

St. Peter's Church, Wrecclesham

Minutes of the combined Annual Meeting of the Parishioners and Parochial Church council held in the Leverton Hall on Sunday 25th April 2011.

Annual Meeting of the Parishioners – 17th April 2011

Mrs Sadie Blankley opened the meeting at 5.00 pm, with a short service in the Church.

In the absence of the Revd. Anne Gell, the Vice Chairman, Gerald Blues, took the Chair and welcomed parishioners to the meeting which was held in the Leverton Hall.

1. **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISHIONERS HELD ON 25TH APRIL 2010**, it was proposed by Carol Zeiher, and seconded by Nasir Virji, that the minutes of the meeting, which had been posted on both the Hall and the Church Notice Boards, should be accepted as a true record. This was agreed unanimously
2. **MATTTERS ARISING**
There were no matters arising.
3. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
Apologies were received from: Revd. Anne Gell, Revd. Sandy Cavalier, George Colbran, Sue Davies, Christopher Ellis, Roger Ellis, Simon Gell, Maureen Hunter, David Taylor and Ben Scott.
4. **ELECTION OF CHURCH WARDENS**

Nominated	Proposed	Seconded
Gerald Blues	John Birch	David Taylor
Sadie Blankley	John Birch	Ivy Skeet

Mr G Blues and Mrs. S. Blankley were elected unanimously.

The nomination forms for item 4 above are held on file with these Minutes.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 5.20 pm.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting – 26th April 2010

Gerald Blues, Vice Chairman, opened the meeting at 5.21 pm.

1. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING HELD ON 25TH APRIL 2010.

It was proposed by Gerald Martin, and seconded by Judith Scott, that the minutes of this meeting, which had been posted on both the Hall and the Church Notice Boards, should be accepted as a true record. This was agreed unanimously.

2. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received have been listed in the Minute of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners.

4. ELECTORAL ROLL REPORT

The Secretary reported that the Electoral Roll had been displayed on the Church Notice Board throughout the last three weeks. The number of the roll was 139, which was an increase of 10 on the previous year. Of these, 107 were resident in the parish and 32 were non-resident.

5. ANNUAL REPORT

The report meets the requirements of the Charities Act 1993 and the PCC (2001 2nd edition) and is submitted to the Guildford Diocese with the Annual Statement of Accounts. The Report had been displayed on the Church and Hall Notice Boards and would be posted on the Church Web Site. A copy is held on file with these Minutes.

It was noted that the report contained an encouraging range of events and activities, the principal of which had been those associated with the Parish Development Plan and the 170th Anniversary of St Peter's Church in Wrecclesham. The PCC had commented that the progress during the year had been encouraging and wished to commend it to the Annual Meeting.

It was proposed by Lizzy Hendry and seconded by Reg Skeet that the Annual Report be accepted. The proposal was agreed unanimously.

6. FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2010

Carol Zeiher circulated a summary of the Church accounts for the year to 31st December and advised that full accounts were available for anyone who wished to see them. A copy of both of these documents is filed with these Minutes.

Carol reported that, although there was a deficit on the year of £2,500, this was less than had been budgeted. This improved result was partly due to increased income, particularly from weddings and funerals, and more significantly from the transfer of

funds from surplus income accruing from the use of the Parish Hall. Expenditure had been generally less than predicted.

Major expenditure this year arose from the re-ordering of the South Aisle and from the purchase of the new photo copier. However both of these had been purchased from the Legacy Fund. Investment income had been lower than in recent years and this was as a result of the low rates of interest received.

Carol forecast that the prospect for future years continued to be of concern as there was major expenditure anticipated on repairs to the church stone work. There was also continuing concern at the possible need to replace the church boiler and heating system. She warned that future year's budgets may be tight as the additional income enjoyed in 2010 may not be forthcoming in future years. There had however been an encouraging response to the Stewardship Campaign arising from the Parish Development Plan which would not appear in the accounts until next year.

In discussion on the extent and cost of future building works, Gerald Blues informed the meeting of the work carried out so far in preparing for repairs to the stonework. Estimates had been received which suggested that, short term remedial work to the stonework, was likely to cost £40,000, with more extensive work estimated at £200,000. There would be need for significant fund raising to meet these costs and this was now included in the remit of the Fund Raising Sub Committee.

It was noted that the Church still awaited a decision from the Charity Commission on the use of those funds received from the sale of St Timothy's Church. It was also noted that the money invested from those receipts had now been placed in funds which, in future years, would give a better rate of interest than had been the case in 2010.

It was proposed by Nasir Virji, and seconded by Wendy Coxell, that the Annual Accounts for 2010 be adopted. This was agreed unanimously. The Chairman thanked Carol for her continuing commitment to the work as Treasurer which had been exceptional.

7. ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE LAITY TO SERVE ON THE DEANERY SYNOD.

It was necessary this year to have a formal election for the Deanery Synod. Reginald Skeet and Wendy Coxell were our existing representatives. Both were prepared to stand again. It had been proposed by John Birch and seconded by Maureen Hunter that Reg Skeet be elected to the Deanery Synod. It had been proposed by Sadie Blankley and seconded by Linda Taylor that Wendy Coxell also be elected to the Deanery Synod. There being no other candidates Reg Skeet and Wendy Coxell were elected.

