

ST. GILES CHURCH WHITTINGTON
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING ON
SUNDAY 2nd APRIL 2017 AT 7.30 pm IN THE CHURCH

A. The Annual Parish meeting for the Election of Churchwardens.

Revd. Dr Jason Phillips welcomed everyone and led the meeting in prayer.

Richard Dyott announced his intention to stand down as Churchwarden. Fr Jason thanked him for his hard work and commitment in this capacity and for the honourable manner in which he had continued as Warden over the past year – combining the office with that of Treasurer.

David Clarke expressed his willingness to stand as Churchwarden and was proposed by Jane Jones, seconded by Gill Hollis.

Cathy Gibbs announced her willingness to be re-elected and Fr Jason thanked her for her hard work, commitment and diligence over the last year and for her willingness to continue in the role.

David and Cathy were duly unanimously elected unopposed as Churchwardens.

This part of the meeting concluded at 7.40pm

B. The Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

Fr Jason affirmed that this was an opportunity to celebrate all we do well in the Parish. He thanked all who assist with ministry, mentioning in particular Revd. Helen Woodhead and Gill Hollis for their ministry over the last 16/20 years respectively.

1. APOLOGIES

29 people were present at the meeting.

Apologies were received from:

Pamela Palmer, Peter Hollis, Steve Barr and Val Kempthorne.

2. MINUTES OF THE 2016 ANNUAL MEETING

The minutes had been available in church beforehand and were circulated at the meeting. These were accepted on a proposal by Brian Kempthorne, seconded by Richard Dyott, and carried, all in favour.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

No matters were raised at this juncture.

4. REPORTS

a) **Electoral Roll**

Cathy Gibbs, the Electoral Roll Officer confirmed that the roll is as follows:

73 residents on the electoral roll, and
15 non-residents.

The Electoral Roll therefore stands at **88**. Sadly, 1 non-resident and 2 resident members have died and 5 members have moved away since last year. Thanks were expressed to Cathy for her work as Electoral Roll Officer.

b) PCC Report

The Secretary referred to her report, a copy of which is on file. She noted that, by popular request, a copy of the approved PCC minutes (excluding any confidential items) would be posted on the church website in future. Fr Jason thanked the Secretary for her work during the year.

c) Review of the Year

Fr Jason referred to the Trustees Annual Report, which had been circulated and a copy is retained on file. He noted that about 3000 people have had contact with St Giles Church over the year and thanked all those who have helped the missional work of the church in whatever capacity.

d) The Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31st December 2016.

These were circulated and a copy is held on file.

Richard Dyott explained that there is a legal obligation for the church accounts to be compiled in a revised format and he went through all pages prepared, answering questions raised.

The Parish Share has been paid in full. It was noted that income from the magazine has declined but hopefully the increased price per copy should redress this.

Also concern was expressed that, without fundraising, there would be a deficit of approximately £5000. All agreed that fundraising is essential and that ongoing costs need to be monitored closely in this context. The PCC will consider a review of giving and it was noted that there are adequate funds in reserve to cover emergency situations.

All legacy bequests are honoured but fundraising for specific items, rather than towards general expenses, is to be discouraged unless the full sum can be guaranteed. The church hall account is in a good condition – thanks to Alastair Christie and the committee for their hard work.

Thanks were expressed to Richard for his ongoing hard work and diligence and particularly for drawing together the accounts which have been approved by Richard Newton, the Independent Examiner of Accounts. Richard thanked Irene Jones and Gillian Davis for all the work they have undertaken to assist him.

The accounts were unanimously endorsed and adopted on a proposal by Richard Dyott, seconded by Cathy Gibbs.

e) Gift Aid Report

Gillian Davis read from her report – a copy of which is on file. She reiterated that the number of regular donors has declined over the year, but £673 tax was reclaimed from Gift Day and around £6000 from regular giving. In April 2016, £1086 was also reclaimed from plate donations. Gillian thanked all who give and all who help count and check donations. Thanks were expressed to Gillian for her persistence in pursuing the Gift Aid.

f) Fabric

Richard Dyott reported that work has continued to maintain the fabric, with the Quinquennial highlighting repairs to the chancel door, flashing and floor tiles yet to be addressed. Thanks were expressed to Richard for all his efforts.

g) Deanery Synod

David Clarke's report of proceedings is on file. It was noted that all meetings had been attended and various significant items discussed notably the recent meeting focusing on "Dementia friendly Church". All Deanery Synod representatives were thanked.

h) Safeguarding

Liz Smith's full report is on file. She reported that DBS screening is now on line. All need to be the "eyes and ears", advising Liz of any new team members so that checks can be considered. Liz was thanked for her essential work in this area which represents care for our community.

i) Other reports

The Secretary drew attention to the fact that reports have been received from
Messy Church
Sunbeams
Churches Together in Lichfield
St Giles Church Bellringers.

