

THE WHITTON BENEFICE

Churches of St Michael, Aldbourne, St Nicholas, Baydon, St Mary, Chilton Foliat,
All Saints, Froxfield, Holy Cross, Ramsbury and St Michael, Axford

Minutes of the **Annual Meeting of Parishioners** and **Annual Parochial Church Meeting** held virtually at
7.30pm on Wednesday 21st October 2020 by Zoom

Present: David Robinson (Chair), Peter Camfield, Peter Chambers, Alison Delorie, Tina Evans, Estrid Eyles, Tony Eyles, the Revd Rhona Fletcher, Jenny Greaves, Krystyna Hagerty, George Hawes, Jan Heppenstall, Margaret Hill, Ted Hiscocks, Joanna Hobart, Jackie Hollander, Liz Nash, George Rendell, Jennifer Rendell, Brenda Robinson, the Revd Sue Rodd, Robert Smart, Jane Sykes, Diana Trickey, Paul Trickey, Penny Williams, Tim Williams,

Apologies: Marianne Adey, Donni Blackwell, Chris Prout

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the APM and APCM of the Whitton PCC and Sue Rodd opened the meetings with a collect.

Annual Meeting of Parishioners

1. Elections for Churchwardens for 2019/20 had taken place at the local Annual Meetings of Parishioners; the following were confirmed:

Aldbourn:	Krystyna Hagerty and Chris McGowan
Baydon:	Robert Smart
Chilton Foliat:	Tim Williams and Peter Camfield
Ramsbury & Axford:	Paul Trickey and George Hawes

2. Jan Heppenstall and Raine Cully were confirmed as Deputy Churchwardens for Froxfield following the election held there.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

1. **Apologies:** Those received were noted above.

2. **Minutes:** Proposed by Paul Trickey, seconded by Margaret Hill, the minutes of the meetings held on 29th April 2019 were confirmed and will be signed later. There were no matters arising.

3. **Elections:**

i) **Deanery** Two names, Elizabeth Orchard and Brenda Robinson, had been put forward by LCCs, leaving two vacancies. Joanna Hobart was then nominated by Jenny Greaves and seconded by George Rendell, and Alison Delorie was nominated by Brenda Robinson and seconded by Krystyna Hagerty.

Proposed by Jackie Hollander, seconded by Diana Trickey, the following were elected as representatives to Marlborough Deanery Synod:

Alison Delorie
Joanna Hobart
Elizabeth Orchard
Brenda Robinson

The Chairman noted that three of these were from Aldbourne, but were of course PCC representatives.

ii) **PCC** Those nominated by the parishes as their representatives on the PCC were duly elected and were:

Aldbourn:	David Robinson
Baydon:	Peter Chambers
Chilton Foliat:	Penny Williams
Froxfield:	no nomination
Ramsbury & Axford:	Ted Hiscocks

ii) **LCCs:** The nominations to Local Church Committees were confirmed:

Aldbourn:	Ann Brown, Joy Hobby, Tim Marriott, Eleanor Williamson.
Baydon:	Mike Ball, Peter Chambers, Tina Evans, Margaret Hill, Vicki Pike,
Chilton Foliat:	G J Adams, Ronna Bourne, Liz Camfield, Amanda Ward
Froxfield:	Kim Freeman, Mindy Milne, Kate Norris
Ramsbury & Axford:	Michelle Beckingham-Carrington, Carol Howard, Liz Nash, David Stoye, Jane Sykes

4. **Electoral Roll:** There were 295 names on the Roll in 2019, compared with 291 in 2018. Tina Evans resigned as Electoral Roll officer; she and the local ER officers were thanked for their work. Ted Hiscocks agreed to take on the role for Whitton Parish.

5. **Church Accounts:**

i) **Treasurer's report:** The full report was included in the Whitton Annual Report, available online. Paul Trickey said that at the end of 2019 all the churches' accounts were healthy and in good order. Total funds had increased, mainly due to rises in the value of investments. The picture, however, would be different for the current year and reserves might have to be called upon. Whitton had adopted a policy of mutual support and were prepared to share burdens through loans with repayment schemes.

The report was received.

ii) **Adoption of Accounts** Detailed figures for all the churches were and the parish were in the written document. Paul Trickey thanked the LCC Treasurers for the work they undertook. Proposed by George Hawes, seconded by Joanna Hobart, the accounts were adopted unanimously.

iii) **Appointment of Independent Examiner** David Robinson, seconded by Paul Trickey, proposed that the accountants Bew & Co of Marlborough be reappointed and this was agreed unanimously. Their work and assistance was much appreciated.

