

## **MINUTES OF GREAT BRICKHILL ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING,**

### **HELD IN THE CHURCH ON TUESDAY 30th APRIL 2019 AT 7.30pm.**

These Minutes should be read in conjunction with the presentation of slides, the 2019 Warden's Report and the 2019 Rector's 2019. These are available as a PDF file on the website on the following page:-

<http://brickhillchurches.org.uk/great-brickhill/annual-church-meeting/annual-meeting-2019/>

#### **The Reverend John Waller took the chair.**

The Rector opened the meeting with prayer, and welcomed all those attending.

### **PART I: THE ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING**

#### **ELECTION OF THE CHURCH WARDENS:**

The current Warden, Mrs. Julia Turner, was prepared to seek re-election. Her nomination was proposed by Mrs. Phillipa Cook and seconded by Mrs. Christine Agambar. Mrs. Turner was duly elected.

The Rector thanked Mrs Turner for her work during the year and he was very grateful that she would be serving for another year.

### **PART II: THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**

**APOLOGIES** were received from 4 people.

An Attendance Sheet was circulated. A total of 18 parishioners were in attendance.

#### **MINUTES OF THE LAST ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON 17th APRIL 2018**

The Minutes of the previous Annual Meeting had been made available in advance. The Minutes were approved and signed by the Rector as a true record (proposed by Mr. Jeremy Hopkinson and seconded by Mrs. Joy Wilson).

#### **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

None.

#### **ELECTIONS:**

##### **a). Nine Members of the PCC.**

The Rector informed the Meeting that the number of PCC members allowed for the size of our Electoral Roll is 9. At the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in 2004 provision was made for the annual appointment of representatives on the PCC. There is also facility for two people to be co-opted on to the PCC during the year if there is good reason to add more people.

The Rector thanked the members of the PCC for their contribution over the last twelve months and was pleased that they were all willing to stand again.

Details of all the Nominations, received prior to the meeting:-

<u>Name of Nominee:</u>	<u>Proposed By:</u>	<u>Seconded By:</u>
Phillipa Cook	Joy Wilson	Stuart Wilson
Mary Maley	Phillipa Cook	Julia Turner

Angela Northen	James Northen	Phillipa Cook
Margretta Smith	Andrew Smith	Phillipa Cook
Joy Wilson	Michael Turner	Betty Kinsey

**Total = 5 ( Maximum No. to be elected = 6  
based on current Electoral Roll )**

As the number of Nominations was five there was no need to hold a vote - all five were duly elected to serve on the PCC. The Treasurer, Mr. Neil Cook, would be co-opted on to the PCC at the first meeting after the Annual Meeting.

The current Deanery Synod Representative is Mr. Jeremy Hopkinson - the three-year term of office comes to an end in 2020 when there will need to be an election. The second post remains vacant.

**b). Appointment of Independent Examiner for 2019.**

The Treasurer said that Mr. David Beatty had acted as Independent Examiner for this year and was willing to continue. Proposed by Mrs. Mary Maley and seconded by Mrs. Joy Wilson, Mr. Beatty was duly appointed as Independent Examiner for 20189. The Treasurer recorded his thanks to Mr. Beatty.

**d). Appointment of Sidesmen.**

The Rector gave the names of those who currently serve as Sidesmen:- Christine Agambar, Chris Baker, Roger & Sue Blofeld, Pat Clark, Phillipa Cook, Betty Kinsey and Janet Pritchard. All were re-appointed to serve for a further year. The Rector thanked them for their support in carrying out this role.

**TREASURER’S REPORT INCL. ANNUAL REPORT:**

Copies of the Annual Report had been available in advance of the Meeting. The Treasurer, Mr. Neil Cook, presented the Accounts and referred to the “Review of the Accounts” in the Annual Report:-

**REVIEW OF THE ACCOUNTS**

The Accounts have been prepared on a Receipts and Payments basis, falling in line with most other churches and thus avoiding the onerous regulations that apply to accruals accounts.

The Church had a deficit of £708 for the year giving a balance in Unrestricted Funds of £24,069. Total Receipts for the year are down - Gift Aid donations reduced and the Tax Rebates were down significantly due to the claim in 2017 for one very large donation received in 2016. The total general Expenditure for the year decreased by £8,524 from 2017, due mainly to the reduced payment of the Parish Share (see below). The amount of Outside Giving was £200 (£500 for the last three years). All other expenditure was in line with last year.