8. ELECTION OF THE LAITY TO SERVE ON THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL.

The secretary advised that one member of the PCC, Reg Skeet had completed his second term of three years and had therefore to resign from the PCC.

Frank Wilkes had also resigned from the PCC having completed only one year of his second term.

Lizzie Hendry and Brian Bailey had completed their first term of three years and were willing to continue to a second term

As there was one vacancy that had been held over from the previous year there were now three vacancies to be filled, one of which would be for only two years. There were two candidates as follows:

Candidate	Proposed	Seconded
Bridgette Jackson	Gerald Blues	John Birch
Ivy Skeet	Jack Crawford	John Birch

As there were more vacancies than candidates the meeting agreed unanimously that Bridgette Jackson and Ivy Skeet should be elected to fill the two three year vacancies. It was decided, for the present, to hold open the two year vacancy.

Gerald Blues welcomed the new members and paid a particular tribute to those members who were retiring. It was recognised that Reg Skeet would continue to serve on the PCC in the capacity of Deanery Synod representative. The Chairman made particular mention of the outstanding work that Reg had undertaken during his period of office, particularly in respect of the sale of St. Timothy's Church.

9. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Nominated	Proposed	Seconded
Gerald Blues	Nasir Virji	Carol Zeiher

Mr Gerald Blues was unanimously elected.

Mr Blues thanked the meeting for electing him and said how thoroughly both he and Sadie enjoyed working with the Revds. Anne and Sandy, and supporting them in their work.

10. APPOINTMENT OF SIDESMEN

The secretary announced that, with the exception of Lizzy Hendry, all the existing Sidesmen were prepared to continue. It was proposed by Judith Scott and seconded by Gerald Martin that the Sidesmen named on the current list for St. Peter's be appointed. The proposal was unanimously agreed. A copy of the list is held on file with these Minutes. Gerald Martin asked for volunteers for new Sidesmen, and especially to serve at the 8.00 a.m. service on Sunday.

11. APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Mr Patrick Andrew has agreed to continue to undertake the independent examination of St Peter's accounts. It was proposed by Nasir Virji and seconded by Carol Zeiher. That Patrick Andrew should be appointed as Independent Examiner for 2011. This was accepted unanimously,

12. CHURCH WARDENS' REPORT

Gerald Blues advised that the Church Wardens' report was contained within the April edition of the Parish magazine, which is filed with these Minutes.

13. ANNUAL REPORT ON CHURCH FABRIC

Gerald Blues advised that the Fabric report was contained within the April edition of the Parish magazine, which is filed with these Minutes.

14. OUTWARD GIVING

Sadie Blankley advised the meeting of the changes that the PCC had recommended in the future Outward Giving following discussion at the ACM last year. It was now recommended that the Church's support should be concentrated on fewer organisations and for a longer period and that the Mission and Outreach Sub Committee should be asked to take on the task of recommending to which of the organisations awards should be given.

The Sub Committee had discussed this with Roger Ellis, the Chair of the former Outward Giving Group, and had recommended criteria for awards as follows:

- Divide the outward giving funds 50:50 between a UK/local charity and an overseas charity
- Charities where the St Peter's donation would have a noticeable impact
- Charities which are not otherwise supported by St Peter's (e.g. in special services)
- Charities which would be of interest to the children/young people in the St Peter's community
- Charities which are 'Christian' – i.e. which would not necessarily appeal to 'secular' donors – and which support Christian values of fairness, peace etc. in aiming to build the Kingdom here on earth.

It was noted that the Outward Giving being considered was additional to the contributions made by the Parish through special collections to Christian Aid, the Children's Society and Mission for Seamen. It was also pointed out that the Parish has also been giving £1,000 each year to St. Peter's School.

Following careful consideration the following two charities were recommended for support in 2011/2012:

- The Church Housing Trust
- Children's Homes in Kerala State

The PCC recommended building a relationship with these charities over the next two years, by inviting speakers to services, providing a focus for Junior Church and SOS activities, etc.

It was proposed by Sadie Blankley and seconded by John Birch that the recommendation be adopted. This was agreed unanimously.

15. VICAR'S REPORT

In the unavoidable and understandable absence of Revd. Anne it was agreed that the Vicar's Report for 2010 would be included in the Church Magazine.

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Nasir Virji proposed that a letter be sent to Revd. Anne from the Annual Church Meeting offering our condolences on the sad loss of her father and pledging our continued support to her in her work in the Parish. This was agreed unanimously.

Ivy Skeet asked that congratulations be given to Christopher Ellis on the improved quality and content of the Church Magazine that was clearly showing the benefits of the Church's new printer.

Clive Davis wished to have recorded in the Minutes his personal thanks to Lizzy Hendry in her magnificent efforts in signing at the 10.00 a.m. Sunday Service. It was the first time in 17 years that he had been able to benefit from this support and he asked the meeting to record their appreciation of all the hard work Lizzy had undertaken in mastering signing and in preparing for each service. This was agreed with enthusiasm.

The meeting ended at 6.35 p.m. and was followed by light refreshments.