

The Parish of Farleigh Annual Parochial Church Meeting
Wednesday April 28th 2021 , by Zoom

MINUTES OF MEETING

1. Meeting opened with worship and prayer

2. Present:

Revd. David Chattell
Revd Stephen
Mourant
Eamonn Harding
Gill Palmer
Ross Palmer
Quentin Portsmouth
Lyn Hardy
Stafford Napier
Michael Hill-King
Sallie Paravacini
Dennis Paravacini
Eamonn Harding

Bernard Cazenove
Debbie Scholey
Annabel
Portsmouth
Shirley Powell
Sylvia Raine
Peter Raine
Julian Nunn
Claire Nunn
Trisha Knight
Lynda Plenty
Sue Beckle

Apologies:

Julia Mourant
Caroline Allen
Peter Rowe
Caroline Cazenove
Charles Palmer-
Tomkinson
Lord Lymington

3. Minutes for APCM October 2020 were approved. Proposed by Annabel Portsmouth and seconded by Gill Palmer.

Matters arising – None outside the following agenda.

4. Notification of Churchwardens

Those elected by DCCs:

St Leonards – Lynda Plenty (proposed by Val Gofton-Salmond and seconded by Ben Maunder).

All Saints – Lyn Hardy (proposed by John Holden and seconded by Jeremy Glyn).

St Martins – Bernard Cazenove (proposed by Lord Lymington and seconded by Nicki Palmer).

St Andrews – Lord Lymington (proposed by Caroline Allen and seconded by Vicky Tibble).

5. Electoral Roll

St Leonards – total 53 (down by 2 on last year) of which 11 are non-resident, 42 are resident.

All Saints – total 53 (down from 56 last year, 2 died) of which 3 are non-resident.

St Martins, total 54 (same as last year) of which 4 are non-resident.

St Andrews –total 11 (10 last year) of which all are resident.

Based on this information the total number of people on the electoral roll in the Parish of Farleigh is 171.

6. Annual Report on the proceedings of the PCC

A written report was circulated prior to the APCM as part of the financial report.

No comments were made.

7. Verbal reports

- (a) Hill & Dale. The production of the magazine was taken over by Jean Frost as Editor and Ros Partridge managing advertising in September last year. They also manage the production of the Oxdrove magazine. Advertising rates have been increased to be more in line with the Oxdrove and in addition there are a number of new advertisers bringing the advertising revenue so far this year to about £3679. The income from subs amounts to £1792 at the time of this report but additional monies are still to be accounted. However this year the income will exceed expenses, with an estimated small surplus.
- (b) Safeguarding. A written report was provided to the PCC by Caroline Cazenove. The policies have been reviewed and it was considered that no changes are required. Safeguarding is a standing agenda topic at all PCC meetings.
- (c) Churchwardens' reports on fabric, goods and ornaments of the church were given verbally by each Church Warden as follows:

St Leonards – No significant issues to report. Following a theft of silver ware a few years ago the replaced silver has been photographed for insurance purposes. The church terrier (inventory) will be revised.

St Martins – There is nothing to report concerning the fabric, goods or ornaments of the church. Tony Matthews carries out safety reviews at St Martins and St Andrews churches on a regular basis and thanks were given to his efforts to conduct this work and highlight any issues to the church warden.

St Andrews – Maintenance work on the church roof has been successfully completed to remove the moss and to treat the roof to prevent recurrence.

All Saints - No significant issues to report. Stafford looks after safety assessments of the church. Services are currently being held outside very successfully aided by the use of the PA system which enables music to be transmitted from inside.

SM noted his appreciation to all members of DCC's and especially to the church wardens.

8. Financial statements/report of the parish

The financial report was circulated prior to the meeting. The Common mission fund (Parish Share) was paid in full for the year ending December 2020, this current year the requested amount is reduced by £5,000, so it should be feasible for us to pay our way in 2021. The generosity of the people has been outstanding in the last year, in spite of churches being closed for some of the time during the lockdown months, the income of the parish increased from £85K to £106K.

