

ALL SAINTS WESTON

Minutes of Annual Meeting, 3pm, Sunday 22nd May 2022, All Saints Church Centre

Chair for this meeting: Paddy Gleave (Church Warden). Approximately 39 people attended.

Papers were available from: https://www.allsaintsweston.org.uk/Groups/312076/Latest_News.aspx

A. Minutes from APCM of Monday 10th May 2021. B. Trustees Report. C. Written Reports. D. Agenda for APCM 2022.

MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

Paddy Gleave welcomed everyone and explained that as there is no minister at All Saints currently and as vice-chair of the PCC, he is able to chair the two meetings. Paddy did a reading from 1 Peter 2 and then opened in prayer.

Election of Church Wardens. Paddy Gleave and Peter Ward (already existing Church Wardens) were elected, by 38 votes (one person present was not on the electoral roll). Dave Parr thanked Paddy and Peter for all they have done over the past year.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

1. Apologies for absence

Chair

Apologies were received from Robin Lewis, Jenny Lewis, Paul Bright, Peter Heywood, Jackie Heywood, Hylton Asplin, Clive Kennett, Pat Coley, Sally Barnet, Wiola Hola.

2. Agreement of the Minutes of the APCM of Monday 10th May 2021

Chair

38 people were happy to accept the Minutes.

3. Matters arising

Chair

There were no matters arising.

4. Electoral Roll Officer's Report

Robert Groezinger

Paddy thanked Robert for picking up the role of Electoral Roll Officer. Robert thanked Gary and Lisa for helping him to compile the list. In May 2021, 231 people were on the Electoral Roll. Since then, 4 people have been removed from the Electoral Roll, of which 2 sadly deceased, and there have been 5 additions. The current Electoral Roll total is 232. There has been a copy of the Electoral Roll in church for the last four weeks and there is also a copy available in the church centre.

5. Receipt of the written reports:

Chair

Various reports have been published: Trustees Report, Accounts and Written Reports. Paddy asked if everyone was happy to accept the reports:

38 people voted to say they were happy to accept the Trustees Report, Accounts and Written Reports for 2021.

6. Appointment of Tellers, if needed.

Chair

Paddy declared that Tellers are not required to count votes.

7. Election of Lay Members of the Parochial Church Council

Chair

The following people are willing to stand again: Andrew Baines, Robert Groezinger, Robin Lewis

The following member is stepping down from the PCC: Sarah Gleave.

The following nominations were made: Claire Jones, Steve Jones, Peter Heywood, Gemma Day.

38 people elected all 7.

Prayers were said by Pippa Page for those stepping up to the PCC, to give them clear thoughts and God's guidance.

8. Appointment of Auditors

Rob Gray

Rob reported that over the last two years the church had been working with Burton Sweet having moved on from Stewardship. Good progress has been made with Burton Sweet and the intention moving forward is that they will have less involvement in the accounts production as Lisa has got increasingly to grips with the church finances. Burton Sweet is a Quickbooks specialist and they have a good Christian element to them. Rob Gray proposed '**All Saints continue to use Burton Sweet as ASW's accountants**'. Seconded by Peter Ward. **38 people agreed.**

9. Financial Report

Rob Gray

Rob outlined the Financial Report, supported by excellent, clear slides. The presentation will be available online afterwards.

Overall Income in 2021 was a fair bit lower in 2021 compared to 2020. This was approximately £492,000 as opposed to £608,000. However, there are some things to note: we had a £100,000 + Gift Aid restricted donation in 2020 which significantly increased the overall figure. Our income from Charitable Activities (Centre, Hub etc) was up more than £10,000 on 2020 thanks to the hard work of our staff and the easing of Covid restrictions. We still have some way to go before we get back to the heights of 2019. We are projecting substantially more income this year, a combination of our Unrestricted Budget and the substantial amount of Restricted ROCK income which we have already received so far this year thanks to your generosity.

Unrestricted Giving has decreased the last couple of years from the peak of 2019. However, it is worth noting that the donations from Standing Orders alone was slightly higher in 2021 than it was in 2019. It is also worth noting that we received the £52,000 legacy in 2019. Therefore, it is fair to say that our Unrestricted Income from Giving has remained fairly consistent. However, not being able to meet in Church much over the last couple of years has had an impact on our more sporadic donors.

Inflation is a big issue at the moment and if we consider the impact of this over the last year or so, you can see we are behind on where we need to be to keep pace with the increasing costs of running the Church.

Restricted Giving was much lower in 2021 than 2020. However, we did not have a ROCK pledge drive in 2020. You can see the effect of this on the projected figure for 2022 – indeed after only 5 months, we are already higher than any of the other years shown. Thank you to you all for your donations.

