

## **Minutes of Parishioners and Parochial Church Meeting 2007.**

Held in the Church Hall, Burwood Road, Hersham on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2007.

### **Annual Vestry Meeting to Elect Churchwardens**

#### 1) Welcome and prayers.

There were 39 parishioners present. Sue Burke, Deputy Chair of the PCC welcomed all present in the absence of The Revd. Nick Whitehead, Vicar.

The meeting was opened with prayers by The Revd. Jonathan Andrew.

#### 2) Appointment of clerk

Sarah Tourell was appointed clerk on the proposal of Suzanne Barrett, seconded by Lulu Button.

#### 3) Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were noted and signed.

#### 4) Election of Churchwardens

Ian Rose and Andrew Strong were elected as churchwardens. There were no other nominations. Sue Burke explained that Churchwardens become members of the PCC from the date they are elected. They become the officers of the Bishop only after they take up this role (known as being inducted to their office) at a special service known as the Archdeacon's visitation. The outgoing wardens retain office and continue to serve as members of the PCC until their successors are admitted as officers of the bishop. So their legal responsibility continues after the election of their replacements until they have been admitted to office. For one PCC meeting a year there may be four Churchwardens present.

### **Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

#### 5) Apologies for absence were received from:

Derrick and Pam Bird, Sheila Brent, Abby Briggs, Jan Dodson, Dennis Foddy, Margaret Hicks, Meg and Richard Hill, Maurice and Pam Jones, Joan Kennedy, Anne Manning, Dorothy Rice, Carol Rose, Adrian and Caroline Warren and The Revd. Nick Whitehead.

#### 6) Minutes of meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2006

The minutes having been circulated in the Annual Report were approved with the following noted:

Page 3, Item 10, Election of Sidespeople: Derek Minter had been omitted

Page 2, Appointment of Independent Examiner should in fact be item 9, not item 1.

7) Election of representatives to the Deanery Synod.

Pat Ellis and Lulu Button were nominated and elected as representatives on the Deanery Synod to continue in a three year period from April 2005 and Lulu was confirmed as the representative for 2006/2007. It was noted that Pat will stand down from this role in the summer. If anyone is interested in filling this vacancy please speak to Nick Whitehead in the first instance. It was also noted that David Mealor is an ex-officio member.

8) Election of members to the Parochial Church Council

Sue Burke reported that five nominations had been received for the five vacancies on the PCC and their appointment was approved for a three year period from April 2007. Members approved are Abby Briggs (one year period), Michael Lumley-Kelly, Chris Outtrim, Tony Skrzypecki and Lorelie Staines.

9) Appointment of independent examiner, Ward Williams.

Tony Skrzypecki proposed that we re-appoint Ward Williams as the auditor for the PCC for 2007. This was seconded by Lorelie Staines and all were in favour.

10) Election of sidespeople.

The following people were elected for 2007/2008: Lulu Button, Steve Collins, Jan & Robbie Dodson, Dennis Foddy, John & Pauline Frew, Bob & Liz Garnish, Diane Gosling, Margaret Hicks, Richard Hill, Martin Howells, Clare Jones, Ken Joyner, Sara Langley, Adrienne and Bill Lumb, Anne Manning, David Mealor, Derek Minter, Alan and Marion Pady, Jo Relfe, Pat Shore. Given his new role as Churchwarden, Andrew Strong was removed from the list and Geoff and Coral Trickey were added. The list was read by the Sidesmans' Secretary Bob Garnish who stated that we have 4 or 5 vacancies for what is a very interesting role. Please speak to Bob if you are interested in joining the team. The list was proposed by Hilary Staunton and seconded by Ian Rose.

11) Annual Report adopted by the Parochial Church Council

Sue Burke thanked Ian Rose for all his effort and commitment in preparing the report and asked him to take us through it. Ian thanked everyone who had helped compile the report and invited those present to comment on, or query any of the items as we went through them page by page.

Page 12, paragraph 3. Lorna Espenhahn asked that the number of adults being confirmed should be amended from six to seven. This was noted.

12) Tom Calder presented the accounts and took us through the key points:

These results are positive because we're on track with our budgeted figures. Our Parish Share has been increased by £6000 this year this is the amount of money the PCC pays to the Diocese. We had 26 weddings in 2006 which attract fees, and only a quarter of that number booked for 2007.

