



Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on Sunday 23rd April 2023

Revd Jonathan Ward was in the chair.

- 1. The Minutes of the meeting held on 24th April 2022** were unanimously accepted, proposed by Jeremy Tagg, seconded by Charlotte Faint.
- 2. Matters arising** - none
- 3. Trustees' Report & Financial Statements for 2022**

Accounts were presented by Lenka Ellmann, Treasurer.

Income is made up of Regular giving, Gift Aid, Grants, Fees, Investments and Other income. Two lines of income Fees and Investments were ahead of the previous year, all other line of income were behind on the previous year, overall FY22 Income stood at £149,708 compared to FY21 Income of £209,551.

Significant part of the difference between FY21 and FY22 were grants for Lighting project received in FY21 and accounting for £23,265 of the difference, Legacies accounted for £10,000 of the difference and regular giving & gift aid accounted for £25,335

Expenses are made up of diocesan quota, salaries, maintenance, charitable giving and other running costs. FY22 costs were £150,962 compared to FY21 total costs of £243,729. There is significant £92,767 difference year on year, two areas where we did not spend in FY22 were expenses related to lighting project (all costs in FY21) and cost of Families worker.

Discussion on these Accounts

Richard Ciencela expressed his thanks to Lenka. He asked about how the cost of a Youth Worker would be financed.

Jon explained that we have cash reserves which would help to finance this post. Discussion took place on whether to have restricted fund created for the position so

congregation could give directly to support the position rather than this position being financed from general fund.

Lenka replied that the Families Worker was never fully funded from the designated fund.

Were some holding back their finance until someone was in place? Jon replied that possibly that would help the financing.

There is a possibility of Vision Homes supporting the church with donation pending successful planning application, this could also help with financing the Families Worker position.

The harsh reality of our income is that a small number of faithful givers contribute more than a lion's share. We had couple of givers leaving the church in FY22 accounting for 7% loss of income.

Jeremy made the observation that the total amount of giving was a remarkable figure given the size of our church, also commented on the fact that the church running costs are actually quite low at approx. £50K once our own giving and diocesan quota are paid.

Regarding the Parish Share of £85,000, this needs to be discussed as to what this means for us.

Barry Turner asked specific questions:

What is in Debtors & Creditors? Debtors are made up of Q4 gift aid and smaller amount for ground rent from the flat above SJs. Creditors were made out of unpaid utility bill at year end, accrued costs for examiners fees and Dec utility costs.

What interest we are currently receiving on our reserves? We have one interest bearing bank account with NatWest current balance £63K and interest rate 4.01% per annum. We have two no interested bearing accounts with CAF Bank with £28K and £9K in them, matter to discuss with PCC whether we should move more funds from CAF to NatWest.

What is in operating leases? We have a lease for our photocopier, as well as contract for church music and accounting package.

Lenka expressed her thanks to the members of the Finance Committee.

4. APCM Reports 2023

Electoral Roll - thanks were expressed to Paul Kingman

PCC Secretary's report - no questions. Sybil is standing down as Secretary and Jeremy Tagg is taking over this role.

Rector's Report - in response to a comment that Jon seemed to be taking a lot on his own shoulders especially since Peter, Dan and Amber moved on, Jon acknowledged that he misses the support and the creative energy that comes from working consistently with close colleagues. In response to the possibility of a curate, Jon reported that the house in Woodland Way where Peter lived is now assigned to a diocesan staff worker so the question of accommodation for a curate is unclear.

Churchwardens' Report - no questions.

Safeguarding - great thanks were expressed to Sarah and Michele - many tasks were performed "behind the scenes".

Deanery Synod - no questions.

Churches Together in West Wickham - it was reported that Warm Spaces was doing really well at Emmanuel Church. They did receive legacy which helped in the funding. In the other churches response was patchy - some weeks only 4 or 5 people. Prayer was needed for the Methodist church which is due to close, especially for Laura... Different options are being explored, possibly joining another congregation. Nick reported that the intention is to sell the site on open tender - there have already been enquiries from 5 churches. Much repair was needed. These buildings have been of great services to local community groups, Mencap for example. Hayes Baptist is to join Coney Hill Baptist.

SJs Report - no questions

Team Reports - thanks were expressed to all those involved.

All these Reports were received - proposed by Julia Cernoch, seconded by Sarah Morgan

5. Elections -

PCC - Sarah Fletcher has been elected for a second term. Jessica Chick and Rachel Williams have been elected as new PCC members.

Welcomers - the formal list was accepted - more Welcomers are needed please!

6. Appointment of Independent Examiner -

It was unanimously agreed to re-appoint Philip Landergan, proposed by Lenka, seconded by Barry Turner.

7. Any other business

Jon confirmed that a report covering our work with young people would be included next year.

The meeting concluded with a time of open prayer.

Signed Date