All were thanked for their ongoing commitment to the life of the Parish. Copies of the reports are displayed in church and will be retained on file.

5. ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE DEANERY SYNOD

Elections are due this year with tenure for 3 years.

Jonathan Smith and Anne Colgrave wish to stand down to focus on other areas and thanks were expressed for their contribution over the years.

David Clarke is happy to stand again and was duly re-elected, with appreciation. There were no further nominations so there are currently 2 vacancies which are available for appointment in the coming months.

6. ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE PCC

Brian Kempthorne was elected for a final period of 3 years on a proposal by Jane Jones seconded by Irene Jones.

Jonathan Smith was elected for a period of 3 years on a proposal by Fr Jason, seconded by Alastair Christie.

Jane Booker was elected for a period of 3 years on a proposal by Sara Dyott, seconded by Irene Jones.

There were no further nominations.

All were thanked for their willingness and commitment. Thanks were also expressed for the exemplary work of outgoing members - Barbara Gray, whose term of 6 years has ended and to Tim Mann who has resigned.

7. APPOINTMENT OF SIDESPERSONS

The current list was reviewed and appears as follows:

Sue Gopsill, Rob Hilyer, Cathy Gibbs, Lesley Knighton, Pamela Palmer, Wendy Jenkins, Gillian Davis, Alastair Christie, Richard Dyott, Julia Jamieson, Margo Christie, John Butler, Carol Rosenberg, Anne Colgrave, Janet Wallis, Irene Jones, Barbara Gray, Steve Lane, Val Kempthorne, Brian Kempthorne, David Clarke, Jane Clarke, Liz Smith and Peter Hollis.

Thanks were expressed to all who serve in this capacity.

8. SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

Having expressed her willingness to continue in this capacity, Liz Smith was unanimously re-elected, unopposed. Liz was thanked for her essential work.

9. APPOINTMENT OF AN INDEPENDENT EXAMINER OF THE PCC ACCOUNTS

Many thanks were expressed to Richard Newton for serving as Independent Examiner of Accounts during the past year. Having confirmed his willingness to continue, Richard was unanimously re-elected as Independent Examiner of Accounts for the coming year, on a proposal by Richard Dyott, seconded by Jane Clarke.

.

10. OPEN FORUM

The meeting was then opened up for items from the floor.

i) Alastair Christie voiced disapproval over the removal of the “wayside pulpit” notice board and its replacement with 2 smaller boards, one of which, near the steps at the West door of the church, he felt was unnecessary. Also he was unhappy with the signs which had been placed on the church hall wall, feeling these too were an unnecessary expense. He queried the cost, details of which were not immediately to hand. He asked that in future the PCC should discuss potential changes affecting the hall with the Hall Committee before implementation. Whilst this opinion was acknowledged, it was respectfully pointed out that differing views had been expressed, finding the latest signs helpful and an indication of a vibrant, modern and welcoming church.

It was felt that the publication of the PCC minutes would go some way towards addressing concerns and consideration could also be given to the announcement of forthcoming PCC meetings/agenda.

ii) Gill (on behalf of Peter) Hollis asked whether consideration could be given to providing training for the use of the full sound and projection system with the appointment of a nominated contact to oversee operations as/when appropriate. This will be considered.

iii) Liz Smith queried whether there was a specific "Health and Safety" Officer. It was confirmed that, in the absence of a specifically nominated officer, the Churchwardens take major responsibility for this matter which was however the charge of all.

iv) Liz also asked whether consideration had been given to forming a "Friends of St Giles" group as a possible means of fund raising. It was felt that this could be worthwhile pursuing and will be considered further.

There being no further business, this part of the meeting closed with prayer at 8.40pm.

C. PCC meeting for Election of Officers.

PCC members appointed unopposed the following serving officers for the coming year:

Treasurer	Richard Dyott	proposed Brian Kempthorne, seconded David Clarke.
Electoral Roll Officer	Cathy Gibbs	proposed Irene Jones, seconded Brian Kempthorne
Secretary	Jane Jones	proposed Richard Dyott, seconded Cathy Gibbs.
Vice Chair	Jonathan Smith	proposed Cathy Gibbs, seconded Gillian Davis.

Standing Committee Churchwardens, Treasurer, Fr Jason and Secretary.

Members were reminded that the next PCC meeting is scheduled for May 17th 2017.

Fr Jason thanked all for their commitment and service.

On behalf of all present, Cathy Gibbs thanked Fr Jason for his prayerful and dedicated leadership over the past year.

The meeting closed with a sharing of The Grace at 8.50pm.