

Annual Parishioners' Meeting

Members of the electoral roll and local residents in attendance: Alan Page, Allan Baldwin, Anne Baldwin, Bruce Ackers, Carol Chadwick, Catriona Paton, Geoff Wyatt, Janet Hine, Janet Land, Janet Wilson, Janet Wyatt, Jessica Green, John Taylor, Joyce Page, Judith Ackers, Mandy Widdas, Mark Widdas, Matthew Price, Peter Sheppard, Ray Skarratt

Meeting start time: 10:05

Item (number)	Notes	Actions (initials)
1	Welcome and opening prayer led by Revd Ben Green (chair)	
2	Election of the Churchwardens Carol Chadwick – proposed by Ray Skarratt, seconded by John Taylor. John Taylor – proposed by Peter Sheppard, seconded by Jan Wyatt. Both were elected unanimously, with no abstentions.	

Meeting end time: 10:10

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Members of the electoral roll in attendance: Alan Page, Allan Baldwin, Anne Baldwin, Bruce Ackers, Carol Chadwick, Catriona Paton, Geoff Wyatt, Janet Hine, Janet Land, Janet Wilson, Janet Wyatt, Jessica Green, John Taylor, Joyce Page, Judith Ackers, Mandy Widdas, Mark Widdas, Matthew Price, Peter Sheppard, Ray Skarratt

Meeting start time: 10:10

Item (number)	Notes	Actions (initials)
1	Welcome and opening prayer led by Revd Ben Green (chair)	
2	Apologies were received from Steve & Rachel Robins, and Frank & Sue Joyce.	
3	Minutes of the previous APCM were accepted and signed	
4	The reports a. The annual report There were no questions regarding the annual report. b. Financial statements There were no questions regarding the 2019 accounts. The meeting gave their thanks to Catriona Paton for her work as treasurer over the past year. The 2019 accounts were accepted unanimously. c. Fabric report The churchwardens noted that nothing needed to be added to the annual report.	

<p>4 cont.</p>	<p>d. Deanery synod</p> <p>2019 was largely concerned with discussing and then implementing the merger between Polesworth and Coleshill deaneries, and the appointment process for the new Area Dean (who has since been appointed).</p>	
<p>5</p>	<p>Elections</p> <p>BG thanked outgoing members Janet Hine and Helen Slim for their service to the church, as members of the PCC. He also thanked John Taylor and Steve Robins for their service as Deanery Synod representatives.</p> <p>a. PCC members (2)</p> <p>Janet Land – proposed by Mandy Widdas, seconded by Judith Ackers.</p> <p>Peter Sheppard – proposed by Mark Widdas, seconded by Allan Baldwin.</p> <p>Both were elected unanimously, with no abstentions.</p> <p>b. Deanery Synod representatives (2)</p> <p>Jessica Green – proposed by Janet Wilson, seconded by John Taylor.</p> <p>Vacant</p> <p>Jess was elected unanimously, with no abstentions.</p>	
<p>6</p>	<p>Tamworth Christian Churches</p> <p>The Resolution of Commitment was passed unanimously.</p> <p>BG explained the role of lay reps – Janet Wilson had been due to step down but due to current circumstances was willing to stand until the next APCM.</p> <p>Janet Wilson – proposed by Allan Baldwin, seconded by Mark Widdas.</p> <p>Janet was elected unanimously, with no abstentions.</p>	
<p>7</p>	<p>Appointments</p> <p>a. Readers</p> <p>All agreed unanimously to appoint Ray Skarratt and Sue Joyce to the PCC.</p> <p>b. Independent examiner</p> <p>BG noted the excellent work of Alan Greathead examining our accounts, which was echoed by treasurer Catriona Paton and previous treasurer Allan Baldwin.</p> <p>Alan Greathead – proposed by Catriona Paton, seconded by Allan Baldwin.</p> <p>Alan was appointed unanimously, with no abstentions.</p>	
<p>8</p>	<p>Vicar's comments</p> <p>BG thanked everyone for their hard work, particularly in pastoral care over the past few months during the pandemic. He encouraged everyone to continue in that support, particularly through the prayer calendar (published weekly in the news sheet) – which helps remind us of our church family members, even though we are not able to see them in person.</p> <p>At last year's meeting the church voted unanimously to appoint a part-time administrator to assist Ben with running the church. Catriona Paton started to work on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from October 2019, and has been a huge help, especially during the pandemic. The fund to pay her is dwindling as we haven't been able to do any fundraising – BG asked for extra donations.</p>	

