

St Oswald's Church, Sowerby
Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners
and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on 14 April 2019

Present

Rev Nicky Carnall in the chair, Norris Adams, Pauline Alderson, Jan Applegarth, Sandra Barnett, Trish Bennett, Helen Birkbeck, Simon Birkbeck, Yvonne Bowling, David Brooke, Jenny Carley, Keith Carley, Chris Carnall, Maureen Carr, Charlotte Drake, George Drake, Jill Drew, Beryl Goode, J. D. Goode, Frank Graham, June Graham, Richard Halkyard, Gayle Hartley, Helen Irving, John Kennedy, Keith Lewis, Ann Llewellyn, Andrew McCormack, Helen McCormack, Catherine McGuinness, Graham Merriam, Cecily Rands, Kath Reynard, Diana Ridsdale, Morna Stoakley, David Tucker, Honor Tucker, Joyce West, Peter West, Hannah Wright

The meeting opened with a welcome and prayer.

ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

Election of Churchwardens

There were two candidates for the two offices of churchwarden: David Tucker and Simon Birkbeck. Both were declared duly elected. Grateful thanks were expressed to both of them for all they have done for St Oswald's in the past year.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

1 Apologies for absence

Elizabeth Allen, Neil Irving, Margaret Ridsdale, Penny Stirling, Don Turner, Margaret Turner, Elizabeth Worsnop.

2 Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on 22 April 2018 were approved.

3 Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

4 Reports

4.1 Electoral Roll Nicky thanked Elizabeth Worsnop for all the time and effort she had put in to producing the new electoral roll. The number of people on the electoral roll currently stands at 107. Nicky reminded those present that the electoral roll has been closed, as required, for the last two weeks. It is now open again, so those who have not yet signed up can submit their names to be entered on the roll.

4.2 Annual Report of the proceedings of the PCC and the activities of the Parish

The Annual Report had been circulated prior to the meeting. Keith Carley expressed thanks for an excellent report. There were no questions.

4.3 Financial Statements of the PCC The accounts and financial statement had been circulated prior to the meeting. Graham reported a good response to the Stewardship Campaign with an increase of about 20% in planned giving. Graham expressed thanks to Gayle Hartley for all her work as assistant treasurer. Keith Carley noted that there had been no discretionary donation from the Parish Council in 2018 for the maintenance of the churchyard and suggested a reminder might be required. He also noted that the Parish Council donation had remained at £1,000 per annum since it was first made in 1990 and that an increased donation might be suggested.

There was a query about the large amount spent on photocopying. Graham responded that the income from photocopying by other users should be taken into account and noted that all the Christmas and Easter leaflets for door-to-door distribution around the parish are also produced 'in house'. If sent to the printers, the cost of producing these would be significantly greater. Nicky thanked Graham for continuing in the role of treasurer and thanked Graham and Gayle for their sound management of the church finances.

4.4 Fabric, goods and ornaments of the church A report on the fabric, goods and ornaments of the church was included in the annual report. David Tucker reported that the church building is generally in a good state of repair and that the Quinquennial Inspection is due this year. Improvements to the church lighting will be the next large project.

David thanked Graham for all the work he has done to upgrade the Annexe. Morna Stoakley proposed a formal vote of thanks to Graham and all agreed. She also noted that the Parochial Hall Committee have suggested that the meeting room in the Annexe be called the 'Merriam Room' in appreciation of all that Graham has done.

Nicky thanked the churchwardens for their care of the fabric, goods and ornaments of the church.

4.5 Deanery Synod A report by Gayle Hartley had been circulated. There were no questions.

Nicky thanked Jill Drew, Sue Binns and Gayle Hartley for serving as Deanery Synod representatives.

4.6 Safeguarding Nicky thanked Elizabeth Allen and Gayle Hartley for all the work they have done as Safeguarding Officer and Assistant Recruiter to keep St Oswald's up to date with current safeguarding policy and practice. St Oswald's is working towards doing all that is required to be at the top standard for safeguarding. Nicky reminded those present to look at the 'A Safer Church' poster displayed in church for contact details of those both locally and at diocesan level who can help with any safeguarding issues.

5 Elections and Appointments

5.1 Election of Deanery Synod Representatives Jill Drew, Sue Binns and Gayle Hartley will continue to serve as Deanery Synod representatives.

5.2 Election of PCC members Nicky expressed thanks to Morna Stoakley who has completed her three year term on the PCC. This left six vacancies. There were four nominations: Yvonne Bowling, Richard Halkyard, Andrew McCormack, and Graham Merriam. These were duly elected for three years. Morna Stoakley agreed to stand again and was duly elected for a period of two years. There is one one-year vacancy remaining.

5.3 Appointment of Sidesmen and Sideswomen The following were re-appointed: Sandra Barnett, Emma Benoit, Sue Binns, Helen Birkbeck, Pat Chapman, Gayle Hartley, Anne Jones, John Kennedy, Cecily Rands, Diana Ridsdale, Don Turner, Elizabeth Worsnop and Hannah Wright.

5.4 Appointment of independent examiner of accounts Graham proposed that Bill Pearson continue to be the independent examiner of accounts and all approved.

5.5 Election of Churches Together representatives Morna Stoakley and Diana Wild agreed to continue as Churches Together representatives.

6 Any other business

There was no other business.

The meeting closed with the grace.