

Minutes of Annual Church Meeting
Of St Brelade's Parish Church
Held in St Brelade's Church
On Sunday 2nd June 2019

Present:

Rev. Mark Bond	Chairman
Frank Walker	Church Warden
Ruth White	Minute Taker

There were approximately 30 members of the Congregation present.

1. **Apologies**

John Trafford, Churchwarden

2. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Sunday 3rd June 2018 were approved.

Proposed by: Alan Higginbotham

Seconded by: Robin Harris

3. **A) Election of Sidespersons**

The following were elected as Sidespersons:

Terri Bond; Jean Charles; William Church; Lallie Clarke; Sue Clement-Jones; Jane Cuthbert; Eddie Cuthbert; Robin Harris; Mary Jordan; Amy Mathys; Joyce McDonald; Janet Parker; Sheila Smith; John Trafford; Fiona Walker; Frank Walker; Joy Diggle; Norman Moss; Christine Tostevin; Kath Coles, Michael Campbell; Pat Aitkin; Daphne Hurst; Trevor Lister; Liz Lister; Claire De Gruchy; Christine Whitfield; Tom Renouf; Nigel Mullane; Annie Lezala, Rosemary Betts; Anne Newton; Plus for St Aubin's Church – Andrew Parker, Sue Brown.

B) Churchwardens and Almoners

At the recent Ecclesiastical Assembly, both churchwardens were re-elected: Mr Frank Walker and Mr John Trafford. Mr Alan Higginbotham stepped down as Almoner and he was thanked for all his hard work over the years. Mrs Vicky Valois replaced him, and Peter Le Sueur was re-elected.

4. **Election of Deanery Synod Representatives**

The current Synod reps were re-elected: John Trafford and Mary Jordan from the Parish Church – Mary has been on Synod for 30 years!; and Denise Waller from St Aubin's Church. Mark commented that this year is an important year at Synod as discussions are taking place with the Archbishop's Commissioners about the Channel Islands future with regard to which Diocese we are in.

5. **REPORTS**

FINANCE - Treasurer's Report

Robin Harris produced a set of accounts and reported that the bottom line shows a small profit of £1,384 for the year.

He summarised the accounts by saying that collections during the year had stayed the same, but expenses had gone up. However it was a good year, but looking forward to 2019 we might struggle more as for the past three years the church has received £10,000 income from hiring the carpark out to Mangers the builders and this has now finished. So Robin asked if the congregation could review their giving to the church to help with this. However a small plus is that now Rev Mark Bond has turned 65 we no longer have to pay his social security.

Robin thanked both Alan and Peter for all their work as Almoners on a Tuesday and for Roger for Auditing the accounts and Roger has confirmed that he is happy to continue this role; and thanks to everyone for all their contributions.

Eddie Cuthbert thanked Robin on behalf of the church for all the work that he does; and Mark added his thanks as well.

Both Robin Harris as Treasurer and Roger Bignall as Auditor were re-elected.

Proposed by: Mike Jackson

Seconded by: Frank Walker

MAINTENANCE – Churchwardens Report

The lion's share of the maintenance budget was spent on the Rectory last year and this building is now in good condition with a lovely new kitchen. The Rector also has assistance in looking after the gardens. Frank Walker said that it has been a quiet year but everything is under control. We have a beautiful corner of the Island here and it is our duty to look after it: The Cemetery gates have been refurbished and repairs made to the party wall. During the coming year there will be replacement fencing put in along the field by the car park and along the Rectory garden. There are some repairs to be made to the stonework around Churchyard North and some repairs need to be made to the Lych Gate. Frank expressed his thanks to the Verger and Sextons for their work in looking after the premises.

Worship

Mark Bond said we have a well established pattern of worship here with good visitor numbers joining us at the 10.30am service. CEP has a small but regular congregation which swells in the summer months with visitors. The Wednesday morning service regularly reads out 60-80 prayers from the prayer tree during the summer months. On alternate Thursdays we have services at Maison St Brelade and Silver Springs. Funerals have been very busy during the first half of 2019 and we hope it won't continue for the rest of the year!

Safeguarding Policy

We have to adopt this policy every year at the AGM which was duly done.

GDPR Policy

We have to adopt this policy every year at the AGM and this was duly done.

Health and Safety Policy

We have to adopt this policy every year at the AGM and this was duly done.

Above Policies Proposed by: Alan Higginbotham

Seconded by: Fiona Walker

Electoral Roll

2019 is the year that we have to redo the Electoral Roll and this is now completed with 71 people on the Roll.

HOSPITALITY – Sales

Ruth produced a brief set of accounts for the bookstall, showing a total income over the year of £15,799, which is about £1,500 less than last year. Expenditure was just under £17,500 comprising of £12,000 towards church funds, Bookstall stock of £4,500 and other not for re-sale items of £1,000. Cash in bank at end of year was £7,151. During this year we have to re-stock all the candles which will cost in the region of £4,500.

Retreat Cottage

Su Gay reported that the cottage had been used frequently over the past year by retired and serving clergy, prisoners families and some private lets for wedding/funeral families.

The donations for use of the Retreat Cottage we slightly up by £200. Electricity costs were down, due to the cottage being used less during the Winter months, however overall expenditure was up as certain items had to be replaced such as the bed, cooker and several rugs. The cottage was also redecorated and some electrical work was carried out. There was also £1,000 spent on a gardener.

The accounts have been audited by an independent party. The cottages gave £2,962 to charity: £1,000 to Jersey Alheimers; £1,000 to Crisis; £200 to Seafarers' Mission and £262 for new screens for the children's area in church. Although no donation was made to Mercy Ships during 2018; £2,000 was sent in January 2019. As the purpose of the cottage is as an amenity rather than profit making, it's a bonus that we are able to give away surplus income to our various charities.

Verger

Mark thanked the Verger for all her hardwork, along with her husband and she is a huge asset to the church.

OUTREACH

Communicare – This has recently had some refurbishment and is still going well and used every day. We still have a church service up there once a month..

Occasional Offices – Funerals are very busy, Weddings are less busy during 2019, but bookings for 2020 are already looking high! Baptisms are also well represented. Outreach through all of these services with especially weddings and baptisms feeding the Little Acorns service. The congregation were reminded to look out for the stranger and to be a welcoming church.

Mission Project – Mercy Ships is still our project, and we keep links with Joel and Manjula in India.

Sanctuary House – The building in the High Street, St Aubin has now been refurbished and is now in very good condition. The Walk into Light had over 350 people taking part and raised £15,000. They started year with a deficit but are working hard to break even.

Love Thy Neighbour – This continues to be busy and Cat helps all sorts of people within the community. The Alms House continues to support community living and this building is now owned by the same people who own the Sanctuary Trust building.

6. RECTOR'S REMARKS:

Our newest Church Project is Baby Bees which meet once a month in the Church Hall and is for pre-school children. This is now going very well with approx. 10 children each month.

AOB – It was asked if the Lych Gate will be having the flower baskets again and Ruth confirmed that they are on order. The area at the top of the field no longer is in use as the school have stopped using it for their project. However Sanctuary Trust have been given use of the allotment area. It was also asked if Les Valette Trust can help with Sanctuary House funding, but the Trust's remit is for more specific projects – for example it pays for the guides to have use of the hall for their weekly meetings.

Mary Jordan thanked Mark and Terri for all they do.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 12.45pm.