6. **Reports:**

The following were received

i) **Clergy:** This was contained within the Whitton PCC Annual Report. Rhona Floate said there was nothing to add, but we were all looking forward to the Revd Beth Hutton being in post. Details of her licensing had yet to be disclosed.

ii) **Churchwardens:** Detailed reports had been given to the ALCMs, but a verbal report was given to the meeting by a churchwarden.

Aldbourn: Krystyna Hagerty reported the Friends of St Michael's continued to raise funds to support the fabric of the church. Eco-church had a high profile and it was hoped to attain the silver level soon. Children were encouraged to look after the churchyard. A committee had been looking at how best to use the internal space of St Michael's.

Baydon: Tina Evans said that the state of St Nicholas' building remained a major concern. Having good contact with the Diocese had proved difficult. Scaffolding was still up and needed a faculty to remove it. More positively, average weekly attendance at services had risen to 43 due to the frequency of Team services and this had also helped finances. There had been 4 baptisms, one wedding and one funeral. Fundraising was ongoing.

Chilton Foliat: Tim Williams had nothing to add to the ALCM annual report. The future of the building over the next 10-20 years was being considered.

Froxfield: Jan Heppenstall said they were looking forward to the resumption of services in Froxfield. Fund raising had gone well last year, and the fact that other charities besides the church had benefited was much appreciated in the village. Villagers were prepared to support the church, even if they did not attend often.

Ramsbury & Axford: George Hawes wished to record the enormous hole left by the sudden death of Michael Handford who had been so important in the life of Holy Cross for many years. He also thanked all those who actively support the church in many different ways. Paul Trickey added that the benefit of the Friends was invaluable, they would be supporting the renovating of the bells soon. There was a growth in prayer and bible study groups and Flying Fishes was enjoyed by a large number.

The Revd Karen Rizello: Rhona Floate wished to record our grateful thanks to Karen for the time she spent with us as curate. It was hoped that once social life returned Whitton would be able to show its appreciation physically.

iii) **PCC:** A report on the proceedings of the PCC had been submitted with the Annual Report. Sue Rodd said it was pleasing to see how the PCC was becoming a unit, rather than a collection of parts, while the individual churches retained their own identity.

iv) **Deanery:** Alison Delorie added that the visit of the Sudan bishops mentioned in the report had obviously not taken place.

Brenda Robinson mentioned the current invitation from the Diocesan bishops to Deanery representatives, churchwardens and clergy to attend a Deanery Synod to hear about the effect the pandemic had had on parishes. After some discussion it was agreed that views from the churches should be sent to Alison Delorie who would co-ordinate the comments and pass them to the clergy by 5th November. Joanna Hobart would circulate the relevant part of the invitation to those concerned.

v) **Safeguarding** Sue Rodd said there had been a major training exercise early in the year and that there had been no incidents in 2019. She was thanked for keeping all the Safeguarding procedures up to date.

vi) **Other reports:**
Lay Pastoral Assistants and Pastoral Visitors

7. **Date of next meeting:** 21st April 2021.

8. **Any other business:**

i) **Rector** Ted Hiscocks' suggestion of flowers for the new Rector on her arrival was welcomed. She would be glad to know of anyone local who could help with installing electrical and plumbing aspects of household machines.

ii) **Baydon faculty** Margaret Hill had just received papers regarding a faculty for the removal of the scaffolding around St Nicholas and a replacement buttress. These needed to be with the Diocese by the

end of the week. The LCC was meeting the following night and would agree this, following which Sue Rodd would obtain PCC Standing Committee agreement.

iii) **Thanks:** Paul Trickey expressed huge thanks to Ted Hiscocks and Carol Howard for organising the redecoration of the Rectory and the clearing of the garden. Volunteers from across the benefice had helped.

Thanks were also expressed by Sue Rodd for the support received by the clergy from the churches during the interregnum.

iv) **PCC Officers:** The following were noted:

Chair	The Revd Beth Hutton, Rector (from 19th November)
Lay Chair	<i>vacant until the first PCC meeting</i>
Treasurer	Paul Trickey
Secretary	Joanna Hobart
Electoral Roll officer	Ted Hiscocks
Safeguarding	Marianne Adey

Standing Committee: Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, 4 Churchwardens, 1 Deputy Churchwarden

Nominated wardens: Krystyna Hagerty, Robert Smart, Peter Camfield, Jan Heppenstall, George Hawes

As only one warden from each church attended PCC meetings, if the nominated warden could not be there, he/she should pass relevant papers to their colleague who would then attend.

The meeting closed with the Grace at 9pm.

Signed

Date

JMH/21.10.20