

# **Minutes of the Annual Vestry Meeting and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting of St Mary Magdalene, Ickleton.**

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2023 at 7.30pm.**

*The meeting open with a reading from Colossians 3: 12-14 and prayers*

Rev Lydia Smith was the Chair

## **A: The Annual Vestry Meeting**

**Present for both meetings:** L Smith, H Rule, R Herbert, S Fowler, J Fowler, P Carter, L Carter, R Smith, M Smith, H Royce, C Meadows, H Lober, G Birch, J Taylor, G Hammond, J Peverett, P Bloomfield, F Payne, R Jeffery, L Duke, J Duke.

**1. Election of Secretary:** C Meadows was proposed by H.Rule and seconded by R Smith and elected unanimously.

**2. Apologies for absence (for both meetings):** M Jeffery, R Hayes, C Hayes, C Heaney, J Flitton, S Payne, C Taylor

**3. Minutes of the last Vestry meeting 21 April 2022** These were signed as a correct record of the meeting.

**4. Matters arising:** None.

**5. Election of Churchwardens:** There being no other nominations J Duke was proposed by J Fowler and seconded by S fowler and was elected unanimously. The meeting thanked J.Duke for standing again.

P Bloomfield steps down as church warden as of this date. Gratitude was offered to Patrick for his thoughtful presence and contributions as church warden, through difficult times of interregnum and Covid, a presentation was made during AOB.

**6. Any other business:** None.

The meeting closed at 7.40pm.

## **B: The Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

*(Copies of all reports and documents were available online prior to the meeting. The secretary holds a complete record of all papers. What follows is a brief summary of reports and discussions).*

**1. Minutes of the last APCM, 21 April 2022:** These were signed as a correct record of the meeting.

**2. Matters arising:** None.

**3. Designation of matters for general discussion.** None.

**4. Electoral Roll Report:** There are currently 69 people on the Church Electoral Roll, there having been 67 last year. It is recorded that the following people have sadly died: Dr Christopher Demmer and Mrs Judy Marshall. The following people have been added to the Roll: Emma Carter, Hannah Johnson, James Stephenson, Alice Thompson and Nick Thompson. F.Payne has agreed to remain as Electoral Roll Officer.

**5. PCC Report:** G.Hammond reported that since the APCM of 2022 there have been 3 ordinary meetings and 1 special meeting, conducted via email, of Ickleton PCC. The Standing Committee did not meet this year (detailed report available).

**6. Finance Report: i-iv** a comprehensive statement of funds, receipts and payments issued by the Treasurer, R Herbert. Highlights: R Herbert expressed thanks to all those who involved in fund raising, either from events and seeking donations. Covenanted giving with gift aid is approaching £25,000. The general fund stands at £28,557

**v. Appointment of independent examiner for the coming year:** Peter Bricknell signed off on the financial reports for this year and has agreed to carry out the audit next year.

Thanks was offered to Richard for his due diligence at maintaining the accounts

**7. Churchwardens Report:** A written report from J Duke was offered. Additional points: Currently we are building a different pattern, increasingly having gatherings that encompass all ages 0-90(!) which is real blessing. The fresh perspective given by P Bloomfield will be missed! It is becoming increasingly obvious that those in the role of church warden and other volunteers is diminishing, many churches in the Deanery are without a CW, so we need to look to the future how to manage this. There are no firm guidelines from the Church of England on this but there is a suggestion of a council of excellence in the running and maintaining of the churches.

Thanks was offered to Jenny for all the hard work and creativity in all that she does, within the community and her passion for the youth beyond our parish.

**8. Vicar's Report:** L Smith provided a written report. Additionally, looking back: growth in prayer has been good to see, witness of the gatherings is bearing fruit. We are slowing growing in numbers, even running out of service booklets on occasions! The Bishop was wowed when he visited in February. Tiddlers is growing a firm base, with enthusiasm of families from the extended community. Looking forward: churches are

the basis of what we do, but we need to be realistic and creative as we look to how we honor our history and continue to move forward. Togetherness is essential for building on small groups of volunteers to provide resources and share our skills. At the joint meeting in Sept we will aim to look at how we can share our resources for easy collaboration, to Travel well together. Lydia offered the perspective of the Diocese of Chelmsford. Lydia is looking forward to meeting together with all PCCs in September.

Q from J Taylor regarding collaboration with Whittlesford. There is a history of collaboration but we are not formally a group of churches with Whittlesford. We meet and share resources for lent/advent courses and 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday. For clarification, LS is only licensed for Hinxton, Ickleton and Duxford.

Smaller reports were in written form and not verbalized at the meeting.

- Deanery Synod
- School Assemblies
- Thursday fellowship group
- YouthInc newsletter
- Foundation governor
- Fabric report

**The existing Council was formally dissolved 7.55 pm**

**9. Election of Deaner synod reps:** J Duke, was proposed by J Fowler and seconded by S Fowler

**10. Election of PCC members:**

Nominee	Proposer	Secunder
Glynis Hammond	H Royce proposed that the nominees should be elected en bloc.  This was seconded by F Payne and agreed unanimously by the meeting.	
Robert Jeffery		
Lewis Duke		
Howard Lober		
Piers Carter		
Hilary Rule		
Richard Herbert		

A couple of people have expressed they might be interested in joining the PCC. This can be done mid-year.

**11. Election of sidesmen and sideswomen:** G.Birch, J.Duke, L.Duke, J.Fowler, S.Fowler, C.Hayes, M.Jeffery, S.Payne, R.Smith, C.Heaney, P.Bloomfield, M.Waters, C.Waters, G Hammond, Lober Family, Frankie Carter (some to be confirmed by G

Hammond due to absence at this meeting) were proposed by Richard Herbert seconded by G Hammond and elected en bloc by the unanimous consent of the meeting.

**12. General Discussion:** Good news that the numbers are going up which is due to several factors but mainly due to Lydia's presence. Thanks were offered to Lydia for all that she does for the 3 churches.

L Duke highlighted the energy for the wall paintings project. The good news is that due to generous donations £38,000, with another potential £11,000 promised, we are over 20% towards the £250,000 needed. Friends of Ickleton will be relaunched as a separate organization, with new trustees and a new chair to extend beyond the wall paintings. Lottery bid has been refocused to incorporate preservation of the bats, which have caused damage to the walls. For example creating better roost sites for them will hopefully boost the appeal of the bid.

**13. AOB:** G Hammond steps down as PCC secretary after 7 years, thanks were offered with flowers and a card.

**14. Date of next meeting:** TBC.

*The meeting closed at 8.06pm with the Lord's Prayer.*