

St James's Church, Hampton Hill
Minutes of Meeting of the Parishioners
and
Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting
Sunday 23 April 2017 at 11.00am in church hall

11.00am Meeting of Parishioners, chaired by Derek Winterburn		
		ACTIONS
1. Prayers	Derek began the meeting with prayers.	
2. Apologies for Absence	Apologies had been received from: Christopher Carson, Jon Holloway Coryn Robinson and Jenny Wright.	
3. Minutes of the last meeting of 17 April 2016	Minutes agreed.	
4. Election of Churchwardens	There were two nominations from Nick Harris and Gwynneth Lloyd. They were elected to office.	
11.10am Annual Parochial Church Meeting, chaired by Nick Bagge		
1. Apologies for Absence	Apologies had been received from: Christopher Carson, Jon Holloway Coryn Robinson and Jenny Wright.	
2. Minutes of the last meeting of 17 April 2016	Minutes agreed.	
3. Matters arising from the minutes	None	
4. Presentation of the Electoral Roll	There were currently 169 members on the Electoral Roll. 101 were residents within the bounds of the parish and 68 were non-residents.	
5. Election of Members of the Parochial Church Council	There were 12 elected members of the PCC; 4 people were at the end of their term – Ros Daly, Lesley Mortimer, Laurence Sewell and David Taylor. Derek thanked them for their service. There were 6 vacancies due to Gwynneth Lloyd stepping into the Churchwarden roll. There were four nominees: Nick Bagge, Lou Coaker, Paul Fitchett and Rita Malyon. They were elected to become members of PCC.	
6. Election of Members of the Hampton Deanery Synod	There were three vacancies, Clive Beaumont, Moya Meredith-Smith and Ann Peterken having completed their three year term. Derek thanked them for their service, particularly Ann who had decided not to stand for re-election. Clive and Moya were standing for re-election. Also standing was Lesley Mortimer. All three were elected.	
7. Election of Sidespeople	All current sidespersons were continuing in the role. Christopher Carson, Nick Harris, Minnie Harris and Martin Symons were joining the list. Proposed by: Pip Rowett Seconded by: Gwynneth Lloyd	
8. Annual Report and Accounts	Nick Harris presented the report. He began by thanking Carol Bailey for her role as day-to-day finance officer and Mark Blackwell for his help preparing the accounts.	

	<p>In summary, 2016 had been a similar story to 2015, but with a growing deficit of £32,000. The investments had performed better, but this should not mask that we needed to pay our way rather than rely on Betty Stewart's bequest. The income earned from the investments should not mask that costs were rising and income was falling.</p> <p>Hall expenses had increased, as had church administration costs following the new increased role and the decision to open the office five days a week. There were also one-off expenses to help renovate the vicarage.</p> <p>Planned Giving had fallen while our contribution to Common Fund had increased.</p> <p>On the plus side, the extra office hours had increased hall income and a new Planned Giving campaign would hopefully address some of the deficit over a full year.</p> <p>Derek thanked Nick for his overview and said St James's was fortunate to have received such generous gifts from people and organisations. It was now up to us to mirror that generosity in our giving.</p> <p>Derek said that a change in the accountancy rules had delayed finalising the annual report. This meant that the meeting could not approve the accounts as they had not been available for inspection for the required seven days.</p> <p><i>(After the meeting, Derek consulted the archdeacon who advised him to hold a special parochial church meeting to accept the Annual report. This was the option that Derek had suggested to APCM as the way forward.)</i></p>	
<p>9. Appointment of Auditors</p>	<p>Nick Harris recommended that the current auditor, Martin Housden, be re-appointed.</p> <p>Proposed by: Pip Rowett Seconded by: Rita Malyon</p>	
<p>10. Church-wardens' Report, including the Fabric of the Church</p>	<p>Nick Bagge said he and Nick Harris were immensely grateful to the many people who supported church life, from committee volunteers to rota teams, and including the often unseen helpers.</p> <p>Nick Harris echoed those sentiments and offered his thanks to Nick Bagge who had completed his maximum six years as warden and was standing down in May when Gwynneth was sworn in.</p> <p>Derek thanked both Nicks for their work, particularly during the interregnum, and echoed Nick Harris's comments about Nick Bagge.</p>	
<p>11. Consideration of Written Reports</p>	<p>Derek said copies of all the church activities and committees had been on display for the past two Sundays. He asked if there were any questions about these.</p> <p>He was asked what condition the fabric of the church was in. Bryan Basdell, chair of the Properties Committee, said it was in a good state.</p>	