**Payment of the Parish Share:**

The amount of Parish Share for the year was £25,615 up 6.3% from 2017. Due to the projected deficit for the year the amount paid to the Diocese was £15,000 (59% of the amount due). The Parish Share due for 2019 will be £25,243, a slight reduction of 1.5%. With the current level of income, it will not be possible to pay the Parish Share in full in future if the Share stays at the present level.

**Restricted Items:**

As well as general income the P.C.C. has received donations which are restricted as to their use, the money having been given for specific purposes. Under the Charities Act accounting regulations, the restricted funds have to be identified separately in the main accounts. The P.C.C. is able to confirm that it holds sufficient and appropriate assets to meet the conditions of expenditure of all restricted funds. Details of the balances of funds and the assets which are held to represent those funds are contained in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

The total for Restricted Funds at the end of the year has decreased to £91,790, mainly due to the costs of the architect’s fees.

The treasurer added that we now have a device for Contactless card payments. It does depend on mobile network connection which is not that good at the church.

The question was raised as to what bearing does not paying the full Parish Share have. The rector said that it is a voluntary and advisory amount. There is no direct sanction. The problem is caused because our Share is very high, which was not a problem to pay until recent years when we have lost some very generous individual donors.

Jeremy Hopkinson (Deanery Treasurer) said that rural deaneries have generally been struggling to pay the Share – the shortfall paid to the diocese has been 2-3% but will be much bigger this year. The Parish Share pays for the clergy cost and training, not other costs such as admin. If not enough Share is paid, there will be less clergy. The Diocese is looking into the problem.

The Rector noted the significant giving and fund-raising events, showing lots of support and he thanked everyone for that.

The Annual Report and Accounts is one single document - adoption was proposed by Mr. Alan Poynter and seconded by Mrs. Janet Pritchard. All were in favour of the adoption of the report.

The Rector thanked the Treasurer for his work through the year and on the accounts.

### **ELECTORAL ROLL:**

Mr Jeremy Hopkinson reported that at the start of the year there were 51 people on the Electoral Roll. There was a revision of the Roll prepared for this Annual Meeting, at which time there were 44 people on the Revised Roll of whom 6 were not resident in the parish.

**There followed a PHOTOGRAPHIC REVIEW of the last twelve months, approx. 100 photos covering events through the year.**

#### List of events in photos:-

Family Service at Brickstock  
Cryers' Concert & Cream Teas  
Family Service with Baptism  
Armistice Day 1918 2018  
Advent Coffee Morning  
The Nativity at The Old Red Lion  
Carol Singing & Christmas Services  
Snowdrop Walk 2019  
Easter Sunday 2019

### **WARDEN'S REPORT ON THE CHURCH BUILDING AND ITS FABRIC:**

Mrs. Julia Turner gave her Warden's report for the year – see separate file.

Mrs. Janet Pritchard gave thanks to Julia for all her hard work through the year.

### **ADDITIONAL FACILITIES IN THE CHURCH:**

The following update was given by the Rector:-

Following the appointment of the new architect in January, Adrian Ringrose drew up plans for the toilet extension and the refreshment point. These have been approved in principle by the DAC and the formal planning application was submitted to AVDC in November. The refreshment point will be housed in the area to the rear of the font, which has been used successfully to serve teas and coffee since the start of the year. The DAC were helpful with their advice regarding the removal of the pews to accommodate this. There will be no reduction in the overall seating capacity of the church as there will be sufficient storage capacity for chairs. The toilet facility will be within a small extension through the west door with a short link to the church. The DAC have given their advice on the

structure and materials to be used. When the planning application is approved detailed drawings will be produced and the tendering process will take place. Only at this stage will there be a clear indication of the cost of the work but it is hoped that a substantial portion of the cost will be covered by grants. The PCC believes that the plans provide for facilities that are both achievable and affordable and will meet the needs of the church in the years ahead.

#### **RECTOR'S REPORT:**

The Rector gave the following report:

The Rector thanked the huge number of people who gave their support and offered his personal thanks for the understanding given for his personal situation.

He offered some reflections – see the separate file “The Rector’s Report” and accompanying slides on the presentation.

#### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

None.

The Reverend John Waller thanked everyone for attending and the meeting concluded with Compline at 8.20pm.