

# OTLEY PARISH CHURCH

## Minutes of Annual Parish Church Meeting Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2021

This meeting was held on Zoom

**1 Opening prayers:** Rev'd Graham Buttanshaw welcomed everyone and opened the meeting with prayer.

**2 Present:** Rev'd Graham Buttanshaw and 31 parishioners

**Apologies:** Allan Boddy, Dave Cherry, Margaret Parkin and Margaret Thompson

### **3 Minutes of the APCM held on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2020**

The acceptance of these minutes was proposed by John Simkins, seconded by Georgina Drew and unanimously agreed.

**4 Matters Arising** none

### **5 Churchwardens Measure 2001 – limiting a Wardens' length of service.**

**5.1** Graham Buttanshaw explained that according to the Churchwardens Measure 2001 a Churchwarden could only serve for a maximum of six years. However it is possible to propose a resolution to revoke this rule which would allow a warden to serve for a longer period. The meeting agreed to revoke this rule unanimously.

### **6 Electoral Roll and Election of Electoral Roll Officer for 2021 - 2022**

**6.1** Barry Milner reported that 4 people had asked to be added and sadly 3 had died. The total is now 156. For 2 weeks the list of names on the Electoral Roll will be posted in church.

### **7 Election of Churchwardens to serve– 2020- 2021**

#### **7.1 Churchwarden nominations**

Barry Milner                      Proposed by Barbara Nicholls      Seconded by Liz Walker

Kevin Keefe                      Proposed by Tom Pettinger      Seconded by Barry Milner

The meeting voted unanimously in favour of accepting these nominations. GB expressed grateful thanks and appreciation for all the hard work which Barry and Kevin have done over the past year. He also thanked Kevin for taking over the office administration work and Barry for being hands on with cleaning and arranging furniture in church. He thanked them both for being willing to stand again.

### **8 Clergy Report**

Graham suggested that the attendees be divided into 5 groups to discuss what during the last year we have liked or disliked, what we think we should continue and any new thoughts about what we might want to do. The groups would bring their thoughts back for general discussion.

These were points raised:-

Messy Church was tried twice online but it didn't work as it needs more togetherness. Also children were doing much online work for school so too much time was screen time.

Christingle kits which were given out in the churchyard were very well received. It was moving that many who are not regular members of the church family were engaged with the idea.

The Christmas Nativity video was very much enjoyed.

Some people who have no access to a computer may have been overlooked although 'In Touch' magazine has been sent out regularly to 150 people.

Open House meeting – maybe people could be asked if they would be willing to leave their contact details. Graham has been in contact with vulnerable people.

A contact list of church members would be helpful.

Services online have been really appreciated. These may continue after church is fully opened up.

House groups have continued on Zoom. House group members have been able to drop things off for people.

There was a suggestion that maybe an 'Alpha' course could be held in a pub.

Barry Milner – we have been fortunate to be able to do online services as some churches could not do this. Streaming of funerals has been appreciated as numbers have been restricted.

Janet Buttanshaw – other people have been involved in the online services and also the Lent talks.

Norman Barr – a new person said that they had been made to feel very welcome.

Pam Beck – has enjoyed being back in church with music.

Val Tait – thanks to Stephen Hey for the 'In Touch' magazine which the Newall Hall ladies have enjoyed.

Ann Walker – has appreciated the Tuesday services.

Liz Heffer – thanks for all the support which she has received.

Zoe Smith – is looking forward to being able to start youth activities.

## **9 Reports**

### **9.1 Annual report & Financial Statement for 2019**

This had been made available online. The two legacies received at the end of 2019 had been a significant cushion to see us through a year when our normal income was affected in several ways. Newall Church Hall was sold for £147,515 and the gain on sale over the book value was £22,515. Our day to day expenditure for the year exceeded our income by £13,191 but the net surplus after taking account of the gain on sale of the hall was £9,324.

Stuart Hartley thanked Norman for all his hard work with the finances.

The report was accepted following a proposal by Barry Milner, seconded by Georgina Drew and unanimously agreed.

GB thanked Rosemary and Norman for the Annual report.

### **9.2 GB reflections on 2020**

GB said that this had been a hard year for Christians but meaningful. We need to be looking for solutions and equality as we look around the world, what is needed to put it right and how the church preaches into this paradigm. God is a loving parent and creator of all, the world is hungry and looking for something. GB said that he feels positive about the year and it has taught us much. We have so much to share with Otley and the world, suffering is calling us to actions.

### **9.3 Churchwarden's Fabric Report – Barry Milner**

A report had been sent out prior to the meeting. Many of the improvements have happened. Barry thanked Kevin Keefe and Ken Dale for their help. The architect will soon be doing his 5 yearly report.

### **9.4 Deanery Synod Report**

Jill reported that the Deanery is being reorganised to create more diverse groups. A meeting was held in March in which the environment and disability were discussed. Whilst issues around disability tend to focus on access to premises there are many other things to consider. Jill mentioned that her eyesight was not so good and she found words in pale colours on the overhead screens were hard to see. The next meeting is in June. Climate change was discussed. Dave Cherry has a plan for Climate Sunday

### **9.5 Safeguarding Report**

This had been made available online. Jenny Liston said that this is a work in progress, she thanked people for filling in the necessary forms.

## **10 Election of Independent Examiner for 2021-20212**

Norman reported that West Yorkshire Community Accounting Services had done last years' accounts and he proposed that they be appointed again. This was seconded by Lynne Barber and unanimously agreed.

## **11 Appointment of Sidespersons for 2021-2022**

Sidespersons were in effect the Welcoming Team. Due to ongoing Covid 19 issues training would have to be provided and this would be discussed at the next PCC meeting.

## **12 Election of Tellers for item 13 if required.**

Not required

## **13 Election of 4 Members of the Laity to serve on the PCC for 3 years.**

John Simkins and Norman Barr agreed to continue as members of the PCC

Karen O'Hara is standing down.

There is still space for 2 more members.

## **14 Future Events**

John Simkins reported that 'Thy Kingdom Come' will be held on 13 – 23 May. Material will be available online and also there will be some material for young people and younger children.

Georgina Drew is organising a sponsored walk and a Justgiving page for Christian Aid. She also suggested having a stall at the Buttercross. She also said that in the next issue of 'In Touch' there will be an article about 'Caring for Life' and Kasiizi, our local to global charities.

## **15 Correspondence**

None

## **16 Any Other Business**

Kevin Keefe reported from the Communications team. In the last month there were 120 visits to the website each day, with 220 pages a day being viewed. He said how especially crucial, coherent and cohesive communications had been during the past 14 months. The team comprises Kevin, Stephen Hey, John Simkins, Ken Dale, Emily Garner and Graham.

## **17 Closing Prayers**

Graham Buttanshaw concluded with prayers

GB thanked everyone for attending the meeting and the grace was shared.