

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING
ST. MARTIN OF TOURS CHELSFIELD
held via ZOOM on SUNDAY, 18TH APRIL 2021 at 3.20pm

Those in attendance:

Rev'd John Tranter, Rev'd Susan Atkinson-Jones, Norman Bailey, Karen Barter, Susan Bennett, Gwen Bowen, Christine Cookson, Caroline Davis, Barry Foale, Paul Gosling, Anne Green, Tony Hemmings, Val Hemmings, Ken I'Anson, Anne Ireland, Brian Kemp, Jackie McCann, Steve McCann, Jim Nicol, Jim Rooke, Philippa Rooke, Jonathan Sargent, Graham Sawyer, Terry Sparkes, Mary Tozer, Gillian Vernon, Tony Vernon, Gerry Walker

The meeting followed on from the Annual Vestry Meeting

1. Attendees and apologies for absence were the same as for the Annual Vestry Meeting

2. **Minutes of the previous APCM held on 18th October 2020**

Approval of the Minutes was proposed by Brian Kemp, seconded by Barry Foale and agreed unanimously.

3. **Matters arising**

None

4. **Annual Reports:**

All reports, other than noted below, had been published on the church website in the week prior to the meeting. Copies may be obtained from the Secretary after the meeting on request.

(a) Electoral Roll

There were 101 names on the Electoral Roll, 29 of these being people resident in the parish. The Roll had been published on the church noticeboard for the previous 2 weeks. No questions on the report were raised.

The Electoral Roll officer, Gillian Vernon, had previously indicated her wish to stand down at this APCM. Rev'd John thanked her for her many years of service.

Christine Cookson had indicated her willingness to stand as Electoral Roll officer and was duly appointed. Rev'd John welcomed her and thanked her for standing.

(b) Annual Report of the PCC

Rev'd John summarised the main points. The report had been approved by the PCC at their meeting on 25th March 2021. No questions were raised.

(c) Financial Report for the year ending 31st December 2020 and Treasurer's Report for the same period

The Treasurer, Barry Foale, summarised the main points of the reports. The Financial Report had been independently examined and approved by the PCC at their meeting on 25th March.

Rev'd John noted that the accounts did not show a very healthy position but that, in view of the effects of the pandemic, they could have been a lot worse. He expressed grateful thanks to Barry Foale and the finance team for all their work during such a difficult year.

(d) Churchwardens' Fabric Report

Steve McCann summarised the main points. There are still considerable uncertainties due to the continuing restrictions caused by the Covid pandemic. The clergy, churchwardens and PCC will keep matters under regular review in the forthcoming months.

Under the revised Church Representation Rules 2020, appointment of sidesmen is now a matter for the PCC and not the APCM and was therefore not discussed at the meeting.

In response to a question, it was agreed that the Terrier and Logbooks would be open for public inspection after morning service on Sunday, 2nd May.

The churchwardens expressed their appreciation and thanks to Rev'd John for all his diligence, leadership during such a difficult year, and for delaying his retirement for a year. The programme of recorded and streamed services had allowed both the congregation and many others to see St. Martin's in worshipping action.

The churchwardens also recorded thanks to Janet Tranter for all her work behind the scenes for the life of the church and in support of Rev'd John.

Philippa Rooke recorded her thanks to Steve McCann for his 9 years of exemplary service as a churchwarden, during which he had displayed his business head combined with his passionate heart. He had acted as a calm influence during the last difficult year.

Steve responded with thanks to her and to Rev'd John. He had found the role very interesting and urged people to consider offering themselves to stand as churchwarden to share the work with Philippa going forward. He also recorded his grateful thanks to Jackie McCann for all her support.

Rev'd John expressed his thanks to both churchwardens for all their work and support to him during the year.

(e) Deanery Synod Report

The deanery Synod representatives were Steve McCann and Mary Tozer, who had been appointed at the APCM held on 18th October 2020 for a 3-year term of office.

Steve summarised the main points. He reminded people that the Deanery Synod meetings are open to all church members and encouraged wider attendance.

Rev'd John expressed his thanks to them both.

(f) Well Hill Report

No questions were raised. Anne Ireland commented that worshippers at Well Hill had very much enjoyed the services held outdoors during the good weather.

(g) PCC Secretary's Report

No questions were raised

(h) Safeguarding Report

Steve McCann confirmed that all DBS checking had been completed. He noted that the Diocese newsletter had emphasised the importance of being aware of the potential for an increase in domestic abuse during lockdown. No evidence had been discovered within the parish, but anyone made aware of any matters of concern should notify him as safeguarding officer.

(i) Churchyard Report

Philippa Rooke noted that since the report had been written, there had been a very successful churchyard working party of volunteers in early April.

Rev'd John thanked Philippa for taking over the responsibility of keeping the churchyard records from Ann Blatcher and congratulated them for keeping them in good order.

5. Elections and Appointments:

(a) Election of PCC members:

4 nominations had been received for membership of the PCC:

- Michael Choong - proposed by Steve McCann, seconded by Beverley Choong
- Jackie McCann - proposed by Mary Tozer, seconded by Barry Foale
- Jonathan Sargant - proposed by Susan Bennett, seconded by Steve McCann
- Paul Venton - proposed by Steve McCann, seconded by Jackie McCann

All were elected by unanimous vote and welcomed as new members by Rev'd

John.

(b) Appointment of Independent Examiner:

Diane Lewis had expressed her willingness to act again as Independent Examiner. Her appointment for 2021 was proposed by Anne Ireland and seconded by Ken I'Anson, and approved unanimously.

6. Minister's Report

Rev'd John's report is attached to these Minutes.

He expressed his sadness at retiring from his 7 years as Rector of St. Martin's and thanked everyone for all their love and support to him and Janet over that period.

Steve McCann paid tribute to Rev'd John's wonderful work and service to St. Martin's and the wider community during his time at Chelsfield. There had been some big challenges to face and especially the more recent difficulties of Covid-19. He expressed sincere thanks on behalf of everyone at St. Martin's and wished Rev'd John and Janet every happiness in their retirement.

The service at St. Martin's on 25th April would be Rev'd John's last service. Numbers were strictly limited due to social distancing, but the service would be videoed on Zoom and made available on the church Facebook page. It was impossible to hold a proper farewell party under current conditions, but Rev'd John and Janet would be returning to Chelsfield on 4th July when it was hoped to be possible to hold a suitable event, possibly in the Rectory garden.

All participants at the meeting joined in giving 3 cheers to Rev'd John.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 16.10pm.