

**Minutes of Annual Ecclesiastical Assembly**  
**Of St Brelade's Parish Church**  
**Held in St Brelade's Parish Hall, St Aubin**  
**On Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2023 at 7.30pm**

**Present:**

Rev. Mark Bond	Chairman
Mike Jackson	Constable
Frank Walker	Church Warden
Christine Tostevin	Church Warden
Arthur Morley	Procurer
Christopher Cooke	Procurer

There were approximately 17 Parishioners present, with 1 apology received.

Rev Mark Bond welcomed everyone to the meeting and read out the Convening Notice.

1. **To Receive and Approve the Minutes of the Ecclesiastical Assembly held on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023, in the Parish Hall.**

The amendment \*subject to the conditions\* was requested to be added to the minutes regarding the vote to sell Field 305 West:

‘A vote was held, with 36 parishioners voting for the sale in principle *\*subject to the conditions\** and 2 voting against, no abstentions.’

With this amendment recorded the minutes of the Ecclesiastical Assembly held on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023 were approved.

Proposed by: Mr Frank Walker

Seconded by: Deputy Helen Miles.

2. **Tresor Accounts**

Mr Frank Walker presented to the Assembly the interim Tresor Accounts. Frank explained that Tresor is concerned primarily with the maintenance of the Church, Churchyard and Rectory, and all is in very good order. The parish allocated £30,000 to this Tresor account for year ending April 2023 and it is hoped that the same will be allocated again this year. Some of this fund is spent by the church and some is spent by the parish. The accounts show the split between spending by the church Tresor account and spending by the Parish Tresor. The accounts show a healthy surplus of £6,686 with a closing bank balance of £22,700.

Nothing remarkable to report on the income or expenditure. The replacement boiler for the Rectory was the largest item of expenditure.

Deputy Moz Scott asked a question about why the insurance for the sexton's van had gone down, and it was answered that there had been a review of the vehicle insurance during the past year; but was also referred back to the parish, as that is one of the bills paid by them. The miscellaneous income was explained by Funeral Directors paying fees into the wrong account, so it was purely an entry in and then an entry out later on. Procurer Chris Cooke asked why uncleared cheques were showing at the end of the accounts and it was explained that it's the historical way of doing these accounts and this acts as a cash/bank reconciliation.

Rev Mark Bond explained that although the year end is 30<sup>th</sup> April, the annual Ecclesiastical Assembly where these accounts are presented has to take place in May in order for the Churchwardens and Almoners to be elected and then sworn in court in early June. Therefore, there is no time for the accounts to be audited prior to the Ecclesiastical Assembly. However, they will be audited prior to the Parish Annual Accounts Assembly which takes place in July.

The interim accounts were proposed by Frank Walker and seconded by Mary Jordan and would be forwarded to Roger Bignell for auditing.

### 3. **Election of Church Officers.**

Rev Mark Bond thanked the current Churchwardens for all their hard work over the past year; Christine Tostevin has been acting Treasurer and all the church accounts have now been computerised; Frank Walker looks after the Tresor side and the church and churchyard are in very good order and receive a lot of compliments from visitors and locals. Mark also advised the assembly that from 1<sup>st</sup> June, Wendy Allenet-Simpson will be the new verger and Ruth White will become the part time church administrator.

Frank Walker and Christine Tostevin are both willing to stand again as church wardens for the coming year.

Mark also thanked the Almoners for all their hard work each week, counting the collections and banking the cash.

Peter Le Sueur and Vicky Valois are both happy to stand again as Almoners for the coming year.

All four church officers were proposed for re-election by Mike Jackson And seconded by Mary Jordan.

The church officers were asked to attend court on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> June to be sworn in.

### 4. **Field 305 West.**

Frank Walker said that at the last Ecclesiastical Assembly on behalf of the Rectorat, he proposed the sale of Field 305 West to Mr Nigel Godfrey who owned the house next to the field. This was approved by the Assembly, subject to covenants and conditions.

However, it came to light a couple of days after the Assembly that Mr Godfrey had put his house up for sale which went against what was discussed and agreed at the Assembly. In the light of this, the Rectorat revoked the agreement to sell the land and this is what Frank is now reporting back to the Ecclesiastical Assembly.

There has since been another expression of interest in the field but the Rectorat have decided to leave the field as it is for now. Mike Jackson reported that Deputy Jonathan Renouf has subsequently found out that the field has been owned by the Rectorat since 1765. He suggested that a survey be carried out to see what is there and to preserve it as a Parish water meadow. Rev Mark Mark also referred to the field next to the Rectory, the bottom half of which is used for overflow parking for the church whilst the top part is a meadow and also has allotments which are used by Sanctuary Trust.

5. **Connetable's Address.**

Mike Jackson commented that he was in St Brelade's Bay the previous evening and saw the church all floodlight and how lovely it looked. He said that the whole of the parish church estate is of enormous value to the parish and to tourism and the Island as a whole, and he is very pleased that we maintain it well.

Older properties are part of the fabric of our community, and it is important to keep on top of that maintenance. The Rectory roof needs work in the next year or two, but there is a fund already in place for this work.

Mike Jackson expressed his thanks to Rev Mark Bond for his work at the church and for having such a good church congregation, and also his thanks to the church wardens and almoners for their work during the year. He said the relationship between Parish and Church is quirky in nature, but it works well in St Brelade, and he is keen to continue to support the church in the way that the Parish has always done. The parish is responsible for Quennevais cemetery and the extension is becoming established and looking pretty with the pond and wildlife.

In closing Rev Mark Bond gave his thanks to the Connetable for his continued support and for attending the special events such as on Liberation Day when the German Ambassador visited the churchyard to lay a wreath at the remembrance plaque for the German service men who died and were buried in the churchyard during the war.

Rev Bond thanked everyone for attending.

The meeting closed at 8pm