
Minutes for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting Tuesday, April 25th 7.30pm (Zoom)

1. Welcome

Nathan Watt welcomed everyone and explained the process of the meeting on zoom. The meeting will be recorded. Voting on zoom process (cut and paste process) record no or abstain put in the chat. Everything we say and talk about tonight is a testimony of God's faithfulness and worship to Him. Let's see each aspect of the meeting in this light as a declaration. Nathan played a worship song to focus on God never allowing us to walk alone and carrying the church in this year of vacancy which could have been difficult but has been rather beautiful and then opened the meeting in prayer.

2. Appointment of Wardens

The Warden role in the vacancy has been slightly different than the usual remit where they take on aspects of the vicar role which they will hand back to the new vicar on arrival.

Richard Tootill proposed that the APCM approve the reappointment of the Wardens, Nathan Watt and Anna Beyer this year. The APCM voted yes.

Ann-marie Idiabonya, thanked Nathan and Anna for the sacrificial work they have done behind the scenes as well as upfront, giving up their time and energy praying and managing the team.

3. Vestry Meeting:

a. **Minutes of the previous APCM April 26th, 2022.** The minutes were approved.

b. Thank You to those stepping down

Nicky Bean (McDonald), Ayo Asagba, Sarah McCowen, Mike Dyson are stepping down from the PCC. Nathan Watt thanked each of them individually.

- Ayo for really caring about the people, making things fair and asking good questions.
- Nicky taking the trustee role so seriously.
- Mike for having done so much on the PCC and for being a wonderful sounding board.
- Sarah for being an encourager and Staff Champion.

Each has brought their own stamp to the POC. Thank you.

c. Election of PCC

Clive Mills a long-standing church member and HR consultant is stepping up on the PCC. Those not stepping down from PCC are continuing this

year. Nathan Watt proposed the current PCC to continue. The APCM voted yes.

i. Deanery rep

John Griffiths explained the Deanery synod rep role which we would like him to continue. The APCM voted John Griffiths to continue as Deanery Rep.

ii. Commissioning

We have a new PCC. Caroline McCrink prayed over the PCC and poured out blessings on those stepping down, Clive stepping up and those continuing with protection, unity in Christ and all their giftings and prayed the scripture Psalm 133 over the PCC.

4. Overview of the last year

Anna Beyer acknowledged the high turnover of staff in the year from staff leaving and a staff review triggering a redundancy for Debbie Sly's finance officer role as CCF outsources the finances, and bringing on board great new team members in Bruno and Lucy. Please do talk to the Wardens if you have questions.

There was one safeguarding incident reported to the Diocese which was resolved. Anna thanked the Safeguarding team particularly Ann-marie Idiagbonya as CSO for all that she does.

5. Treasurers Report

a. Appointment of the independent Auditors Citroen Wells

Richard Tootill proposed that the APCM delegate to the PCC the authority to approve the auditors whether it's the new auditors Citroen Wells or another one. The APCM voted yes.

b. Financial Account Audit 2022 highlights and thank you to church.

Richard Tootill presented the Treasurer's report based on the audited accounts for 2022 with apologies that the draft accounts were made available only today. Available on CCF website for a week. Expect accounts to be signed soon.

- 2022 Accounts start with Trustees Annual Report, a summary of what has happened over the period (up to last week), partly with a financial flavour because it is demonstrating to our auditors that CCF is a 'going concern' – i.e., that we have sufficient funds and income to continue.
- Thanks to Sarah Dodd, Operations Manager and Debbie Sly, Finance Officer, for their continual hard work accounting for each donation, invoice and payment, and also claiming Gift Aid on many of your donations.
- Thanks to our new auditors, Citroen Wells, for transforming the figures in our accounts system into the summary you see in the accounts, with all the statements and notes to meet the requirements of the CoE and the Charity Commission.

Headlines:

- Thanks for God's provision throughout the year with many changes.
- Thanks to all for giving especially those who gave when it hurt

- Cash reserves of £55k (£59k in 2021) keeping some money in the bank of that £44k undesignated, £4k designated (nursery deposit) £7k Hardship fund
- Windows repair completion in the church hall and brick work treatment. Funded by a loan from the diocese of £93k to be paid over 5 years.
- Rother Bookkeepers taking over the bookkeeping.
- **Unrestricted Income:** £401k: £236 individual giving, £55k Gift Aid, £13k CAF, £97k hall hire and other miscellaneous income.
- **Unrestricted expenditure:** £471k: £13k Mission giving, £57k Common Fund, £46k ministry costs, £24k utility and property costs, £2k loan interest, £172k staff, £38k support and bank costs, £71k depreciation (large purchases spread over the cost of several years), £9k audit costs. For the Diocesan quota (Common Fund) we agreed with the Diocese a reduced payment during 2022.
- **Balance Sheet at the end of December 2022.** Fixed assets £2367, Current Assets cash £56k, Debtors £12k, Current liabilities £59k, Net current assets £9k, Net assets of £2297 slightly less than 2021 mainly due to depreciation.

