

PARISH OF ST PETER'S, COLCHESTER

Minutes of the Annual Meetings held at 7:30pm on 27th April 2021

Chairman: Rev Mark Wallace, Priest-in-Charge of St Peter's

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS (AMP)

1. OPENING PRAYER

The Vicar opened the meeting in prayer.

2. APPOINTMENT OF SECRETARY FOR THE ANNUAL MEETINGS

Mrs Bernice Watts was appointed to act as Secretary for the Annual Meetings.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received are recorded in Appendix 1.

4. ELECTIONS OF CHURCHWARDENS

There were two vacancies and two nominees for the Churchwarden roles; Dr Matt Cox (proposed by Mrs Wendy Whitfield and seconded by Dr Dan Watts) and Mrs Anne Kavanagh (proposed by Mrs Val Morris and seconded by Mrs Geraldine Joslin). The Vicar expressed his appreciation for all their work thus far and his delight over their willingness to continue as Churchwardens and urged the church to support them both practically and prayerfully. Dr Dan Watts led the meeting in prayer for the Churchwardens. Mrs Anne Kavanagh expressed a note of thanks to all for their patience and forbearance and a particular thanks to Mrs Wendy Whitfield for her support.

THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING (APCM)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no further Apologies for Absence.

2. MINUTES OF THE AMP & APCM 2020

The Minutes from the meeting held on the 21st October 2020 were approved and duly signed.

There were no matters arising.

3. CHANGES TO THE ELECTORAL ROLL

The Vicar thanked Mrs Clare Reid (Electoral Roll Officer) for her upkeep of the electoral roll. The number on the electoral roll had risen from 58 to 60. Of these, 13 are resident in the parish.

Question (Dr Dan Watts): Do we have a sense of how the curve is going? Are the numbers declining or growing? *Answer:* The overall picture is one of slow but steady growth.

4. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL ON PARISH ACTIVITIES

The Annual Report had been circulated prior to the meeting. The Chairman gave a brief summary of the report in three points; it has been a year of great change in church life and church staff; nothing eternal has changed – God is still on the throne – and we need to be prepared for needs for ongoing changes into the future. The Chairman then opened the floor to questions.

Question (Mrs Wendy Whitfield): Why was the overall figure of gift aid lower this year? *Answer (Mr Richard Lawn):* We can usually claim gift aid on redevelopment donation and from the collection plate, but not this past year.

Question (Mr Paul Larkin): What is the number of young people and children? *Answer (Mrs Lizzie Wallace):* At present, about 15 young people engage in children's activities. The Friday youth event '421' now engage 15-20 young people aged 14-18; pre-Covid, it would have been about 40.

Question (Mr Stephen Lloyd): Why did we decide to change our architects for the redevelopment project and what are the implications? *Answer (the Vicar):* Quinlan Terry Architects notified us that, for various reasons, they are no longer able to continue to act on our behalf. By engaging Inkpen Downie Architecture & Design Ltd, all previous work has been transferred to them. This switch does not impact the work schedule, but grant-making trust difficulties due to Covid -19 have caused us to rethink.

Question (Mrs Sheila Lloyd): Where does it leave us as a church and what can we do? *Answer (the Vicar):* We need people to step in and help with grant applications. In addition, assistance from anyone with project management experience would be helpful. *Answer (Mrs Wendy Whitfield):* Before work can commence, we will also need appropriate permissions from the Diocese.

Mrs Anne Kavanagh reflected on the positive aspects of having a large number of contributions to the Annual Report and the family feel to the presentation.

Mr Peter Holden commented on the terrific work of Mr Richard Lawn as our Treasurer, and that as a church, we should be encouraged by the grace of our God and by the generosity of people.

5. ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

Mrs Clare Reid (proposed by Mrs Morvern Cox and seconded by Mr Duncan Breckels) was nominated for the PCC member, and was duly elected.

The church will be notified of the remaining three vacant spaces on the Parochial Church Council Membership.

With Tony Allen not being able to continue as the Independent Examiner of our 2020 accounts, Mr John Chandler has agreed to act as independent examiner for this year only. Mr Duncan Breckels proposed that the matter would be delegated to the PCC in order to nominate an Independent Examiner for future years, seconded by Mr Peter Holden. The proposal was agreed *nem con*.

