

ST.BRIDE'S CHURCH, FLEET STREET, LONDON.

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting Held on Monday 23rd April 2012.

Present :

Ven. David Meara (Rector and Chairman); Emmanuel Adeniji; Sue Ash; Pam Bevin; Geoffrey Burgess; Yvonne Chappell; Eric Davies; Helen Fraser; Clive Hill – Archer (Deanery Synod rep.); Julie Glaser; Janet Kitchen; Beverly Leach (PCC Treasurer); Ian Locks (Churchwarden); Lindsay Nicholson; Ashley Painter; Claire Seaton (Administrator); Peter Silver (Churchwarden); Janet Smith (Electoral Roll Officer); Terence Smith (Deanery Synod rep.); Russell Spencer; Grace Stedman (Deanery Synod rep.); Mary Walker (Churchwarden); Jerry Wright (Churchwarden).

In Attendance : Andrew Thomas (Representing the Auditors, Crowe Clark Whitehill LLP).

The Rector opened the meeting by welcoming everyone. He went on to apologise that a public notice of the meeting had not been displayed in the Church, but notice of the meeting had appeared in the service sheet for several weeks and also in the Church magazine.

1. Opening Prayers.

Offered by the Rector.

2. Apologies for Absence

Received from: David & Joan Barclay; Edward Bevin; Gerald Bowey; Angela Cova; James Irving (Director of Finance); Robert Jones (Director of Music); Charles Leach; Valerie Locks; David Lowish; Matthew Morley (Assistant Director of Music); John Smith (Architect); Nicola Smith and Lesley Wood.

3. Minutes of the Meeting of 14th. April 2011

Accepted and signed as an accurate record.

4. Matters Arising

The Rector reported that during the course of the year there had not been significant movement in numbers at Evensong. Geoffrey Burgess said that he thought that he would not like the earlier time but has now got used to it. It was agreed that the PCC would look at the timing of the service in the Autumn.

5. Electoral Roll Report

Janet Smith reported as follows:

- The Electoral Roll stood at 434 at the time of the 2011 APCM.
- There have been 2 deaths and 8 removals since last year's APCM.
- There have been 50 additions to the Electoral Roll during the year.
- Following the Annual Review, the Electoral Roll stands at 474 (23rd April 2012).

Janet advised the meeting that next year (2013) the roll will be 'wiped clean' and everyone will need to reapply for membership. She would be starting this work in early 2013 in time to complete it by next year's APCM.

Janet was thanked for her work.

6. Election of Churchwardens

Three of the present Churchwardens Ian Locks, Peter Silver and Jerry Wright were re-elected. Mary Walker, who had served seven years, would not be standing again.

The Rector thanked Mary for all the hard work she had done during her term of office. He then proposed that the vacancy be filled by Lindsay Nicholson, explaining Lindsay's background and that she would strengthen the links with the Media. Lindsay then added some more details about herself and her links with St. Brides.

She was then formally proposed by Peter Silver and Seconded by Mary Walker, there being no other nominations she was duly elected.

Terence Smith then pointed out that Mary Walker had also been the Vestry Clerk and subject to Mary agreeing he would like to propose her for re-election. Mary said that she was willing to stand, having been seconded by Geoffrey Burgess she was duly elected.

7. Election and co - option of Lay Members to the Parochial Church Council

a) Lay Members.

Beverly Leach (Treasurer), Janet Smith (Electoral Roll Officer) were seeking re-election, Christopher Betterton and Mary Walker (Vestry Clerk) were willing to stand as new members. They were proposed by Sue Ash, seconded by Ashley Painter and duly elected.

b) Co – opted Members.

It was noted that the existing Co-opted members, James Irving (Director of Finance), Robert Jones (Director of Music), Claire Seaton (Administrator), John Smith (Architect) and David Smith (Lay Minister and Verger) would be co-opted at the first meeting of the new PCC.

8. Rector's Annual Report

The Rector opened his report by updating the meeting about the INSPIRE! Appeal.

He then spoke to the circulated document (Appendix 1), making particular reference to the following matters:

- The mission action plan had been revised and would be presented at the next PCC meeting.
- The Rector recorded his thanks to everyone for their contribution to the life of the church.

He concluded his report by saying that the Archdeacon's visitation had taken place that afternoon with Mary Walker and the Area Dean present.

Terence Smith asked about the titles of Church staff on the headed notepaper. In response the Rector replied that there had been a review of the office team.

- James Irving is the Director of Finance; he also retains his role of managing the staff team.
- Claire Seaton is the Administrator.
- Gloria Lizcano is Publicity & Events Manager.
- David Smith the Verger. He currently does a four day week and wants to reduce down to two or three days. The church is looking to appoint a new full time Verger.

The Rector reported that he was expecting a very busy summer with both the Diamond Jubilee and the Olympics. He then asked Clive Hill-Archer to report on the church involvement with the Journalist covering the Olympics. Clive explained,

- It was expected that there would be more than 20,000 sports journalists attending the Olympics.
- There will be a service at St. Brides for Journalists followed by a reception at Stationers Hall. He pointed out that as so many were expected to attend it was unlikely that there would be space for members of the Congregation or PCC to attend.
The costs would be covered by the Sport's Journalist Association and BT.
- There will be a Chaplaincy ministry at the Olympic site, final details are not yet available.

9. Deanery Synod Report

Terence Smith reported on the Deanery Synod meetings since the last APCM (see Appendix 2).

10. Presentation of Annual Accounts

Beverly Leach presented the **Report and Financial Statements for the year ending 31 December 2011**, as approved at the PCC meeting 28th March 2012.

She pointed out the main items within the report to the meeting (see appendix 3) and expressed her personal thanks to James Irving for his help in preparing the accounts.

The auditor's representative, Andrew Thomas, made favourable comments, pointing out the high quality of the accounts and that no issues had arisen during their examination.

Beverly brought to the attention of the meeting the petition concerning the Governments decision to apply VAT to work in Listed buildings. She urged everyone to go on-line and sign this petition. Claire Seaton said she would email all members of the PCC and put a notice in the Sunday service sheet informing them of the petition and ask them to sign it.

Ashley Painter asked what was the Church rate? The Rector replied that it allows Churches in the City of London to levy a voluntary rate on businesses.

The Annual Accounts were unanimously accepted by the Meeting. A vote of thanks was given to Beverly from Ian Locks for all her hard work during the year and this was seconded by Peter Silver, everyone was in agreement.

11. Appointment of Auditors

At the proposal of Mary Walker seconded by Ian Locks, the present auditors were re- appointed. The meeting thanked the auditors, Crowe Clark Whitehill LLP.

12. Report on Fabric, Goods and Ornaments

John Smith (Architect) was not able to be at the meeting but had sent a letter to the Rector which was his Annual Parish report for the year 2011 – 2012, (See appendix 4). This was handed out at the meeting.

In his absence, the Rector thanked John for his work during the year also the work he had done for the INSPIRE! Appeal.

13. Any Other Business

Yvonne Chappell raised the matter of the plaque for Helen Stride, which was still outstanding. The wording had been agreed some time ago. The Rector assured Yvonne that this matter would be resolved as soon as possible.

Date of the next PCC meeting: - A number of dates were suggested, the date of the meeting was fixed for Wednesday 6th June 2012.

14. Closing Prayers – All joined in saying the Grace

Janet C. Smith

Acting Secretary

David G. Meara

Rector and Chairman