



money to maintain the church buildings. We continue to evolve the use of technology to connect and communicate with our community. Our websites are accessed by 20 users each day and our Facebook community has 340 members. Roger thanked Denise Elvy and Steve Bacon for their good work in these fields.

Roger said that the PCC have worked actively with the Diocese to progress the recruitment of a new vicar and he hopes we are close to a conclusion.

Roger said that the booklet of Reports reflects the busy year we have had at St Mary's and as we were not presenting the Scouts/Guides section at the APCM he wanted to thank Ged and Monica Pugh for their outstanding work with the young people of our community.

Roger finished by thanking the PCC for ensuring St Mary's continues to function in a safe, secure and productive manner for all our parishioners and our community.

### **Treasurer's Report**

A full copy of the approved accounts for 2021 is included with the booklet of Reports. David summarised the financial highlights and talked the meeting through the audited accounts.

David explained the difference between the General fund (with no restrictions on how PCC use it) and Restricted funds (includes Church Fabric fund, Contact and Flower fund, Mothers & Toddlers fund and the Parish Centre Fabric fund).

Total resources received in the year were £55828 compared to £60855 in 2020, a decrease of £5027. Total resources used were £53240 compared to £63140 in 2020, a decrease of £9900. This left us with a combined surplus of £2588 with a surplus of £57 on the General fund and a surplus of £2530 on the Restricted funds. The General fund surplus of £57 compared to deficit of £12688 in the previous year.

Our income from planned giving and loose cash collections increased by £416 last year despite the pandemic. We received a legacy of £1000 to general funds, the first since 2016, though donations were down by £1406. Total fund-raising for general funds was up by £611. Income from the Knox Street Hall, Parish Centre was well down though fees from funerals and weddings was up by £1096.

Regarding resources used we paid an increased £26550 towards the Diocese Parish Offer. Our offer this year is £29250.

Church repair costs were up significantly though day to day expenses for the Parish Centre and Knox Street were similar to 2020.

David thanked everyone connected to the Church, Parish Centre, and Knox Street Hall for looking after them and keeping costs down. We have benefited from several people continuing to cover some of the running costs of the Parish Centre and Knox Street Hall through their donations.

He stressed that paying our way hasn't been a doddle and it won't get any easier particularly with fuel price increases. David thanked everyone for working together in these challenging times.



Rhona thanked David for his work with the finances and expressed the church's appreciation.

Acceptance of the audited Annual Accounts for 2021 was proposed by Steve Bacon, seconded by Denise Elvy and agreed unanimously.

### **Appointment of Independent Examiner**

Robert Everett is willing to continue as Independent Examiner of the church accounts. His appointment was agreed unanimously.

### **Electoral Roll Report**

Roger reported that there were 74 names on the Roll, two fewer than at the last APCM.

### **Deanery Synod Report**

Jonathan referred everyone to the full report made by Father Jack in the booklet of Reports. We have one vacancy for the Deanery Synod and Jonathan encouraged everyone to consider applying.

### **Elections to the Parochial Church Council**

Mary Bacon and Roger Burns have completed three-year terms as PCC member and offered to stand for a second term. This was agreed unanimously and both were duly elected to a second term. Nomination forms were received for Ged Pugh and Monica Pugh. Both were agreed unanimously and were duly elected onto the PCC.

There remain two vacancies on the PCC for anyone interested in joining.

### **Elections to the Deanery Synod**

After the last APCM the PCC received an application from Brenda Hill which was accepted. APCM attendees voted unanimously to confirm the nomination.

### **Election of Sidespersons**

Attendees were asked if any additions or changes needed to be made to the current list of 15 Sidespersons. Marilyn Hornby no longer attends church so will be taken off the list. Attendees voted unanimously to support the 14 names on the list subject to a further check with Alec Craig to confirm he wishes to continue.

### **Questions from the floor**

There were no questions from the floor.

In closing the meeting Rhona and Maureen acknowledged the work of PCC members and individuals across the church through handing them boxes of chocolates.

Maureen then finished the meeting with a final prayer. The meeting closed at 11.00am.