6. QUESTIONS AND/OR MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Question (Mr Duncan Breckels): At the next Synod meeting, the *Living in Love and Faith* material may be discussed. How can we best be prepared to contribute to the process? *Answer (the Vicar):* The intention is to invite various representatives of St Peter's to in discussion on these issues later in the summer.

Question (Mrs Anne Kavanagh): What is the situation with the staff team? For how long have we appointed the members, and is there a possibility to extend their employment? *Answer (the Vicar):* Mr Dave Lacy and Mrs Bernice Watts have an open-ended employment. Mrs Vivienne Depledge and Mrs Lizzie Wallace were appointed earlier this year on fixed-term contracts, until the 31st August 2022. The PCC could revisit the question of future employment during the 2021-22 year. In response, Mrs Anne Kavanagh noted the tremendous amount of work the Staff Team have been involved in, and expressed thanks on behalf of the Churchwardens with the hope the staff employments could be extended. This was seconded by Dr Matt Cox with the assurance of ongoing prayers for the Staff Team.

For consideration by the PCC: Mrs Lizzie Wallace raised the issue of youth outreach involving a significant amount of work, finance, hours and prayer. Could the PCC consider how best to enable this to happen?

7. CLOSING PRAYERS

Dr Matt Cox led the meeting in prayer, followed by others.

The Vicar expressed a final thanks to the Churchwardens, the Treasurer, the Administrator, the Pastoral Co-ordinator and the Children's & Youth Worker and to all of those who pray for the church, and urged us to continue to pray that the Lord will be at work among us.

The meeting finished at 8:50pm.

APPENDIX 1

Susan Almond	apologies	Andrew Lawn	
Nicola Bailey		Richard Lawn	present
Elizabeth Barker		Sheila Lloyd	present
George Beeken		Annette Long	
Greta Bennett		Heather Loyd	
Duncan Breckels	present	Ursela Maggie	
Audrey Castle		Rosemary Milne	
Ryan Clarke	present	Jean Moore	
James Coe	present	Valerie Morris	present
Sandra Coe	present	Chibuzo Oguguo-Okoro	
Matthew Cox	present	Chidibere Oguguo-Okoro	
Morvern Cox	present	Vivienne Osborne	
Kimberley Cullen		Barbara Pears	
Beryl Dark		Clare Reid	present
Ruth Downham		Margaret Sawyer	
Derek Drew	present	Peter Sawyer	
Elizabeth Dunningham		Caroline Sheldrick	present
Anneli El Asla		Christine Terry	
Sandra Gedling		Quinlan Terry	
Alan Gray	present	Geoffrey Tomlin	
Christine Gray	present	Peter Vinton	
Stephen Harvey		Elizabeth Wallace	present
Timothy Hearn		James Wallace	
Margaret Holden	apologies	Bernice Watts	present
Peter Holden	present	Daniel Watts	present
John Huke	apologies	Wendy Whitfield	present
Patricia Huke	apologies	Mary Wyatt	
Geraldine Joslin			
Anne Kavanagh	present	<i>Clergy in attendance</i>	
Michael Kavanagh	present	Stephen Lloyd	present
Diane King	present	Mark Wallace	present
Ann Larkin	present		
Paul Larkin	present		

APPENDIX 2: THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER'S, COLCHESTER (2021-2022)

Mr Duncan Breckels	Deanery Synod Rep	elected in 2020
Mr James Coe		elected in 2020
Dr Matt Cox	Churchwarden	ex officio
Mrs Anne Kavanagh	Churchwarden	ex officio
Dr Mick Kavanagh		elected in 2020
Mr Richard Lawn	PCC Treasurer	elected in 2020
Mrs Clare Reid		elected in 2021
Revd Mark Wallace	Curate-in-Charge & Chairman	ex officio
Mrs Bernice Watts	PCC Secretary	co-opted in 2020
Dr Dan Watts	Vice-Chairman	elected in 2020
Mrs Wendy Whitfeld		elected in 2020

Standing Committee

Matt Cox, Anne Kavanagh, Richard Lawn, Mark Wallace, Bernice Watts

Electoral Roll Officer

Mrs Clare Reid

Finance Subcommittee

Duncan Breckels, Mick Kavanagh, Richard Lawn, Mark Wallace, Dan Watts

Parish Safeguarding Representative

Mrs Anne Kavanagh