

Holy Trinity Church Headington Quarry

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, held on Wednesday 21st October 2020 online

Present: Peter Garside and David Smith (Churchwardens for the year 2020–21), together with an estimated 50 parishioners.

Apologies for absence: These were taken at the preceding meeting for the election of churchwardens.

Minutes: The Minutes of the previous meeting, held on Wednesday 10th April 2019, having been circulated, were approved unanimously.

Elections/Appointments (1)

- **PCC:** The following, being the only nominees as members of the PCC, were duly elected: Joan Jones, proposed by Joan Walding, seconded by Elizabeth Knight. Philippa Logan, proposed by Katya Drummond, seconded by Diana Harrison. Felicity Wallendszus, proposed by Helen Day, seconded by Janet Masters. Richard Stoneman, proposed by Peter Garside, seconded by Karl Wallendszus. It was noted that Andréa Taylor would be co-opted onto the PCC at the next meeting of the PCC.

Retiring members of PCC were thanked warmly, especially Joan Walding who has decided to retire from PCC after many years of service.

- **Deanery Synod:** The following, being the only nominees as members of the deanery synod, were duly elected: Margaret Woodcock, proposed by Helen Day, seconded by Janet Masters. Janet Foot, proposed by Flora Alexander, seconded by Sheila Allcock. Mark Poolman will be co-opted onto the deanery synod at the next meeting of the PCC. It was noted that the allocated number of deanery synod representatives for Holy Trinity has gone down from four to three because the number on the electoral roll has also decreased.
- **Welcome Team:** Due to a change in the rules from this year, it is no longer necessary to elect welcomers as this will be done by the PCC in future.

Financial Statement (2)

Annual financial statement: (2.1) Richard Stoneman presented the annual accounts for 2019. He confirmed that the finances are in a sound position, despite the pandemic thanks to the continued generosity of the members of the church.

(2.2) Richard said that the finance team had identified ways for Holy Trinity to use standardised financial procedures in order to operate more smoothly and to fulfil our mission better as a result. Thanks were expressed to Richard for all his hard work and for stepping into the role of treasurer this year.

(2.3) There was a question about how much is given by Holy Trinity to mission and Richard said this amounted to over £4,000. Richard was also asked if Holy Trinity kept its commitment to giving 5% of voluntary income to charity, which he confirmed. Laura added that what constitutes 'mission' needs to be defined more clearly so that in future years this can be broken down into separate areas.

(2.4) There was a further question about whether or not the independent examiner was independent of the treasurer. Richard replied that although he knows Svetlana Duncalf, she is fully qualified and experienced and has given Holy Trinity valuable financial advice. Laura confirmed that there had been a lengthy process in selecting Svetlana to take over from Sally Thompson as independent financial advisor. Sally is unable to continue in this role because she is now paid as the book keeper for Holy Trinity.

Independent Examiner: (2.6) Richard Stoneman proposed that Svetlana Duncalf be appointed independent examiner. This was seconded by Roz Smith and unanimously agreed.

Receiving Reports (3)

Electoral Roll: (3.1) Joan Jones, as Electoral Roll Officer, has prepared a new Electoral Roll for 2020. A revision was made in the spring in preparation for an APCM in April, which did not take place due to the pandemic. The new roll comprises 165 names. 115 people on the roll live within the parish boundary, and 50 further away. This is a net increase of ten on last year's figure. Joan says she has identified the need to make people aware of the electoral roll as a record of membership of the church membership.

Wardens' Report: (3.2) Peter began his report by speaking about the unusual gap between the last APCM and this one and the challenging role of churchwarden at this time of pandemic. He expressed his gratitude to Laura for her advice at this time. Peter concluded by asking us to pray, in the name of Christ, for wise decision-making in all that we do.

Matters for General Discussion (4)

Roz Smith suggested that the church could be open for small groups to meet socially as people are missing face to face contact at this time. Laura replied that it was part of the overall vision to have flexible space open at the west end of the church in the fullness of time. She accepted that there was a need for social interaction and that this could be put to the PCC for discussion. It was mentioned that all spaces are different and decisions about what is possible need to be building specific.

Vicar's Report (5)

(5.1) Laura thanked everyone for all that they have done to help with the running of the church.

(5.2) Laura referred to the continued importance of the vision morning held in January 2020 and of the need to be of one mind going forward. She said that there would be a separate meeting on the building project once the planning had been renewed.

(5.3) She mentioned the importance of the heritage of Holy Trinity with its historic beauty and unique connection with C.S. Lewis.

(5.4) Worship and spirituality – Laura spoke about the need to enhance our facilities (e.g. lighting, decor and a greater flexibility of space)

(5.5) Laura spoke of the importance of community outreach to visitors e.g. C.S. Lewis pilgrims, parents at the local school.

(5.6) Laura expressed her hope that we would set aside any divisions and move forwards together as far as possible in one mind and that Holy Trinity would be a spiritual hub to serve the people of Headington Quarry, Risinghurst, Wood Farm and beyond.

(5.7) Laura asked if there were any questions about her report. There was a question as to whether or not the Coach House could be used for social activities instead of the church. Laura replied that it was a question of both and not either/or and that the vision for the Coach House was under review at the moment. She also said that the suggestion would be taken to the Coach House management committee.

Laura said that anyone was always welcome to contact her by email or phone and that there would be another vision day via Zoom at some point, as well as a public meeting on the building project. She asked us to keep the process in our prayers.

This was welcomed by Roz Smith who also suggested more online ‘Tea with the Vicar’ meetings. Laura agreed and Roz said she would publicise them.

Date of next APCM: Wednesday May 26th 2021.

Dates of the PCC meetings in 2021: these dates will be circulated to PCC members.

Date of the next Standing Committee: Wednesday November 11th 2020

Date of the next PCC meeting: Wednesday November 25th 2020

There being no further business, the Chair led prayers, and declared the meeting closed at 8.57pm.

Signed

Date