

**PARISH OF HINCHLEY WOOD
MEETING OF PARISHIONERS AND
ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING HELD ON
SUNDAY, 29 APRIL 2018 AT 11.30 am**

MINUTES

	<p>Present: PCC -Revd. Fr.Peter Jenner (Chair), Heather Allen (Churchwarden), Jane Barnett, Moira Beardshall, Ann Ellis, Celia Francis, Eileen Griffiths, Liz Hammond, Revd Caroline Mullins, John O’Neill, Stephanie Post (Minutes), Margaret Thompson (Churchwarden), Roy Turner, Joan Walmsley.</p> <p>Congregation – Mandi Ali, Sheila Ames, Don Beardshall, Ivan Burnside, Kate Burnside, Rosemary Coath, George and Helen Davison, Dave Ellis, Mary Findlay, John Francis, Jean Hayes, Hilda Highley, Jean Hoseason, Phyllis Indge, Shelagh Mills, Nancy Ng, Kwan Ng, A C Nicholls, Maureen Price, Emma Rush, Simin Talebi, Roger Thompson, Tracey Warren.</p>
1	Apologies: Dorothy Lloyd-Lewis, Ted and Jenny Peacock, Denice Tinson
2	<p>Minutes of Meeting of Parishioners for election of Churchwardens held on 19 March 2017</p> <p>The minutes were approved unanimously and signed. (Proposer: Celia Francis, Seconder: Helen Davison.)</p>
3	Election of Churchwardens Heather Allen and Margaret Thompson were elected unanimously to serve as Churchwardens for the coming year.
4	<p>Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on 19 March 2017</p> <p>The minutes of the last APCM were adopted unanimously as a correct record. (Proposer: Roy Turner, Seconder: Mandy Ali)</p>
5	<p>Matters Arising from the minutes.</p> <p>There were no matters arising from the minutes.</p>
6	<p>Report on the Electoral Roll (Electoral Roll Officer)</p> <p>Ann Ellis reported that the Electoral Roll still stood at 96 owing to a number of people who have died or moved away, offset by eight new additions to the Roll. She encouraged others to approach her for enrolment and reminded everyone to report any changes to her.</p>
7	<p>Proposal to revert to the standard term of office for elected PCC members set out in Rule 16(1) of the Church Representation Rules, namely three years with members on retirement being eligible for re-election (Vicar)</p> <p>Father Peter explained that the term of office for PCC members had been amended by the APCM at various times in the past. PCC now felt that the current term of 5 years followed by a mandatory one-year break was too restrictive, and he proposed that we should revert to the previous term of</p>