Payments: we spent more last year than we have in any of the previous years shown. However, this is largely due to money spent on ROCK, which you can see takes up a much larger portion of the bar than in any previous year. Also, our staff costs were the lowest they have been in a long time, owing to departures. We have projected that staff costs will increase this year. However, this has not materialised yet. ROCK costs are not included and will be largely dependent on how much progress we are able to make in the second half of the year. However, we are expecting that everything else will be relatively similar to last year.

On the whole, last year we spent about £107,000 more than we brought in. However, we spent nearly £123,000 on ROCK in 2021 and raised only £26,000. This is all reflected in our cash bank balance – at the end of 2020, this stood at just under £600,000. However, this dropped to just under £520,000 by the end of 2021. Our restricted funds have decreased owing to the ROCK expenditures, and although this has been more than replaced in 2022, we still have a long way to go. Our unrestricted funds actually managed to make a moderate increase of about £3,500. All in all, we ended the year relatively balanced.

To give you a final breakdown of our money – of the total £518,640:

- £352,000 is ROCK money
- £47,500 is Capital Project
- £21,000 is our Rainy Day Fund
- The bequest remains at £52,000
- Our Hub Refurb pot stands at nearly £20,000 while the new projects continue being worked on
- We have just over £8,000 in the Millenium fund
- Just under £4,000 for senior workers and
- About £14,000 across other minor pots

Paddy thanked Rob and Lisa for all the hours put in with the finances.

Q. Is there still a question mark on parish share?

A. This year the Diocese are £2m down post Covid. The PCC have looked to up the parish share contributions for this year. We are attempting to commit to give what we have been asked to give less a 'Bishops Ministry Allowance' in order to support the broader Diocese. At the June PCC we will check in with the finances to see where we are.

Paddy thanked everyone for their generosity in giving to the Church and beyond.

10. ROCK Report

Tom Peryer

2021 was the 9th year of activity for the ROCK project, which is a long time for a project to be in gestation but it's not an unusual timescale when it comes to major church projects such as this. One reason for the protracted timescale is the length of time it took to receive planning permission, which was only granted in January 2021. In the same month the PCC then voted to move the project on to the next stage, namely to get the project to tender stage and secure the necessary planning permission from the Diocese.

In 2021 we were working on those plans, developing the plans and starting to talk to the Diocese again about the plans. We are waiting to hear back from the Diocese about the planning permission (faculty). Also in 2021, we reconfigured the way the project is managed – it was being managed by one team of 10 people and we have brought more people into it with lots of sub groups to look at different aspects of the project. In the second half of the year, we started thinking more seriously and planning the crucial stage of raising the funds and that has continued into 2022.

We have had our second ROCK appeal at the end of January/beginning of February 2022 and over £600,000 was given/pledged with Gift Aid back on that which is another fantastic number bearing in mind this congregation has already given £700,000. Some of this money has been spent on architects, engineers, chartered surveyors etc.

We are currently approaching 12 external trusts off the back of what has been pledged. We are expecting to get bottom end £200,000, top end £500,000 from these trusts. The PCC will have a big decision later this year to decide how much we will need to borrow for the project and there may still be a large gap in what we have and what we need for the project. However, whatever we have by the end of the year we will aim to start. It may well be that the annual report for the year 2022 will be able to include the sentence: "Work has now started on the transformation of the church building".

Tom encouraged anyone who is still doubting aspects of the projects to come and talk to him. Paddy thanked Tom and the ROCK team and everyone who has given to the project so far.

11. Opportunity for questions and answers

Chair

Q. An update on where we are with a new Rector please?

A. Pippa Page as one of the Parish Representatives answered. There have been 11 applications for the post (closing date was Thursday 19th May). They will be shortlisted this coming Thursday (26th May). Interviews will take place on 8th/9th June. If someone is appointed then we could have a new Rector for September.

Q. Are there any female applicants?

A. Yes

Q. Do applications come via the Diocese or directly to the Church?

A. Applications go to the Archdeacon's PA who gathers them and then distributes to the Parish Representatives.

Q. How long before we know if we have a vicar?

A. We should be able to say whether or not someone has been appointed straight after the interview days but 'who' it will be may take a little longer.

12. Church Warden Reflections and Look Forward

Chair

Paddy started with some thanks. For all of us 2021 was a strange year. We started with a lockdown again in January and then in September there were no restrictions at all. Many people contribute to the life of this church and in many ways, so thank you to everyone.

A few people to thank specifically. So those that supported us during the lockdown at the beginning of 2021:

- Mark and Meg – live streaming every week
- Gary – distributing services to those in need
- Cathy & Rick – facilitating the outdoor services, Discovering God's Heart, and more recently the evening service with the Pepper homegroup and Rachael Stone.