Going forward may we continue to be a church of generous people, listening to God as to how He can use us to bless this church, and through CCF to touch many others.

Nathan Watt thanked Richard for the huge amount of work that he does on the finances.

6. Ministry Highlights

a) Whole church

Nathan Watt gave a huge thank you to everyone who has stepped up into ministry this past year and highlighted a few stars for awards.

- **Unseen Heroes Award:** Manuela Fehlies Escalante and Francis Escalante lead the Hospitality team and are often the first and last there.
- **Hero Handyman Award:** John Griffiths has been volunteering to support Kyle as Site Manager. CCF really valued this unseen hard work.
- **CCF's pastoral Hero Award:** Gen Guy has led the pastoral care supporting and praying for people who feel distressed, including those who are long term ill, have mental health issues or following major life events and has put many policies in place.

b) Youth

Dani particularly thanked Seren and Grace and their families for their consistent positive connecting with Youth. She honoured her team and the Youth saying they all done amazing things such as the lock-ins. Great things are coming up. Watch this space. Nathan Watt thanked Dani for her love for people and said how blessed we are to have her.

c) Worship

Natalie talked about the honour it is to serve at CCF. That it's a place where people are hungry to worship. Since she joined the team have started with a focus on the CCF values and have expanded it to people feeling safe to expand their gifts and develop. There is room for everyone. She was most excited about seeing this grow as the team has grown in and in an environment where people can grow. It's so exciting that CCF now has 4 worship leaders, a seasonal choir, a growing tech team, and more musicians. The focus now is on training and equipping the team so that the quality of worship grows and keeps up with God's vision. We want it to be honest, engaging and fun. A highlight of the year gone was the Wandsworth Bridge Road outreach. The band came together to serve and to bless the community and show that CCF is in the neighbourhood and people liked it so much they've been asked to come and do events on occasion. Natalie said she believes that God wants to take the church to another level in our walk with Jesus and our musicians, to be 21st century Levites. Natalie thanked Gareth and Richard and many others who really pulled together while she was on maternity leave and thanked the church for their support too.

d) Kids

Kim Quicksell, on the parent leaders outlined the focus of the kid's ministry: a Nehemiah series, basics on prayer, the bible, worship and why we have those and currently going through the life of Joseph. It's going well with 6-10 kids depending on the service with a great team. She did say that they needed more team and requested volunteers to help lead games, crafts and talk with the kids. It's prepared beforehand just needs people and they have a lot of fun.

Nathan thanked the Kids team leaders for all that they pour out to the kids in their spare time. He mentioned that there was a secret surprise thank you for the staff to be revealed later but wanted to give particular thanks to the other staff not showcased.

Sarah as always holds everything together; staff, events, etc... Things runs so smoothly and the fact everything is done to such a high standard is down to Sarah.

Lucy has only newly joined but already doing a great job and settling well into team life.

Bruno is our fab new Site Manager and quietly, joyfully and with great care is keeping things in order.

Do say hello and introduce yourself if you see them.

e) Looking forward to the year ahead

Anna Beyer spoke looking forward to the year ahead with the anticipation of advent where God wants to draw us into encounter. "We don't exactly how it's all going to look but we know that God has got us." Anna read Isaiah 40: 3-5 "*A voice of one calling: "In the wilderness prepare the way for the LORD. Make straight in the*

desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. And the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the LORD has spoken." and asked how are we preparing ourselves for way of the Lord?

Anna outlined the key things the PCC would like the new vicar to focus on: outreach and deepening community and shared a prophetic image of water flowing down over the church.

“It’s going to be an awesome year ahead and I’m full of anticipation for all that God is going to do.”

f) Closing Prayer

Nathan Watt prayed and thanked God that He has a calling on each of us to prepare the way of the Lord and asked for heavenly encouragement and fresh anointing of gifts for all. He asked for blessing on James and his family and thanks God that each word spoken today has been a testimony of God's goodness.

Nathan thanked the church for giving up their time and joining the meeting.

**Copies available on the website or on request of the 2022 AGM Minutes, The PCC Secretary's & Fabric Report 2022-2023 and 2022 audited accounts.*