	<p>three years with the option of being re-elected immediately afterwards, provided that the ratio of elected PCC members to Electoral Roll members is maintained. (Given that there are 96 people on the Electoral Roll we can have 9 people as elected PCC members, besides ex-officio and co-opted members.) The resolution could come into immediate effect. The resolution was passed unanimously (Proposed: Fr.Peter, Seconded: Liz Hammond).</p>
8	<p>Election of new PCC members for 3 years (Vicar) Ann Ellis was re-elected (Proposed: Stephanie Post, Seconded: Jean Hoseason), Moira Beardshall was re-elected (Proposed: Roger Thompson, Seconded: Rosemary Coath) and Helen Davison was elected for the first time (Proposed: Revd. Caroline Mullins, Seconded: Stephanie Post).</p>
9	<p>Appointment of Welcomers Liz Hammond reported that Rachel Herbert and Imina Wylde had replaced Tony and Sue Haycroft who had moved away. She listed the other welcomers who were willing to continue: Moira Beardshall, Rosemary Coath, Celia Francis, Christa Peasey, Stephanie Post, Heather Richards, Roy Turner and Jenny Woodruffe-Peacock. Eileen Griffiths and Ted Woodruffe-Peacock were kept on the list as reserves.</p>
10	<p>Report on Ornaments and Fabric of the Church (Churchwardens) Heather Allen referred to the Parish Life booklet and pointed out that the Surrey Community Action funding had enabled major works to be carried out, completing in 2016, including better access for the disabled and improved heating and energy efficiency. As a result there had been few maintenance issues during the past year. However, a number of routine maintenance jobs had been undertaken, including the disposal of old play equipment for the nursery, the painting of the hall decking with anti-splinter paint and the cleaning of the interior walls of the church. Heather thanked everyone who gave their time and skills, such as the cleaning working party, Don Beardshall for gardening and John O'Neill for maintenance work. The Quinquennial Inspection, undertaken in October 2017, found that the buildings were generally in reasonable condition, but that some ongoing maintenance was required, starting with the repair or replacement of gutter and waterpipes. The 5-year electrical report, also carried out in October, had identified some remedial work to be done, and quotes were being sought. Fr. Peter thanked the two Churchwardens for their diligence in taking care of the church buildings.</p>
11	<p>Report on Parish Activities (Churchwardens) Heather referred to the Annual Report and Accounts and highlighted the fact that 2017 had been a very significant year with the positive result of the appointment and installation of our new Vicar. She expressed our gratitude to Caroline for keeping services going during the long vacancy, for all those involved in the Prayer Chain, Stay and Play, Messy Church, rotas for the Clergy, Mustard Seeds, including Jane Barnett's work with children. There had been an interesting mix of traditional Sung Eucharist and All-Age Eucharist services, baptism services, a wedding-blessing service and evening prayer. We were sad to lose Chris Gill, a long-standing and active member of the church, for whom a Thanksgiving Service was held on 30 June 2017. He had kindly left us a generous legacy, for which we are grateful.</p>

Heather thanked Margaret Thompson and Liz Hammond for their work as Pastoral Assistants at Gibson Court and Grace Lodge and with individual members of the congregation. She also thanked Moira Beardshall and Jean Hoseason for leading their Housegroups.

Heather also referred to the role of the church buildings in providing a centre for the local community, hosting the highly accredited Christopher Robin Nursery, as well as a wide range of leisure activities, including dance classes, yoga and martial arts.

The church has organised a number of social events to reach out to the wider community, such as the two Quiz Nights, the Beetle Drive, the CHEER tea-party, the August pop-up cafe and table-top sales and the Christmas Lunch, for which Roger Thompson, Imina Wilde and their team deserved special thanks

The Hinchley Wood magazine team, comprising church members and others in the local community, had continued to produce three interesting editions throughout the year.

Heather mentioned that the PCC had completed Diocesan training on safeguarding matters. Fr. Peter thanked Heather and others involved in completing the Annual Report.

12 Annual Report and Accounts (Churchwardens)

Margaret Thompson referred to the Financial Report stating that there were no nasty surprises but that we could be in better health financially. The Stewardship Campaign of 2016 had resulted in an increase in Planned Giving, but this had fallen in 2017, mainly due to several significant donors leaving the parish. There was however an increase in Gift Aid envelope donations during the vacancy, and some people had increased their Standing Orders, for which we were very grateful.

While £8,000 had been reserved for the refurbishment of the Vicarage, expenditure had in fact been a little under £2,000 because half of the work had been done by a working party of volunteers. The legacy of £5,000 was also welcome.

Margaret was pleased to announce that St Christopher had been able to pay its first full uncapped Parish Share for the first time in years, as a result of the continuing support of our congregation and our ongoing programme of cost control.

Margaret explained that church and hall hire was down by £2,500, mainly due to the film company reducing its hiring of the church during 2017 and two other hirers having withdrawn. A rent review was being planned. She announced that there had been a reduction in energy bills since 2016 and more cost savings were being looked into. £46,000 was being held as a reserve for the church. She concluded by saying that the long vacancy had taken its toll; the cost for two advertisements and the delay in getting a new incumbent set us back more than eight months. However, we should give thanks to God that this difficult period in our history was now over.

