

Minutes of the Annual Greater Whitbourne Parochial Church Council meeting

25th April 2022 7.30pm

In attendance: Revd Dawn Hyett (DH), Revd Jan Webb (JW), Kathleen Harris, Ian Evans-Fisher, Lis Morris, Averil Pickering, Claudia Buxton, Louisa Wyatt (LW), Anne Evans (AE), Chris Evans (CE), Clive Pickering (CP), William North (WN), David Roberts (DR), Rev'd Andrew Bullock (AB), Myrtle Kneen (MK), Jeff Salt (JS), Marion Symmons, Sylvia Bland (SB).

1. Apologies – Jerry Cummins, Brenda Allan, Christopher Allsop, Mike Symmons, John Bland

2. Minutes of the previous Annual meeting were passed. Proposed AE, seconded DR, all voted in favour. There were no matters arising.

3. Report of Rev'd Dawn Hyett

DH spoke to her report, and thanked all those who had contributed to the Annual Report.

4. Children's activities report

Marion added her report on children's activities, as follows.....

New projects,

- a) on the first Tuesday of each month, led by Amyjane, there is a Mothers & Toddlers Group at Whitbourne Village Hall. This began in March 2022, with a good turnout of 12 little ones plus mums.
- b) Children's Afterschool Club, this follows on from the M&T group, and is led by Marion. Slow start with few children. Feedback was that the timing is a problem, so it has changed to 3.45pm.
- c) John Bland is planning banners to advertise the group, Marion has visited Brockhampton and St Peter's primary schools with fliers, and it is on Facebook and the Bromyard Info magazine from May.

5. Reports from the Churches

The Churchwardens spoke to their statements from the Annual Report, with a few additions.....

Upper Sapey – The woodworm in the organ has been treated. However it is still unplayable as there are some sticky keys which are to be repaired. The 2022 inspection is upcoming, and WN will share details of the architect recently employed by Tedstone Delamere for the works there. DR asked all to note the final financial statement at the end of his report.

Tedstone Delamere – WN noted that the new architect had been appointed and a specification agreed. He thanked David, Clive and Lorren for their work on the fabric committee.

Whitbourne – CP reported that it had been a rollercoaster year, with several good friends lost. The age profile of the congregation is becoming trickier. The Church has been kept open though and Zoom has been a Godsend. There is some repair work to be done prior to the Whitbourne inspection in 2023. The organist and choir were highly commended and it is wonderful to have them.

Edvin Loach – Issues are..... repairs to the roof, lightning conductor, and that the belltower is full of jackdaws. Steps are being taken. An architect has been appointed for the EL inspection and approved by the DAC.

Rev'd Dawn Hyett thanked all the Churchwardens for their very hard work during another difficult year.

6. Financial report

MK asked if the apparent deficit of the Common Purse is a concern. CE replied that it is not, as this is covered by the balance of reserves.

He mentioned that funds were depleted as there were no weddings, which make a big difference, and that the magazine printing costs were not covered by advertising revenues.

He suggested that donors to the Common Purse be properly thanked, and that individual donors to specific Churches be thanked also, as well as for their time and talents.

DH thanked CE for all his efforts.

7. Mission Action Plan

CE talked through the LMDG's work on the MAP. It is modest, given the interim situation which we are in. However, he is delighted with all that has been mapped out and achieved to date. There is much good work, eg the Children's group and the Choir. DH reported that she may have found someone willing to help with IT needs.

DH thanked CE & the LMDG team.

8. Safeguarding

Brenda Allan's report was read out in her absence, and all were asked to complete the safeguarding courses if they have not already done so. They are highly recommended.

9. Officers & Churchwardens

DH thanked all officers & Churchwardens for all the hard work they have undertaken.

Special thanks were recorded for Brenda Allan for her very long service to the PCC. She has held most posts within the PCC and is very knowledgeable. She kindly stepped into the safeguarding role at the end of 2021 when a vacancy arose, and all were most grateful. A round of applause was given.

Churchwardens – all are automatically re-elected. Ian Evans-Fisher has given notice that 2022 will be his final year as CW at Upper Sapey.

The following elections took place for PCC Officers.....

Finance – Chris Evans. Proposed by WN. Seconded by Averil Pickering.

Safeguarding – Jan Webb. Proposed by CE. Seconded by Andrew Bullock

Secretary – Louisa Wyatt. Proposed by Anne Evans. Seconded by Averil Pickering.

Jerry Cummins. Proposed by LW. Seconded by CE.

Claudia Buxton – Proposed by Andrew Bullock. Seconded by Sylvia Bland.

All voted in favour in all instances.

10. AOB

a) JW commented that it was so good to still have Zoom services for those who cannot attend Church.

b) DR commented that he needed to find help for the lightning conductor at Upper Sapey, Jeff Salt offered assistance. Reserves need to be found for future Church cleaning. He recommended Rosa, the new Parish Giving Officer for support on fundraising. He alerted those present to the Whitbourne fete on 2nd July. He also thanked those from Whitbourne who have taken services at Upper Sapey.

c) Ab mentioned that he is welcoming Ukrainian refugees to the annexe at his home. A meeting is due to be held at Bodenham in the near future to advise others on this. Please contact AB for details.

d) CE mentioned that a Statement of Needs is being drawn up for presentation to the Archdeacon to look at the time after Dawn's retirement. This will be shared with PCC members shortly.

e) CE reported that DH has received an honour from the Bishop of Hereford for outstanding Parish ministry. She has been offered a Prebendal stall at the Cathedral in appreciation of her work.

11. Next Annual meeting date

To be confirmed.

PCC meetings, 19th May 2022 and 11th July 2022 (with the Archdeacon). Both to be held at Saltmarshe Village Hall, with thanks to Kathleen.

The meeting closed with The Grace.