



## ST MARGARET'S CHURCH

To know and share God's transforming love with one another,  
our local community and the wider world

### Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting

held in Church.

on Sunday 23rd April 2023

The meeting began at 10.45am with an opening prayer, there were 56 adults and 11 children present.

1. **Apologies** were received from Chris Taylor, Revd. John Wates, and Andrew Britton.
2. There were **no matters arising** from the minutes of the 2022 APCM meeting held on 22nd May 2022. Approval of the minutes was proposed by David Wicksteed, seconded by Kat Wicksteed and unanimously passed.

3 The Chair explained that there are 9 places for **elected PCC members** and ex-officio positions for 4 Deanery Synods representatives, plus the 2 church wardens. As Chris Taylor, Andrew Britton and Madeleine MacCallum were standing down as elected PCC members there were three vacancies.

4 **Nominations for elected PCC representatives** had been received for:  
Ray King, proposed by Jen Smith and seconded by Sally Bowes.  
Nigel Smith, proposed by Madeleine MacCallum and seconded by Sally Bowes.  
Roz Lunburg, proposed by Libby Egwuba and seconded by Steve Cheng-Whitehead.

All three were duly elected.

5. There were **4 vacancies for Deanery Synod representatives**, and 3 nominations were received, as follows:

Madeleine MacCallum, proposed by Jill Lindsay and seconded by Eamonn Davern;  
Jen Smith, proposed by Jill Lindsay and seconded by Eamonn Davern;  
Jill Lindsay, proposed by Eamonn Davern and seconded by Sally Bowes.

All three were duly elected.

The Chair briefly described the function of the Deanery Synod and explained that nominations to fill the vacant position could be taken during the year. He offered to speak to any member of the congregation who was interested in representing St Margaret's at this forum and had questions concerning the role.

6. At the end of the period up to the date of the annual meeting the **electoral roll** closed at 162, a slight drop from last year's 170. This was due to people either dying or moving away. Members

of the congregation not on the electoral roll were encouraged to join, which can be done at any point during the year.

7. The Chair gave a brief summary of the **Annual Report** which was available on the church website. Thanks were recorded to all leaders and preachers who had helped out during the year which had been especially challenging during a period of interregnum: visiting clergy from the deanery, Revd. Erin Gilmour who as curate at St Mary's Reigate assisted for several months, and all those within the congregation who kept services running. Special thanks were offered to Revd. John Wates who continued to take services despite stepping down during the year. The large proportion of the congregation, some 70 volunteers, who make an invaluable contribution to the running of the Parish were also thanked for their continuing support. The new rector, Revd. Hannah Gordon, will be inducted and instituted on 30th May 2023, and her arrival is much looked forward to.

8. The meeting was advised that the **Annual Accounts** were also available on the church website. The on-going deficit was noted, with expenditure now exceeding income by some £92,000. This has been an ongoing problem since 2016, now exacerbated by current inflation and especially a 66% increase in energy costs. As there has not been a treasurer in post for 20 months the PCC has not been able to obtain specialist advice with suggestions on how to best redress the deficit, the problem has been heightened due to the absence of a rector. Sincere thanks to Martin Mabbutt were recorded, who continued to prepare the accounts despite no longer being treasurer.

The Chair advised that **nominations for Treasurer** would be most welcome and could be taken during the year. He clarified that accountancy qualifications were not a requirement and said that Church Wardens would be very happy to discuss the post with anyone with a suitable background who might consider taking up the position.

Approval of both the Annual Report and Accounts were recorded, proposed by Jill Lindsay and seconded by Ray King.

9. No other business having been submitted to the Secretary prior to the meeting, finally **grateful thanks** were offered to Chris Taylor and Andrew Britton for their huge contribution to the PCC for many years. These were proposed by Eamonn Davern and unanimously seconded.

The meeting closed at 11.14am.