Particular thanks to those who rallied round to support Paddy & Pete when Mark went off sick and then didn't return:

- Sarah Couchman for taking over the Engage services
- Tom Peryer for leading on the Sanctuary services
- Rachael Stone/Rick & Cathy for the Pepper services
- Claire Suntharalingam/Hylton Asplin/Ruth Rhodes for the Youth services

- Penny Faux for Tuesday services
- Peter Stoneley – always supportive in action and word
- Tom Peryer for leading the staff team as well as leading ROCK, coordinating Sanctuary and carrying on the children and youth work recruitment drive.
- Rob for being Treasurer while doing a full-time job and being a Dad
- Standing Committee- Tom, Pippa, Rob, Pete – many meetings and work outside of meeting
- Paul Bright – Safeguarding – thank you for making our systems and processes stronger
- Chris Chatfield – Health & Safety – thanks for the many risk assessments over Covid
- Sara Layen – coordinating the children’s work without charge
- Pete Ward & Paddy Gleave – exchange of thanks for the support in their church warden roles
- Sarah Gleave – PCC work and for supporting Paddy
- God – the author and perfecter of our faith

Paddy showed an image on screen of a piece of art – a broken plate put back together with gold. The art doesn’t deny the damage and the cracks but there is beauty that comes out from that. We can see the scars and damage of the last few years and our world and our Church won’t go back to how it was but we have a God who is our comforter and knows our needs and who rebuilds and restores. That trauma will be an ongoing ministry for this Church.

Paddy encouraged us all to seek support and prayer, and look out for one another, hold short accounts, forgive each other, continue to be self-giving and encourage each other. We are in a time of processing what has happened to us and that’s ok to process and its ok to seek healing and for that to take as long as its going to take. We need to find our shape as a church, what have we emerged into, what are we like now and where do we find Jesus in all this. We have a new leader coming, new members hopefully to the staff team, the PCC. There are already some intriguing shoots: for example, the Pepper service which sees very different people going to church together. There’s something astonishingly powerful when we have one body which crosses politics, socio-economic backgrounds and race, united in Jesus but not uniform, but very fragile. Let’s look to have our minds transformed again, Jesus believes in us and he’s chosen us to be his disciples. He takes our insignificant offerings and makes them matter powerfully. He always welcomes us as we are.

Paddy read some words from the theologian Scott McKnight:

It’s a covenant together, a rugged commitment to someone, God’s commitment to us.

It’s a rugged commitment to be with someone, God is with us.

It’s a rugged commitment to be for someone, someone who advocates for you, God advocates for you and for us.

It’s a rugged commitment that we will be with each other to seek to become Christ like together, that’s the love in the Bible, that rugged commitment.

Paddy finished with verses from Ezekiel 37:24.

13. Prayer

Chair

Paddy said a prayer of thanks and invited people to pray. A number of people prayed for individuals, teams, the future and our community.

The meeting closed at 16:03.

THE FIRST MEETING OF THE PCC

In attendance: Paddy Gleave, Peter Ward, Dave Parr, Claire Jones, Steve Jones, Vera Podger, Derek Hall, Pam Wendzina, Tom Peryer, Pippa Page, Rob Gray.

Paddy Gleave stated that the Trustees Report had been distributed via email. 9 members approved the report and one member abstained.

Election of Officers and Standing Committee:

Paddy explained that the minister would normally be the chair of the PCC, but in the absence of a minister would the PCC be happy for Paddy to be vice chair. All present agreed.

All members present agreed for Robert Groezinger to continue as Electoral Roll Officer.

All members present agreed for Rob Gray to continue as Treasurer and to be co-opted onto the PCC.

All members agreed for Judy Everson to continue as PCC Secretary with Tali Garan to carry out administrative support outside of the meetings.

Paddy proposed Clair Hurley and Karen Kopp to share the role of Parish Safeguarding Officer. Pippa Page seconded and all members present agreed.

Paddy said that there was currently no Healthy and Safety Officer due to Chris Chatfield stepping down. There are ongoing discussions for H&S to be incorporated into Gary's role.

Paddy proposed Claire Jones and Steve Jones to be Deputy Church Wardens, Tom Peryer seconded the motion, all members present agreed.

There was some discussion around the appointment of the Standing Committee members and whether to keep as is or to change the makeup of the team. This discussion included mention of forming a Leadership Team and what the exact purpose of such a team would be. More conversations as a PCC will be had over the summer with regards the new Leadership team.

Paddy proposed the Standing Committee for the coming year be made up of Paddy Gleave, Peter Ward, Rob Gray, Tom Peryer and Pippa Page. Claire Jones seconded the motion and all members present agreed.

Date of next full meeting: 20th June at 7:30pm in the Church Centre.

The **Agenda** will be out on 13th June.

The meeting closed at 16:35.