



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 28th April 2024

The meeting began at 11.30am with an opening prayer, there were sixty-two adults and five children present. The meeting was Chaired by Eamonn Davern (PCC lay-vice chair).

1 **Apologies** were received from Sally Foxen, Frank Foxen, Rachel Sanderson, Tom Sanderson, and Lucy Wales.

2. There were **no matters arising** from the minutes of the 2023 APCM meeting held on 23rd April 2023. Approval of the minutes was proposed by Jen Smith, seconded by Jon Hill and passed unanimously.

3 The Chair explained that there are nine places for **elected PCC members** and ex-officio positions for 4 Deanery Synods representatives, plus the two Church Wardens. Five current PCC members are mid-term, two have reached the end of their first 3-year term, one of whom has agreed to serve a second 3-year term, and another is standing for election as a Church Warden (an ex-officio position on the PCC). As two current elected members, Ian Thirlwall and Perry Esparon have reached the end of their second 3-year term and must stand down there are vacancies for four positions to bring the PCC back up to nine elected members.

4 **Nominations for elected PCC representatives** have been received for:

Katherine Wicksteed, proposed by Tom Sanderson and seconded by Sally Foxen.

Julia Thompson, proposed by Carmelita Agranoff and seconded by Wendy Morgan.

Jon Hill, proposed by David Wicksteed and seconded by Joshua Allwith

Lucy Wales, proposed by Dinah Mabbutt and seconded by Sally Bowes,

All four were duly elected.

Grateful thanks were offered to Ian Thirlwall and Perry Esparon for their contribution to the PCC. These were proposed by Eamonn Davern and unanimously seconded.

5. There is **one vacancy for a Deanery Synod representative**. No nominations have been received.

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. Revd. Hannah Gordon 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. James Gordon (Electoral Roll Officer) reported that at the end of the period up to the date of the annual meeting the **electoral roll** closed at 162, the same number as last year. A few members of the Congregation had died or moved away however new people had joined. Members of the congregation were encouraged to register, which can be done at any point during the year after 6 months' attendance at the Church.

7. Revd Hannah Gordon 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 supported services during the year. Over seventy volunteers from the Congregation continue to make an invaluable contribution to the running of the Parish and were warmly thanked for their continuing support.

8. The meeting was advised that the **Annual Accounts** were also available on the church website. The financial position had improved since the previous year, the main factor being a donation of £150k and an associated £12.5k of gift aid, however there was still an underlying deficit in unrestricted funds of £20k during 2023, reduced from £92k during 2022. The Treasurer post remained vacant. Sincere thanks were recorded to Martin Mabbutt who continued to prepare the accounts despite no longer being Treasurer, and John Grant the Independent Accounts Examiner.

Revd. Hannah Gordon advised that **nominations for Treasurer** would be most welcome and could be taken during the year. She clarified that accountancy qualifications were not a requirement and said that she 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 Ray King, and seconded by Jen Smith, and carried unanimously.

9. The Chair proposed that a decision on appointing a 2024 Independent Examiner for the Accounts be deferred to be discussed at the next PCC. This proposal was seconded by Ray King and passed unanimously.

10 As an item of **Other Business** Revd. Hannah Gordon described an IT supported GDPR compliant communication package Church Suite. This would be acquired and implemented during the next year and would enable members of the Congregation to register to receive personalized information tailored to their specific interests.

One question was received from the floor of the meeting, requesting information about plans to improve access to The Orchard. Revd. Hannah Gordon explained that improving access was a priority and PCC would be developing proposals in forthcoming months. No other business had been submitted to the PCC Secretary prior to the meeting,

The meeting closed at 12.20pm.