



**ST MARY & ST JOHN, ROTHLEY PARISH CHURCH
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF PARISHIONERS
Sunday 3rd April 2022 at 11am in the Church**

PRESENT: The Vicar (Revd. Rob Gladstone) in the Chair and 65 parishioners.

1. WELCOME AND APPOINTMENT OF SECRETARY FOR THE MEETING

Rob welcomed those present and Susan Pinkus was proposed to take the minutes of the meeting. This was agreed.

2. OPENING PRAYERS & READING

Rob opened the meeting with prayer and a Bible reading, commenting that getting back to Church post-COVID has not been straightforward but we have been more successful than most due to our perseverance, faith and support for one another.

3. MINUTES OF THE 2021 MEETINGS OF PARISHIONERS

The minutes of the meetings of parishioners held on Sunday April 18th and Sunday 30th May 2021 had been circulated prior to the meeting. Proposed by Jean Johnson and seconded by David Wilson, these were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.

4. ELECTION OF CHURCHWARDENS

Fred Sleath and Margaret Rouse had both been appropriately nominated and seconded and were unanimously approved.

Rob thanked them for all the hard work they had undertaken over the last year. Also, the work of the Assistant Wardens has been invaluable and very much appreciated, as has the work of Ray Prince as Church Building Manager.

The meeting closed at 11.15am.



**ST MARY & ST JOHN, ROTHLEY PARISH CHURCH
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH
MEETING
Sunday 3rd April 2022 at 11.15am in the Church**

PRESENT: The Vicar (Revd. Rob Gladstone) in the Chair and 65 members on the Church Electoral Roll.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: 25 apologies had been received.

2. MINUTES OF THE 2021 ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

These were circulated before the meeting and agreed as an accurate record.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 2021 ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

None.

4. REPORT ON CHANGES TO THE CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL

Rob gave huge thanks to Marion Whitby for her hard work on this. This year was a revision and update of the 2021 roll. The electoral roll now stands at 267, which is up from 248 last year, a net increase of 19.

5. THE ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR 2021

This is a legal requirement for Churches from the Charity Commission. Many thanks to Sue Wilson and Paul Parkinson for their collation and presentation of this document. We all agreed their hard work on this was truly appreciated.

6. TREASURER'S REMARKS

Sue Wilson thanked everyone for the part they had played in the ministry of this church during 2021 through generous contributions of time, talents and funds, as evidenced in the Annual Report and Accounts for 2021. She thanked Paul Parkinson for inserting pictures and charts to enhance the document.

Sue informed us of a legacy that the church had just received. Following the death of Alastair Barnett, who was a frequent visitor to this church, the estate of his mother, the late Lady Isobel Barnett, had been distributed and Rothley Parish Church received £72,000 in January 2022. Our policy is to use legacy income for specific projects, rather than on general expenditure. The 2021 Annual Accounts explain that, although we have been able to install the audio-visual system and dimmers for the lighting in church and refurbish the Old School Rooms, the COVID-19 pandemic has slowed down our progress on other projects. The PCC hopes to move forward in considering other projects during 2022. We have been greatly blessed by the generosity of past members of this church and the PCC takes seriously its responsibility to use their gifts in the best ways possible to further the Christian witness of this church.

7. ELECTIONS TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Susan Pinkus had completed six years on the PCC, plus 1 year initially as a co-opted member, so must stand down this year. She has agreed to continue her service as PCC Secretary, however.

There was one nomination:

Susie Clark, proposed by David Wilson and seconded by Gillian Kellie.

Susie Clark was duly elected.

8. APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER OF THE ACCOUNTS FOR 2022

Sue Wilson, Church Treasurer, proposed Newby Castleman Chartered Accountants to conduct the independent examination of the Church Accounts for 2022, seconded by Fred Sleath, and agreed by the meeting.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

Rob thanked everyone for their responses to his email regarding the experimental service pattern. These will be considered at the next PCC meeting on 9th May 2022.

Whilst acknowledging that there will be no one service pattern which will suit everyone, the responses included a huge expression of gratitude for what had been done as Church reopened following closure due to the pandemic and for the new initiatives established as a result of it.

Summary of Post Covid Questionnaire Responses (April 2022)

This is not a list of everything that was mentioned, but an attempt to distil the most common themes into something manageable.

The dominant theme is an expression of thanks for being willing to try something, the great number of encouragements there have been, and a desire to continue with the basic pattern we have followed during the experimental period:

- faithful Bible teaching across all formats
- Choral Evensong
- a later start to the first service and the inclusion of music within it
- the new leaders, informal approach and style of worship at 11:00
- the opportunity to meet people over tea and coffee between services
- the developing use of the AV
- the flexibility of format for the afternoon/evening service
- the availability of a live stream each week
- the variety of styles and opportunities for worship across the day

Areas the PCC needs to give some thought to:

- are we losing the multi-generational aspect, no longer see children?
- should we go back to one morning service?
- is the afternoon service too early/too late?
- is the time of the first service too early/too late?
- have we the right pattern for Sunday School?
- is tea/coffee enabling a mix across congregations?
- is the pattern sufficiently predictable?
- could we be more creative with the evening slot?

Rob then afforded a time for questions and comments.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

David Wilson thanked Rob for his faithfulness and loving care during the pandemic. His care for the bereaved, especially, has been greatly appreciated. David also thanked Sarah for her unfailing support. This has been a tough year in many respects and so we are especially grateful for Rob's ministry.

11. CLOSING PRAYERS

The meeting closed at 12.26pm.