Tom also drew our attention to the monies spent on the storeroom/hut because of vandalism and the West End refurbishment.

He stated that although the accounts show we have reserves in cash, some of the money is not available for spending. He pointed out that we also have some heavy costs on the horizon with the Church's Quinquennial review and approx £37,000 to spend on a new roof for the church hall. So although we are supported by our assets, (e.g., rental of the hall and St. Peter's Lodge) taking everything into account there is a need for a Stewardship Campaign.

The Revd. Franklin Rice asked whether we were covered by insurance for the damage to the storeroom/hut. Geoff Trickey explained that we were and gave more in depth information of the figures involved.

Bob Garnish asked what the situation was with Vauxmead and was advised that although it was an asset its legacy states that it exists for the benefit of the community.

Tony Skrzypecki expressed his gratitude to the following people for all their efforts in preparing the accounts and administering what goes on behind the scenes: Derek Minter, David Gay, Derek Button, Lorelie Staines, Lesley Jackson, Tom Calder, Richard Espenhahn, Linda Tao, Carol Rose, The Revd. Jonathan Andrew, Sarah Tourell, Abby Briggs, Geoff Trickey, Coral Trickey, Kim Cook, Lulu Button, Sheila Brent, Sue Burke, The Revd. Nick Whitehead, and Frances Parsons from Ward Williams. The preparation of the accounts was a smooth process thanks to the input from these people and Tony wanted to record that our accounts were well presented.

The Revd. Franklin Rice, supported by Adela Foddy raised his concern about the outside appearance of St. Peter's Lodge. Geoff Trickey is due to visit the tenants in the next ten days and has agreed to take this up with them.

Sue Burke asked that we approve the Annual Report and Accounts for 2006. This was proposed by Bryan Ellis and seconded by Sara Langley. John Staunton congratulated everyone who produced it.

### 13) Chairman's remarks.

Sue Burke gave her thanks to Stig Mogensen for everything he had done for the PCC for the last three years as he will not be standing this year for re-election.

Sue then went on to give a short farewell speech as after six years she will no longer be a Churchwarden. She remembered happy events she'd help plan (Good Old Days) and honoured occasions she'd been part of (Jonathan's ordination and Confirmations). She praised the Churchwardens she'd previously worked with, Bryan Ellis, Elaine Cass and Ian Rose and was particularly heartfelt in her praise of The Revd. Nick Whitehead for everything he does, and for his support and commitment.

### 14) Any other business.

Ian Rose thanked Sue for being a wonderful person to work with and presented her with a gift and a most amusing poem "Ode to a Churchwarden" which was well received by everyone.

Last year's minutes stated that The Revd. Franklin Rice asked if there were any plans to increase utilisation of Vauxmead and Sue Burke drew everyone's attention to the Brass

Band Concert on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> June at 7.30pm in Church which will be preceded by a picnic in Vauxmead. She particularly drew Andrew Strong's attention to this point as his first project as Churchwarden will be to co-ordinate this event.

Bob Garnish stated that we need a PA system similar to the one we borrowed from Willow Grange for the Good Friday Service on the Green, for use here in the Hall. It was agreed that this would be very useful. Agenda item for next PCC meeting.

The Revd. Franklin Rice praised most highly the people who run the Sunday school, Sunday after Sunday missing sermons and hymns and only managing to get to Church at the start of communion. He asked us to appreciate fully the work they do with our children who are the future of our Church. All agreed.

Coral Trickey also asked us to appreciate how much Lulu Button does, not only for the Church but in the community generally. Our support of this was shown by the large round of applause for Lulu which is thoroughly deserved.

Bob Garnish asked when the law changed regarding where you could get married and if this affected our wedding bookings. Sarah Tourell will enquire.

Marion Pady stated that she has been asked by several people when the next Jumble Sale will be, but that younger people need to take it on. Agenda item for next PCC.

Lorna Espehahn then took us through the proposal for opening the Church during the summer. She gave out the flier produced by Meg and Richard Hill and asked for volunteers to join the rota which will run from 1200pm-2pm for the last two weeks of June and the first two weeks of July. This will enable us to open the Church at times other than regular services.

Lulu Button asked us to get a message to The. Revd. Nick Whitehead to thank him for all that he does for us and to wish him a speedy recovery. Noted Sarah Tourell will send a card.

The Revd. Jonathan Andrew closed the meeting with prayers.