

**St Giles' Church West Bridgford**  
**Minutes of Annual Church Meeting on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2023**

1. Opening prayers

Parish Meeting (Chair: Hilary Walters)

2. To elect churchwardens:

Thanks were expressed to Al and Jude for the massive amount of work done over the last year. As a meeting of parishioners on 16<sup>th</sup> April had decided that the six year rule should not apply, Al and Jude were elected unopposed.

Al Ferraro: Proposed – Richard Crawley, Seconded – Duncan Barker

Jude Hill: Proposed – Daphne Carter, Seconded – Lesley Forrest Smith

AGM (Chair: Al Ferraro)

3. Elections to the Deanery Synod: 4 places were available. The following were elected unopposed:

Michelle Darkin Price: Proposed – Jude Hill, Seconded – Claire Sheard

Roger Ottway: Proposed – Johanna Langheld, Seconded - Daphne Carter

Dizzy Prentice: Proposed – Daphne Carter, Seconded – Carole Sprakes

Sheila Wheaton: Proposed – Roger Ottway, Seconded – Johanna Langheld

4. Elections to the PCC: 5 places were available. The following were elected unopposed:

Lizzie Battrum: Proposed – Barry Hayman, Seconded – Anne Tanner

Christine Hutchings: Proposed – Lizzie Battrum, Seconded – Catherine Elliott

Libby Moppett: Proposed – Iain Moppett, Seconded – Sue Ferraro

Sally Poon: Proposed – Claire Bills, Seconded – Claire Sheard

Lukas Purves: Proposed – Mike Rich, Seconded – Claire Barker

Thanks were expressed to the PCC for their continued hard work, in particular to Neil Sutcliffe who was stepping down.

5. Reports:

Thanks were expressed to Claire Sheard and Hilary Walters for help in compiling the reports.

Electoral roll: thanks were expressed to Richard Crawley for his work. It was noted that the number on the electoral roll (214) was exactly the same as last year, although there had been some changes of personnel.

Report of PCC and Parish activities: the report was tabled.

2022 Accounts and Finance for 2023: Chris Lane explained the Accounts. As we had foreseen a significant drop in income for 2022, we had tried to reduce expenditure in particular by requesting a reduction in the Parish Share (reflecting the loss of several families to Lady Bay). However a fantastic response to the giving campaign in September had resulted in a £50k increase in planned giving. Thanks were expressed to Christopher Wheaton for his help with this. We also increased the letting fees for the church and church hall. We therefore ended the year with a surplus of £30k, which includes a legacy of £18k which we intend to use for a capital project to be decided. We are expecting a need for significant expenditure on the fabric, and increases in other running costs. We intend to pay a parish share of £120k for 2023 (having been asked for £135k); there was some concern that we were not pulling our weight financially in the Diocese. Thanks were expressed to Richard Crawley for his work as Funding Secretary,

and it was noted that Richard would like to relinquish this role in the near future. Thanks were expressed to Chris Lane for his continued hard work and expertise. The Accounts were accepted unanimously.

Fabric: the report was tabled. Thanks were expressed to Brendan Sprakes and the Building Group. We were hoping to replace the lighting in church with a robust modern system that would last. This might cost as much as £100k, so we would need to explore other sources of income, grants, etc.

Deanery Synod: the report was tabled. Thanks were expressed to the representatives, in particular Johanna Langheld who was stepping down.

Safeguarding: the report was tabled. We are confident that our systems are all in place. Thanks were expressed to Dizzy Prentice for her continued vigilance.

Seniors: the report was tabled. The Seniors ministry was flourishing and was an important part of St Giles' ministry. Thanks were expressed to Roger and Doreen Ottway and their team.

Children and Youth: the report was tabled. Thanks were expressed to all who help with this and in particular to Ellen who in default of a Youth Worker is covering Youth as well as Children and Families.

Outreach: the report was tabled. The Outreach group has been very active and organised several very successful events. Thanks were expressed to them.

6. Report on the recruitment of a new Rector: Al Ferraro outlined the sequence of events so far. A year ago the PCC had met for a Vision Day and this, along with the parish consultation, had informed the Parish Profile. Thanks were expressed to Barry Hayman and his team for producing this. We had advertised twice last year, receiving three applications in the first stage, of which we interviewed two, and five applications in the second stage, of which we interviewed one (two having withdrawn for reasons to do with their parish situations). We had intended to advertise again in March but this had been felt to be too rushed. We have now advertised again on the Church of England Pathways site, the Diocesan site and also Church Times. Advice from the Diocese suggests that we have been doing the right thing, but it just takes time to find the right person.

7. AOB:

Volunteers required to take over Electoral Roll Officer and Funding Officer from Richard Crawley; interested parties should contact Richard or Al.

We should be proud of what we have achieved so far in spite of being without a rector. Other volunteers were encouraged to come forward to help in various ways.

There would be a Newcomers' lunch on 4<sup>th</sup> June.

Thanks were expressed to Peter Watkins and Christopher Wheaton for all their hard work leading services.

Thanks were also expressed to the many other groups who help with the running of the church: Music and worship groups, the Welcome team, our Pastoral ministry, led by Daphne Carter, and many others.

Hilary Walters  
PCC Secretary  
24<sup>th</sup> April 2023