**St Martin of Tours, Eynsford**

**Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

**Sunday 2 May 2021**

In accordance with the Church Representation Rules 2020 issued by the Church of England, the Annual Vestry Meeting and Annual Parochial Church Meeting is amalgamated into one meeting, the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

Reverend Dorothy McGarvey, as Chair of the meeting, opened the proceedings by welcoming all those present.

1. Apologies for absence. None.
2. Election of the Church Wardens. One nomination had been received for Peter Sansom and he was duly elected. Peter Sansom said that this would be his last year as Church Warden and that we need two more people to come forward as Church Wardens otherwise the Diocese will see us as a failing church. Reverend Dorothy thanked Peter for standing again.
3. Minutes of the previous meeting. Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on 4 October 2020 were proposed as a correct record. All those present were in favour of the proposal and it was passed unanimously.
4. Matters arising. None.
5. Election of Parochial Church Council (9 places). Sue Povey said that 8 nominations for the PCC had been received. These were: Julie Clark, Linda Gwyther, Julie Piper, Martin Piper, Sue Povey, Linda Viner, Matthew Weaver and Jo Williment. Reverend Dorothy proposed the appointment of all those nominated and all present were in favour of the proposal with none against.
6. Presentation of the Annual Report. Peter Sansom presented the Annual Report (attached) and invited any questions. He said that the PCC were grateful to all those who support the Church.
7. Church Warden’s Report. Peter Sansom said that this is his penultimate report as he would be standing down next year. He reported that it had been a tough year with the Church opening erratically due to Covid restrictions. He felt sad that as the largest Church in the Benefice we cannot fill our roles and wondered why: Are we Church followers or Church disciples? He said that as we come out of lockdown, we need to look at why we are not growing. He thanked Sarah Boyle and Julie Clark for welcoming the congregation, taking a list of names and cleansing hands and furniture; Philip McGarvey for all his help with the laptop at Church services; Linda Viner for preparing the accounts; John and Dulcie Hill for looking after our money; Sue Povey as Secretary and Tina for all her work in the office and with home groups and prayer ministry. He said that a lot of people do things that we don’t know about. On behalf of the congregation and the PCC he gave grateful and heartfelt thanks to Reverend Dorothy who he said has only been Rector since 10 December 2020, but even before that she did all the work but with no authority. He concluded that he hoped that someone will take his place next year. Reverend Dorothy thanked Peter for all his support and work, in particular, his work on getting the office moved which she said has been a nightmare. She thanked Peter for his thanks.
8. Presentation of the Annual Financial Report for 2020. Linda Viner presented the audited accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020. She reported that there was a deficit for the year of £5793 which she said was not as bad as it might have been. She said that there could be a £17000 deficit for 2021 if we are unable to continue with services. Linda thanked all those who had helped the Church during the year. Sarah Boyle queried the insurance premium as it was higher this year than last year. Linda explained that a premium had been skipped in 2019 which had to be caught up in 2020. Reverend Dorothy thanked Linda for presenting the accounts and for helping with the fundraising. Reverend Dorothy said that everything that we have comes from God, talents and financial resources, and we should prayerfully consider if we could give more.
9. Appointment of Independent Financial Examiner for 2020: Linda Viner reported that David Carey is willing to stand again. Sue Povey was asked to send a letter of thanks.
10. Presentation of the Electoral Roll. Matthew Weaver, Electoral Roll Officer, reported that this was a standard year. The revised church roll was 73 members.
11. Report of the Deanery Synod Representatives: It was reported that there were no Deanery Synod representatives. The good news is that Marion Bond has volunteered. The formal elections were last year and Marion’s appointment will therefore need to be agreed at the next PCC. We still need one more representative.
12. Rector’s Report. Reverend Dorothy said that everyone has worked so hard in challenging circumstances which has enabled us all to stay in contact. She said that there will be more challenging times ahead. We cannot go back to the way we were before because the world has changed. One clergy cannot now do the pattern of services as before and we need to agree a new pattern of services which the Benefice Council agree. From July we might be able to sing and not need to be one metre apart. She asked that we all please be patient and not too critical as everyone is doing their best to let God’s good shine. She thanked everyone for caring for each other. She said from the bottom of her heart that she felt that we have all done our best for people to let them know they are cared for and loved. She said that once the office has Broadband installed, we would be able to do Zoom services.
13. Any Other Business. Dulcie Hill thanked Barrie Payne for playing the organ and piano as this adds a lot to the services as we are not able to sing. Marion Bond asked whether the role of Church Warden could be divided up. Reverend Dorothy said that we need a Church Warden that is available and that having two church wardens would make a big difference.

Reverend Dorothy concluded the meeting with the Grace at 11.20am.

Minutes by Sue Povey, PCC Secretary

Attachments:

Annual Financial Report for 2020

PCC Annual Report