

# St. Mary's Church Theydon Bois

## Minutes of the Annual Parochial Meeting held on Wednesday 19th April 2023

Rev. John Fry was in the Chair and a total of 18 parishioners were present.

Apologies had been received from Ro and Doug Pleasant and Robyn Marsh

### 1. Minutes of the Annual Parochial Meeting held on 20th April 2022

These were agreed and signed by Rev. John.

Approval of Minutes:

Proposed by: Carol Fenton

Seconded by: Mary Gill

Unanimously approved.

### 2. Adoption of Electoral Roll and Report from Electoral Roll Officer

The report of Sam Spencer (Electoral Roll Officer) confirmed that as at 6<sup>th</sup> April 2023 the Roll was as follows:

Roll 151

Non-Resident 14

Sam was thanked for her work in compiling the roll.

### 3. PCC report.

All reports had been circulated beforehand and were available on the Benefice website.

### 4. Vicar's report.

Rev. John read from Matthew 16: 24-26, the set reading for the day, which commemorated St. Alphage. He thanked all who had served throughout the year. He commented that there would be increasing challenge in the coming year, especially as he began his new role as Interim Missioner at Chelmsford Cathedral.

### 5. Election of Members of the Parochial Church Council.

Liz Douglass & Kerry Ells' first term of office had come to an end, as had Rosalyn Philip's second term. Five spaces were available and Liz Douglass, Kerry Ells, Liz Hannibal, Andrew Tunks & Will Bennett had been nominated. All were duly elected without the need for a vote.

### 6. Presentation of Examined Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021 and Appointment of the Independent Examiner

Andrew Tunks presented his report and the accounts. He reported that £37k of legacies had been received, meaning that the church had a surplus of £17k at the end of the year. Planned giving raised £55,850, but giving in church was evolving, raising collection amounts and donations through the use of electronic payments. The Parish Share had been paid in full. The Church Hall operated at a loss of £8.5k, but the resurfacing of the carpark had been expensive. Richard Risdon expressed serious concerns about the stewardship and finances of the church, which would be discussed at future PCC meetings.

Thanks were given to Andrew Tunks and Carol Fenton for all their work and they were given tokens of appreciation.

Acceptance and Approval of the Accounts:

Proposed by: Andrew Crook

Seconded by: Hugh Meteyard

Unanimously approved.

Appointment of Independent Examiner – Mike Coggins

Proposed by: Andrew Tunks

Seconded by: Lisa Debenham

Unanimously approved.

**7. Report on the Fabric, Goods & Ornaments of the Church (the Churchwardens report)**

The Church Wardens thanked everybody for all their support. Their report had been available on the website for everyone to read.

**8. Report on the Proceedings of Deanery Synod**

No questions were asked about the report on the website.

**9. Questions.**

Richard Risdon commented on the scarcity of people who attend special services through the year. Hugh Meteyard also commented that a different start time could improve this. This would be discussed at the next PCC meeting. Liz Douglass also asked about what provision is being made for new Christians and the unchurched.

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The meeting also heard from Hugh Meteyard who sang about what the choir had done during the past year as a plainchant.