

Minutes of Annual Ecclesiastical Assembly
Of St Brelade's Parish Church
Held in St Brelade's Church Hall
On Tuesday 18th May 2021

Present:

Rev. Mark Bond	Chairman
Mike Jackson	Constable
Frank Walker	Church Warden
John Trafford	Church Warden
Peter Norman	Procurer
Arthur Morley	Procurer

There were 13 Parishioners present

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 29th May 2019, in the Church Hall.

The Minutes of the Meeting held in May 2019 were approved (Due to Covid Pandemic, no meeting took place in 2020).

Proposed by: Mr Eddie Cuthbert

Seconded by: Mrs Fiona Walker

2. Tresor Accounts for 2020

The Tresor account was allocated £30,000 from the Parish, which is for the general upkeep of the churchyard/church and rectory.

The Church drew down £15,000 with the Parish spending another £4,859 on Tresor's behalf.

The Tresor account closed the year ending April 2020 with a surplus of £2,524 and £11,204 in the bank.

Proposer of 2020 Tresor Accounts: Mr John Trafford;

Seconder: Mr Laurie Dicker

Tresor Accounts for 2021

The Tresor account was allocated £30,000 from the Parish, which is for the general upkeep of the churchyard/church and rectory.

The Church drew down £20,000 with the Parish spending another £7,942 on Tresor's behalf. Cemetery expenditure was high during the year due to a lot of work carried out on the Oak Tree, which is now hopefully safe and healthy. There was also some fence replacement work carried out in the field. Church expenditure included the purchase of tv's and stands for people to have paperless church services due to covid. The Quinquennial Inspection was also carried out which produced a very good report with nothing serious to report. Frank paid tribute to previous churchwardens for their care of the estate, which is good all round condition. The Rectory expenses were higher but this reflects the fact that we are looking after an aging building. The Roof will be replaced during the Interregnum.

The Tresor account closed the year ending April 2021 with a deficit of £3,146 and with £8,058 in the bank.

A project for the future is some remedial work to the surface of the car park

It was noted that the responsibility of the Sextons has now passed back to the Parish Foremen and a good working relationship is enjoyed by all concerned. Frank expressed his thanks to the Sextons and the Verger for their hard work.

Proposer of Tresor Accounts: Mr Eddie Cuthbert;

Seconder: Mr Micky Tostevin

3. Election of Church Officers.

Rev. Mark Bond commented on how much has happened since we were last able to meet at an Ecclesiastical Assembly – most notably the passing of our Treasurer Robin Harris in June 2020. He is greatly missed and carried out a fantastic role as church Treasurer. This has now been taken over by Christine Tostevin and Christine Whitfield, and over the course of the coming year they aim to computerise all the church accounts.

A) Churchwardens.

John Trafford is retiring from his role as churchwarden. As Churchwarden Charitee, a lot of his work has been behind the scenes as a committee member for Communicare, Love Thy Neighbour, Les Vallettes Trust, Sanctuary Trust and Deanery Synod Rep. He's also been a personal support to the Rector, and Mark thanked him for all he has done. Mrs Christine Tostevin has agreed to stand as churchwarden to replace John Trafford; and Mr Frank Walker has agreed to continue as Churchwarden Tresor, with Ruth White's assistance with book-keeping.

B) Almoners.

Rev Mark Bond said how blessed we are to have two very good Almoners who spend every Tuesday morning counting and banking all the cash, however this past year has been quieter for them with less cash coming in due to Covid. Rev. Mark Bond expressed his appreciation for Viscountess Poulet's legacy to the church; which has assisted the church greatly during the past year. Both Almoners have agreed to stand again, so Mrs Vicky Valois and Mr Peter Le Sueur were re-elected.

Both Churchwardens and both Almoners were approved by the Assembly and asked to present themselves at the Royal Court on Saturday 19th June for the official swearing in.

4. Connetable's Address.

The Connetable, Mr Mike Jackson observed how the relationship between church and parish continues to prosper and all work together well. The pandemic experience has taught us to use technology more than we ever expected, but it's still good to have face to face contact. Solidarity and consistency is something we strive to provide and we are still standing as a pillar for those who wish to worship in this way. The Connetable gave thanks to Rev Mark Bond and his wife for all they do both here and at St Aubin on the Hill church

Rev Mark Bond concluded the meeting by saying that hopefully the Church will re-open properly after the pandemic on Sunday 20th June (which is also St Brelade's Day) and will be able to stay open during the week. This will be discussed at the AGM on Sunday 23rd May. With thanks to the generosity of Eddie and Jane Cuthbert, the church now has the facility to ring a peal of bells and we hope to start using this for weddings after the 20th June. He notified the Assembly that he has postponed his proposed retirement from Autumn 2020 to sometime next year, once the current vacancies in the Island have been filled and once the pandemic is over.

The meeting closed at 8pm