	<p>John Meredith Smith asked if the parish could charge more for weddings at the church, given that the average cost was now £5000.</p> <p>Derek said that wedding fees were fixed nationally by the Church of England. The only fees set by the PCC were for the organist, sound system, bells, choir and heating. These were all optional extras, not mandatory fees.</p>	
<p>12. Proposal to vary the Terms of Office rule for PCC Members</p>	<p>Derek said he had asked the PCC to consider changing the Church Representation Rule that restricted members of the PCC to one term of three years, followed by a break of at least one year before standing for re-election.</p> <p>Although this was perfectly legal, this rule could be varied to allow members to stand for a second three-year term before taking a break. This meant that members with growing experience were not lost from the PCC.</p> <p>The PCC agreed and was recommending that APCM agree to the change. This was unanimously agreed and will apply from 2018's elections.</p>	
<p>13. Vicar's Report</p>	<p>Derek began by thanking Jacky Cammidge and Julian Reindorp for maintaining the life of the church during the interregnum. He said both were unique and he had every confidence in them.</p> <p>He thanked Mark Blackwell for his work as organist and choirmaster.</p> <p>He thanked Nick Harris and Carol Bailey for their work on the finances; he said they were the 'dream team'. Nick was able to provide the global view, and Carol managed the day-to-day matters.</p> <p>Derek also thanked Nick Bagge for his six years as a churchwarden, and particularly during the interregnum and since he had begun work at St James's.</p> <p>Derek said that in the first six months he had met a large number of people and asked them what they valued here and what was on their 'wish list'. The overwhelming feedback was that St James's was a welcoming place, but he realised that the church was 'just about managing', particularly with its budget, the state of the building and its safeguarding. Many of the people had said they were 'tired'.</p> <p>What of the future? They wanted more of the same, but with more people. Derek quoted Einstein, who defined insanity as 'doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results'. To develop the church needed to accept change. But what was our vision and what would success look like?</p> <p>Derek broke this down under three headings - <i>Worship</i>: a variety of styles, being welcome to all, and making God central to our lives.</p>	

	<p><i>Family:</i> caring for one another, open to everyone and valuing pastoral care.</p> <p><i>Outward-looking:</i> offering our time and skills to the church, likening the church not to a cruise ship but a lifeboat, rescuing people.</p> <p>The initial action plan had resulted in the launch of <i>together at eleven</i>, a new style of worship with young families in mind. Derek asked us to support it and pray for its success.</p> <p>The quiz night in the hall had been a success. It would now be up to us to create a social calendar through the year.</p> <p>We had introduced a new church database management system that would help the church better communicate with parishioners.</p> <p>Derek said he had launched a Planned Giving campaign in April and sought a 15% increase in income. To do we had achieved a 13% increase. He thanked everyone who had replied to his appeal letter, pointing out that only 46 of the 169 people on the church electoral roll had responded.</p> <p>The goal was to meet general running costs from Planned Giving and use the reserved (including Betty Stewart’s legacy) to fund strategic work.</p> <p>Derek said that we were the only parish in the deanery not to meet this year’s request to increase in Common Fund. Next year he would expect us to fully meet the target.</p> <p>He also listed the improvements to the building that had happened or were happening. The major organ restoration was being paid for from reserves and a generous donation.</p> <p>The heating system had been overhauled; the vestry now had a sink; the electrics were improved, toilets were being built in the west porch and new cupboards would take what had been in the storeroom; the clock dials were to be renovated; and the quinquennial inspection would flag up additional areas requiring maintenance.</p> <p>Elsewhere, the pastoral team needed reinforcements; children’s ministry would be bolstered, hopefully with a paid youth worker, and the team would aim to be awarded a Children’s Charter; the Eco Group would be re-formed; and St James’s Day would aim to engage with more people from the community.</p>	
<p>14. Any Other Business</p>	<p>None</p>	
<p>15. Closing Prayer</p>	<p>The meeting ended with a prayer</p>	

Signed as a true account..... Date

Revd Derek Winterburn
PCC Chair