

Minutes of Annual Church Meeting
Of St Brelade's Parish Church
Held in St Brelade's Church
On Sunday 3rd June 2018

Present:

Rev. Mark Bond	Chairman
John Trafford	Church Warden
Ruth White	Minute Taker

There were approximately 30 members of the Congregation present.

1. **Apologies**

Brian Clarke; Lallie Clarke; Laurie Dicker; Frank Walker; Fiona Walker; Alan Higginbotham; Jill Higginbotham;

2. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Sunday 21st May 2017 were approved.

Proposed by: Daphne Hurst

Seconded by: Claire De Gruchy

3. **Election of Sidespersons**

The following were elected as Sidespersons:

Terri Bond; Jean Charles; William Church; Lallie Clarke; Sue Clement-Jones; Jane 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; Nigel Mullane; Annie Lezala, Rosemary Betts; Anne Newton; Plus for St Aubin's Church – Andrew Parker, Sue Brown.

4. **Election of Deanery Synod Representatives**

The current Synod reps were re-elected: Mary Jordan, and Denise Waller (from St Aubin's Church); Brian Clarke has stood down and John Trafford has replaced him. In addition, Connetable Mike Jackson was elected as the Deanery Disciplinary Panel Representative.

5. **REPORTS**

FINANCE - Treasurer's Report

Robin Harris produced a set of accounts and reported that the bottom line shows a small deficit of £3,343 for the year.

He summarised the accounts by saying that both income and covenants are up. He thanked all who gave to the life of the church and as a church we are fortunate to do well compared to some churches. However only 40% of our outgoings is covered by congregational giving, the rest is made up from Investment income and other income (such as church hall bookings, car park income, visitor donations, bookstall income etc).

The Rector's Wedding and Funerals fees are now handled differently and have to go through the church accounts. So this shows as an increased income, but also increased expenditure.

We are still receiving income from the builders for the use of the car park, but we're not sure how much longer this will go on for.

He reminded the congregation that there is a covenant scheme which can increase giving by 25%. This can be done either by monthly direct debit or by the yellow envelope scheme.

Robin expressed his thanks to Roger Bignall from St Aubin's Church for auditing the accounts.

Mark expressed his gratitude to Robin for all his hard work during the year.

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

Proposed by: John Trafford

Seconded by: Amy Mathys

MAINTENANCE – Churchwardens Report

Frank Walker has just completed his first year as the Tresor Churchwarden and has overseen the Remembrance area refurbishment and Roses being planted in the Rose Garden. All the Rectory paths have been relaid. The Rectory has had a new kitchen, which has been paid out of the Parish Building Reserve Fund, however some electrical and plumbing remedial work was paid out of Tresor.

Mark then went onto explain to the congregation the difference between the two churchwarden roles. In Jersey the roles are called Surveillants – which means overseers of the community, and not just the church but the whole Parish. One churchwarden's role is Tresor which oversees the church buildings, the churchyards and the Rectory. The other role is Charity churchwarden – which is the role that John Trafford has. John is involved with Communicare; Love Thy Neighbour; The Alms House; Les Vallettes Trust and has a close pastoral care of the Rector and his family.

Worship

Mark Bond thanked Terri for all her hard work with the Little Acorns service and with children and families. Terri mentioned that it's important that all ages turn up to the Little Acorns service to help support it and welcome families into the church.

Weddings are busy this year, with more than we had last year. The Visitor season has started with more German Visitors than in previous years.

Safeguarding Policy

We have to adopt this policy every year at the AGM which was duly done. Mark pointed out that it is on the Church Noticeboard in the Porch should anyone need to look at it again. Terri Bond is the Safeguarding liaison person for the church.

GDPR Policy

This new law came in effect on the 25th May, but we have until the end of the year to implement all aspects of it. So this policy is still in draft form until Jersey Deanery complete it to be more specific to Jersey. However, all members of the congregation need to sign and consent form so that the church can keep in contact with them. The prayer book can only have names added to it, via a separate book in the vestry which must be signed saying that the person needing prayer has given permission for prayer.

HOSPITALITY – Sales

Ruth produced a brief set of accounts for the bookstall, showing a total income over the year of £17,500; Expenditure on stock of £8,500 and other not for re-sale items of £1,000, contributions towards general church funds of £5,000, Cash in bank at end of year was £8,845. Out of the bookstall stock purchases we spent £5,600 on the supply of new candles as our last candle manufacturer ceased trading. We have a large stock of candles which should last for a long time. Overall we received £3,198 more than we spent

Retreat Cottage

Su Gay reported that the cottage had been used frequently over the past year by prisoners families, wedding families, serving clergy and retired clergy.

The Cottages made a loss of £3,632 compared with a profit the previous year, but this is partly due to spending over £3,000 on redecorating and a new washing machine.

The accounts have been audited by an independent party. The cottages gave £7,680 to charity. As the purpose of the cottage is as an amenity rather than a profit making exercise, it's a bonus that we are able to give away surplus income to our various charities.

OUTREACH

Communicare – This is still going well and is busy. We still have a church service up there once a month. All the funding trust trustees will now be members of the running council. As the Prison has changed it's policy, Communicare (like the Rectory) no longer receive prisoners on day release to help out. Communicare is now looking a little tired and in need of updating and there is now a renovation plan in place.

Occasional Offices – Funerals are very busy, Weddings are also busy, but are managed carefully so we don't have too many. Baptisms are also well represented.

Mission Project – Mercy Ships is our project and has been well supported by events such as the unwanted gift stall after Christmas. However, as a congregation we need to generate more support and involvement. Anyone with any fundraising ideas, please get organising!

Sanctuary House – The building in the High Street, St Aubin is closed for refurbishment. The men who were there are re-housed at St Peter's. When the renovation is complete the emergency home will re-open as the need never stops.

Love Thy Neighbour – This continues to be busy and Cat helps all sorts of people within the community. The Alms House has been redecorated by the residents. The Charity is completely owned by the church, so it works on our behalf. The congregation were invited to speak to Mark if anyone would like to get involved.

6. RECTOR'S REMARKS:

Our newest Church Project is gardening – we are taking back the allotments behind the Rectory that Les Quennevais School had been using for the past few years. We hope to get involved with mental health charities to provide a gardening space for people who will benefit from it. Mark asked for volunteers to work alongside them. Leaflets on the project were available to take away.

AOB – Mike Jackson was asked if he could investigate whether it would be possible to have some prisoners back on a day release scheme again; or is there another route where we can get involved?

Mark said that as he's 64 he will be retiring in a few years' time and as a church we need to think about what will happen then. We are currently looking into the possibility of having an organist who can take over playing from Mark.

Mike Jackson thanked Mark and Terri for all they do.

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