We have changed the way money is given during the last year. There was a significant rise in gift aid giving up to £58K from £47K last year and a 50% decline in cash donations.

Next year will be the last one for Eamonn Harding as Treasurer. He formally announced his intent to stand down after the accounts are completed for 2022. A vote of thanks was given by SM to Eamonn and his team for the great efforts over the last 10 years. His work is considered to be outstanding, and this was also endorsed by Quentin Portsmouth.

This raises the need for the PCC to search for and appoint a new treasurer during the coming year. A job description has been prepared by Eamonn.

SM also noted that throughout the Diocese over 90% of income from CMF was received, in spite of churches being closed. This was more than anticipated, but this has not affected the diocesan plans to reduce expenses and reduce staff levels, including clergy.

The proposal to accept the accounts was proposed by Bernard Cazenove and seconded by Ross Palmer, and carried unanimously

9. Report of the proceedings of the Deanery Synod

A report of the recent meetings of the Deanery Synod, prepared by Anne Luneburg was circulated with the meeting agenda.

The main points from the report were:

- Decision as part of the cost reduction to sell Old Arlesford Place and re-locate staff to Winchester or to be home based.
- The Deanery have taken the decision to terminate the link with Lango and to celebrate the good work that has been undertaken for Lango by sending a final donation, then develop a suitable exit strategy in cooperation with Lango.

10. Election of PCC members from each DCC

St Leonards – Julian Nunn (Proposed by Gill Palmer seconded by Lynda Plenty).

All Saints – Charles Palmer-Tomkinson (proposed by Lyn Hardy seconded by Mervyn Mann).

St Martins & St Andrews - Beverley Guinness, Debbie Scholey (proposed by Gordon Dunce and seconded by Bernard Cazenove)

Prayer was made for all those elected.

11. Election of DCC's for each church.

St Leonards DCC were elected 'en mass' as proposed by Ross Palmer and seconded by Val Gofton-Salmond.

St Martins and St Andrews. The DCC were elected 'en mass, as proposed by Caroline Cazenove seconded by Janette Bacon.

All Saints The DCC were elected 'en mass' as proposed by John Holden and seconded by Michael Hill-King.

12. Election of Deanery Synod representatives – Lyn Hardy and Bernard Cazenove are happy to continue. There have been no other nominations.

13. Appointment of the independent examiner

The meeting recommended that we continue with Sheen Stickland for the coming year, and that this may be reviewed after the appointment of a new Treasurer in 2022. This was proposed by Bernard Cazenove and seconded by Gill Palmer. This was carried unanimously.

14. Rector's report

David thanked all who hold office and to Stephen for his particular work in the presentation and preparation of on-line services during lockdown. David gave particular thanks to the Church Wardens, donors and all the individuals who have been involved in on line services.

The way ahead. Stephen is to retire this year and as a result a service rota is being proposed that includes a lay led service in each church once a month. There is still a plan for the Parish to have a 'house for duty' post and a meeting with the Bishop is pending to discuss these plans.

This years Lent course, by zoom used the resources from the Bible Society – called the Bible Course. This included short videos combined with discussion sessions, which worked very well in the zoom format. David is offering other courses as needed or study groups for anyone interested. SM discussed the plans for family services and ministry in Cliddesden and thanked Julian and Claire Nunn for their involvement in this new initiative.

The Benefice Administrator, Trisha Knight is now in post and was welcomed to the meeting earlier. She continues to take on more of the administrative roles as SM is involved in her training.

The weekly newsletters from David and Stephen will continue to early May but thereafter revert to a monthly format. All of these letters are also available on the benefice website. On-line services finished at the end of April as all churches are now meeting indoors or outdoors, in line with guidance.

15. Questions from the floor

None

16. Final prayer and blessing.