<p>8 cont.</p>	<p>BG noted the financial headwinds we face but thanked people for their generosity helping to keep us afloat during this difficult year – particularly those who give or have switched to giving through the Parish Giving Scheme or standing order. We will end with a deficit, but our reserves will be able to cover it. He thanked Catriona for her hard work as treasurer over the past 18 months.</p> <p>The Church of England Birmingham has received some additional funding from the Church Commissioners to cover the shortfall in Common Fund this year, but there is every possibility that Amington may not be able to have a full-time vicar from next summer. The PCC is starting a process with the diocesan Transforming Church Action Planning team, which we hope will allow us to make the case that Amington should continue to be supported with a full-time vicar.</p> <p>All that said, with all the changes and uncertainty around, God’s faithfulness and love to us in Jesus <i>never</i> change. Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever, and he has promised to be with us always. What is most important is that we stand firm on him, and put him at the centre of all that we do.</p> <p>Finally, BG thanked Geoff Wyatt, who was stepping down from PCC and as church warden, after many years of dedicated and faithful service. Geoff has all the attributes needed for a good warden, offering both practical and spiritual leadership to the church. He does not work for any reward, but out of service to his church family and above all to God. The meeting gave Geoff a spontaneous round of applause to say thank you.</p> <p>As a gesture of thanks, BG gave Geoff a piece of artwork by Hannah Dunnett, based on Isaiah 61 (one of Geoff’s favourite books of the Bible), and proposed from the chair that Geoff Wyatt be appointed as Warden Emeritus, an honorary role with no responsibilities but which honours his dedication and service. The appointment was approved unanimously.</p>	
<p>9</p>	<p>Any other business</p> <p>Geoff Wyatt asked to share a few words, which are included in full at the end of these minutes.</p>	
<p>10</p>	<p>Closing prayer everyone prayed the Church Family Prayer together.</p>	

Meeting end time: 10:55

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Members of the PCC in attendance: Carol Chadwick, Catriona Paton, Janet Land, Janet Wyatt, Jessica Green, John Taylor, Mark Widdas, Matthew Price, Peter Sheppard, Ray Skarratt

Meeting start time: 11:00

Item (number)	Notes	Actions (initials)
<p>1</p>	<p>Welcome and opening prayer led by Revd Ben Green (chair)</p> <p>BG read out the following from the Church Representation Act: <i>the PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social, and ecumenical.</i> He then prayed for members of the PCC to have the wisdom and grace to lead the church family through good decisions and by example.</p>	

2	Apologies were received from Sue Joyce.	
3	<p>Appointments – all were appointed unanimously, with no abstentions</p> <p>a. Vice chair Catriona Paton – proposed by Peter Sheppard, seconded by Mark Widdas. BG noted that if he is unavailable and the PCC needs to discuss the administrator role, Catriona would not be able to chair that discussion – one of the wardens would need to instead.</p> <p>b. Secretary Jessica Green – proposed by John Taylor, seconded by Jan Wyatt.</p> <p>c. Treasurer Catriona Paton – proposed by Carol Chadwick, seconded by Ray Skarratt.</p> <p>d. Electoral Roll officer JoAnne Griffin – proposed by Carol Chadwick, seconded by Ray Skarratt. (BG will need to confirm with her that she is still willing to stand.)</p> <p>e. Standing Committee As well as the vicar, wardens, and treasurer, the PCC appointed Matthew Price.</p>	BG
4	Any other business – none	
5	Dates of future meetings (see below)	
6	<p>Closing prayer Ray Skarratt closed with a prayer and The Grace.</p>	

Meeting end time: 11:15

Dates of future meetings

All meetings are on Wednesdays, unless otherwise stated.

Time	Date	Group	Location
7.30pm	04/11/20	PCC (Transforming Church 1)	Zoom
7.30pm	02/12/20	PCC (Transforming Church 2)	Zoom
7.30pm	20/01/21 (tbc)	PCC	Zoom
7.30pm	03/03/21 (tbc)	PCC (accounts approval)	Zoom

Appendix: A few words from Geoff Wyatt

Thank you for the Picture with some of the words from Isaiah and for the words of thanks. I would like to propose a vote of thanks for you and Jess, for all you have done and are doing for the Church, and hope this will continue for many years, even though you rang the bell only for a few times.

After serving on the PCC for some 40 years and as warden or deputy warden for most of that time, after a lot of prayer, I feel it is now time to stand down from both. I have many people both past and present to thank for their support during that time, which covers 4 Vicars. I have seen the congregations grow and shrink, finances strong and weak and many other trials, but the Church has always come through because God is the true leader.

I am a practical person and as warden I have tried to support the Vicars in the changes they have wished to make, but not lose sight of, it is the people that make up a church and they all have their own opinions and methods of worship. But the church cannot stand still and it must move forward. Changes to the building are necessary, as in 1863/4, when they found the building was not right for their needs. They didn't just change things, they knocked it down!! and built a new one (not that I am suggesting this). But we do need extra space for the church to grow, especially for children's ministry. I encourage everyone to support what is needed for that ministry to grow.

When it comes to change, does it matter that something has been moved, that's not used any more or which way the chairs face, we come together to worship and give thanks to our LORD not to a museum. We don't live in the past, we live in the present and plan for the future.

Amington over many years has been fortunate in having a Vicar of our own, but that might not continue if we cannot pay our way, ask yourselves can I give more?

Since Ben and Jess have been with us, the church has grown again and we are enjoying great worship time and leadership and I feel privileged to have been part of this time and would like to thank them both, especially over the last 6 or 7 months when we have had a time unknown in recent history of not being able to worship together, but thanks to Ben, and his gift of technology, we can still join in a service.

I am not going anywhere and will still be around to help where possible.

I would encourage people to step forward and volunteer to take up posts available in helping to run Christ's church here in Amington.

God Bless you all,

Geoff