

Draft Minutes of the 101st Annual Parochial Church Meeting of Walmsley Parish, Christ Church Walmsley with St Andrew Bromley Cross

Sunday October 18th 2020

Annual Meeting of Parishioners (Vestry Meeting)

The Meeting was opened with prayer by Canon Peter Reiss

Minutes of the previous 'Vestry' Meeting were approved unanimously

Dawn Hitchen and Iain Stewart were elected as church-wardens with no other people standing for the role. Jane Dent has stepped down as a Warden after six years; She was thanked for the detailed and careful and full way she had done the role, making such a positive difference in so many ways.

Canon Reiss made the point that probably their term would be for only 6 months as the next APCM would hopefully take place in April 2021.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

- 1) Canon Reiss welcomed all to the meeting. There were 39 people present
- 2) Apologies were received from Peter Rogerson and from Stuart Ormisher & Kirsty Taylor (two prospective treasurers)
- 3) Draft Minutes of the previous meeting held on 14th April 2019 had already been circulated and were proposed as a correct record by Derek Bailey and seconded by Irene Bailey.
- 4) There were no matters arising

5) Elections

- a) **Deanery Synod**:-Derek Bailey and Irene Bailey were appointed. There are 3 further places available on Deanery Synod and it is hoped to be able to fill some of these places over the next few months.
- b) **Parochial Church Council**:- There were 5 places available and 6 applicants. Canon Reiss advised the meeting that our allocation is a total of 15 places plus a further 5 for Deanery Synod representatives. He asked the meeting to approve all 6 who had put themselves forward pending further discussion at subsequent PCC meetings to fill at least one of the spaces available as a Deanery Synod rep. This suggestion was supported unanimously and the following were therefore appointed to Parochial Church Council for a three year term;- Gill Smallwood, Grace Jackson, Allan Hopkins, Ted Browning, Gemma Dyson & Jean Maden.

6) Reports

- a) **Report on Changes in the Electoral Roll** Steve Brannon advised a slight increase from 204 last year to 208. He also told the meeting there were 4 further parishioners who, he had been advised, wished to be on the Roll and he will check on this and add them in due course.
- b) **Financial Statement;-** Dan Nield gave a brief report. He advised that the church had been beneficiaries of a legacy at the end of last year which had helped this year considerably. He also explained the rise in the item Mission costs as being the sum donated by the Church to Walmsley School to allow the building of the extra classroom last year to be completed. Also approximately quarter of a million pounds had been spent on the Parish Hall from funds which did not include the legacy. He said that the situation with Covid had resulted in income dropping substantially this year. The meeting passed the accounts unanimously. Peter Reiss elaborated a little and explained the Church's commitment to 'mission' and the possibilities the Parish Hall had to contribute to this commitment for the community.
- c) **Churchwardens Report of Fabric, goods and ornaments;-** Jane Dent gave a short report. The log book and terrier are now up to date and in order. There is a hole in the ceiling at Christ Church for which repair estimates are being acquired. Also since Glendale took over the grounds maintenance there had been no complaints. As it was Janes last meeting as Churchwarden she thanked everyone for their help and particularly her fellow Churchwarden Dawn whom as she said 'I couldn't have done it without' Dawn then expressed her thanks to Jane for 'always being there for her' Canon Reiss added his thanks to Jane saying that this is a big Parish with many buildings and extensive grounds. He also thanked Louise Hitchen for all she has done with the business plan to ascertain the halls viability and sustainability. He said that Louise had set up systems to structure the letting and also had not been afraid to reorganise and clean areas to make it more workable. There is the possibility that a Hall Manager will be appointed next year. Peter also advised that St Andrews were making plans to build an extension to make the building more flexible and had a very enthusiastic group driving the project. Churches doors should be open for all. There were no questions.
- d) **Deanery Report;-** the Deanery Report was included in the reports online and also the booklets in the back of both churches.
- e) **Reports of Organisations;-** These reports were also available on line and in the booklets. The reports are on 2019 – and Covid has meant that much of the work is/was "frozen" and the future is not yet clear. We must look forward with hope.
- f) **Safeguarding Policy;-** the policy was online and in the booklets and displayed in all our buildings. It was approved unanimously.

g) Any Other Business;- Peter had received an email from one of the parishioners which had asked for the 'Time for You' item mentioned in the review to be explained. He explained by saying that when the church was open it was a once a month event for anyone to attend for quiet prayer. Kath Grieve and others complemented Peter on his online Sunday services and thanked him. She said that it gave everyone the chance to sing, albeit in their own homes, and many enjoyed that. Peter said there was a move to make possible some kind of choral event for Christmas either online or maybe outside.

The Meeting Closed at 11.50am