	<p>Fr.Peter thanked Margaret Thompson, Moira and Don Beardshall for their work on the accounts.</p> <p>Questions on Annual Report and Accounts In answer to a query about buildings insurance for the church and the church hall, Fr.Peter replied that the Finance Committee would look into it at their next meeting.</p>
13	<p>Acceptance of Annual Report and unaudited Accounts (Churchwardens) This was passed unanimously (Proposed: Heather Allen, Seconded: Margaret Thompson).</p>
14	<p>Appointment of Independent Examiner for the Financial Year 2018 (Churchwardens) Frances Wilde of Warner Wilde was reappointed by unanimous vote (Proposed: Heather Allen, Seconded: Margaret Thompson).</p>
15	<p>Report on Deanery Synod (Deanery Synod Representative) Liz Hammond referred to her report on the Deanery Synod in the Parish Life booklet, saying that 2017 had been quieter, with one meeting only which was, nevertheless, very productive with positive ideas for community involvement. With the appointment of the new Area Dean, 2018 was likely to be busier. There was a vacancy for a second Deanery Synod representative for St Christopher's.</p>
16	<p>Report on Diocesan Synod (Diocesan Synod Representative) Jane Barnett reported that the new implementation of the changes for the Parish Share would come into effect in 2019. The increase would not be huge, but likely to result in £68,000 a year. Hinchley Wood will be phased in for three years starting in January.</p>
17	<p>Closing remarks (Vicar) Fr. Peter remarked that he was touched by the welcome he had received and the way he had been helped to settle into the Vicarage and his new parish. His and our immediate task was go out into the community, make friends and listen to people, and on that foundation we could build the future of the church. An Away-Day would be arranged to discuss the way forward and by September we might notice some change.</p> <p>A communion course for children aged 7 onwards had been arranged and a confirmation course for all ages was being planned for September, possibly leading to a confirmation ceremony on 25 November.</p> <p>A programme on discipleship for all parishioners was likely to be in place in the Autumn. Meanwhile the finance committee including Moira, Don and Eileen Griffiths would look into the budget to squeeze savings for allocation elsewhere.</p> <p>Fr.Peter thanked everyone for working very hard. He was impressed by the efforts of the Events Committee and he urged everyone to invite people along to the events, as they were non-threatening opportunities to engage with our neighbours and provide a friendship element which God can use for his work. He thanked Caroline for keeping the services running and for her</p>

support in helping him settle in.

Further thanks were given to:

- Jane Barnett for organising Messy Church, Godzone and Quiz Nights;
- Margaret and Liz for their work as Pastoral Assistants;
- The Churchwardens and the PCC for engaging with church business and searching for a new incumbent in the face of considerable difficulties;
- Mandy for her diligent work in the Parish Office and her special contribution towards the Hinchley Wood magazine involving many extra hours;
- The Finance Committee – Moira, Don and Eileen for their orderly keeping of accounts, beautifully presented;
- Dave Ellis for organising the choir and the music group;
- Denice Tinson and Ann Ellis for their work as Safeguarding Officer and Electoral Roll Officer respectively;
- Jean Hoseason and Jean Hayes for leading the Mothers Union and the Women’s Wednesday Fellowship respectively;
- Roger Thompson for leading the men’s group and Theology at the Angel
- Jenny Peacock for leading the women’s group Girls at Georgies until its recent disbandment.
- Joan Walmsley for her work on the PCC and, although wishing to step down, for being willing to continue helping the church.
- All readers, intercessors, tea and coffee makers and everyone supporting the church with their time, talents and donations.

Celia Francis and Eileen Griffiths had, after many years on the PCC, including periods as Churchwardens and deputy Wardens, indicated their wish to step down. They were presented with bouquets with our thanks and our gratitude that they would continue to be involved in the church.

Heather Allen expressed thanks to Stephanie Post for acting as Secretary to which Stephanie replied that she was grateful for all the help in this role.

Questions for Church Officers
No further questions.

18 The meeting ended at 1.10pm with The Grace