

**ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING
PARISH OF PATCHAM (ALL SAINTS)
with The Ascension Westdene
Sunday 23rd April 2023 at 12pm – All Saints, Patcham**

VESTRY MEETING
1. Welcome and prayer
Jon welcomed 43 people to the meeting and opened with a prayer. Jon thanked the PCC, and in particular, the churchwardens for their hard work during the interregnum. Jon thanked Caz for holding it all together so well.
2. Apologies for absence
Apologies were received from Linda and Colin Baker, Bernard and Ruth Copelin, Sue England, Barry McFarlane, Bob and Bev Schooley, Anita Yardley and Matthew Willetts.
3. Minutes of the meeting of the 8th May 2022
The minutes of the meeting held on the 8th May were agreed and signed off by Jon. Kim Hill proposed them, Tanya Gambardella seconded and all were in favour.
4. Notice of nominations and election of two churchwardens
Jody Sharp and Olive Ridge are standing again as churchwardens. Jon expressed gratitude for their wisdom, leadership and guidance. Jody proposed Olive, Sharon Springham seconded and all were in favour. Olive proposed Jody, Sharon Springham seconded and all were in favour. Both were duly elected and Caz prayed for them both.
ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING
1. Minutes of the APCM of the 8th May 2022
The minutes were approved and signed off by Jon. Bob Hill proposed them, Dorothy Cook seconded and all were in favour.
2. Annual Parish report
2.1 Treasurer's report and presentation of the accounts for approval
Jody presented the annual accounts highlighting that there is a downward trend in membership and that donations and legacies have decreased. At the same time, the hall lettings have increased since Covid although they are not yet up to pre Covid levels. Utilities and such like have also increased in cost due to inflation rises. We increased the Diocesan contribution by £10,000 and the church maintenance costs were lower in 2022 due to the higher costs of the restoration project at All Saints and spending at the Ascension in 2021. Jody went on to say that we have the strategic development fund for specific items and it is hoped that we can increase the planned giving over time. Jody proposed acceptance of the report and accounts, Kim Hill seconded and all were in favour.
Jody thanked Derrick Nunn for his work as treasurer and Helen Upstone for her work with the accounts. Jody needs help with these and asked if anyone could help or knows someone who could.
2.2 Electoral roll report
The electoral roll total is 143 - 108 at All Saints and 35 at the Ascension. Jon thanked Sharon for all her work on this.
2.3 Secretary's report
Sharon Springham is standing down as secretary. Jon thanked her for her service and she was presented with a rose plant.
2.4 Report on Fabric, Ornaments and Buildings
Jon thanked the Fabrics committee who have worked very hard ensuring the buildings are kept safe and warm. Jan Steele asked about the missing piece of rendering over the church door. Roger Newman stated that there is a Quinquennial in May and John Bailey will be doing an audit of the church buildings. Items on his report then become a checklist for the committee.
2.5 Report on the meetings of the Deanery Synod

Jon thanked Carole Copelin and Liz Dwiar for their commitment and time to the Synod, in particular the comprehensive report circulated for the meeting. Jon highlighted several items from the report including the Archbishop of Canterbury's visit to the Deanery in March and the mission action plans. There were no comments/questions on the report.

3. Appointment of the PCC

3.1 Ex-officio members

Clergy licensed to the parish: Revd Caz (Carolyn) Dunk, Revd Jon Harley and Thomas Holbird.

Reader: Kim Hill

Churchwardens: Jody Sharp and Olive Ridge

Diocesan Synod members: none

Deanery Synod members: Carole Copelin and Liz Dwiar are standing again. Pat Bartlett proposed Carole, Dorothy Cook seconded and all were in favour. Bev McArdle proposed Liz, Sharon Springham seconded and all were in favour. Both were duly elected and co-opted onto the PCC. There are currently two vacancies.

3.2 PCC elected members: 10 in total

All Saints – 2 vacancies to be filled. There were 3 nominations which were put to the vote. Ascension – 1 vacancy to be filled. No one has been nominated so the post remains vacant. The ratio needs to be kept at 8 for All Saints and 2 for the Ascension as someone may come forward throughout the year.

3.3 Approval of sidespeople

Jon thanked the sidespeople for all the work that they do. The list of sidespeople was circulated with the paperwork for the meeting. In addition, Caroline Thomas was added for All Saints. Tanya Gambardella proposed the list, Pat Bartlett seconded and all were in favour.

4. Appointment of Parish Independent examiner

Jody proposed Austin Harrity from Clarke Goodhand Smith Ltd as the independent examiner as the previous one has retired. Bob Hill seconded and all were in favour.

5. Appointment of Parish Safeguarding Officers

Jon thanked the safeguarding officers for this very important work. Both Caroline Thomas and Marian Eastwood were happy to stand again and all voted in favour.

6. Chair's address

Jon thanked everyone for the welcome and generosity shown to him and his family. It made the move much easier for them.

Jon's role is part of the apostolic partnership with St Peters which is supported by the strategic development fund. This funding is for church growth and revitalisation under three streams – evangelism and revitalisation of the church, community and transforming society. A new church in Hollingbury is part of the plan.

There were 133 people at the Mothering Sunday service including the Patcham scouts. The Easter Sunday service had 127 people including 26 children. The average attendance at All Saints has increased to 84 from 55 this time last year. Jon commented that God is calling his people back to their local church.

Jon thanked Lou Hill for her work with the youth church. There was a school visit from Patcham Infants on the 9th February with 90 children in church. The teacher is keen to repeat these visits.

The Kingdom Come event saw 180 people, some of which came from St Peters and St Matthias.

The Tots and Barnacles groups stepped up during the teacher strikes and had several older children attending.

This is an encouraging start to revitalising the church and it is hoped that this trend will continue.

7. PCC election results

Andy Parke proposed Bob Hill and Dorothy Cook seconded. Bob received 23 votes. Sharon Springham proposed Lisa-Marie Coomber and Lou Hill seconded. Lisa-Marie received 20 votes.

They were both subsequently voted onto the PCC. Jon expressed thanks to all the nominees for their interest.

8. Closing prayer

Olive presented Caz with a bouquet of flowers in honour of what she has done over the last year. Jon finished with a closing prayer.