

The Parish Church of St. Peter's Monkseaton

The Annual Meeting held in Church together with Zoom Live Streaming on Sunday 9th May 2021

Church Warden Helen McDermott welcomed all the parishioners in Church as well as Zoom Live Streaming, explaining the procedure for Live coverage of the annual meeting taking place.

Vestry Meeting of Parishioners

- 1) Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners held on Sunday 18th October 2020 at 11.30 am were accepted and agreed as a true record (proposed by A Sneddon, seconded by Nic Coulson)

Election of Church Wardens

- 2) Nomination forms were received for Church Wardens:-
Helen McDermott - proposed by Anne Smith, seconded by Daniel Doran
Judith Coulson - proposed by Sheila Horn, seconded by Helen McDermott

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Attendance in Church 28, and Zoom Live Streaming 5
Apologies for absence:- Mrs A Barlett, Mrs C Stone, Mr P Eltingham

Minutes of the Meeting

- 1) Minutes of the APCM held on Sunday 18th October at 11.30 am were accepted and agreed as a true record
Proposed by Mrs E Doran and seconded by Mrs P Hood

Matters Arising

- 2) Matters arising from the APCM minutes on Sunday 18th October 2020:-

Reported at the meeting Mrs D Elliott commented that under the heading of Any Other Business names should have been mentioned for Private Prayer and twice weekly Worship, a thank you should have gone to Jan Porter for Private Prayer, and Worship to the following clergy:-

Bishop John Packer
Bishop Mark Bryant
Rev'd Brian Johnson
Rev'd Susan Johnson

John Bowes parishioner asked the question relating to the quinquennial why it was not shown in the minutes. Nic Coulson reported that this was shown in the Fabric Report.

Marjorie Wilcox parishioner and PCC member questioned a matter about a quotation for estimate for decorating woodwork outside of the hall.

Helen McDermott commented that a discussion was held at a PCC meeting, being agreed and recorded as a true record.

Electoral Roll and changes

- 3) Sheila Horn Electoral Roll Officer reported for the year ending 2021 as required by the Church of England that there are 187 actual members on the electoral roll of which 75 non-resident in the parish as at the 28th April 2021. This allows for PCC representation to be 12 members.

Report on the Proceeding of the Parochial Church Council

- 4) "The PCC has complied with the duty under Section (5) of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline measure 2016" this duty to have regard to the House of Bishops guidance on Safeguarding Children and vulnerable adults.

Anne Smith Secretary reported that the Standing Committee held 5 Zoom meetings between October 2020 and March 2021 with PCC meetings also held throughout the same period.

Additional meeting with the PCC was arranged to discuss Sunday Worship held in Church with the Clergy present and no parishioners with the service Live Streamed on Zoom as well as Facebook.

Finance is always a topic which continued throughout the 6 months with particular importance as always on the Parish Share Contributions.

Parish Share Document was received from The Church of England Diocese of Newcastle for the year 2020 and has now been displayed here in Church on the notice board.

In addition other matters that came up during PCC meetings and discussions were as follows:-

- Finance
- Fundraising
- Incumbent Vacancy
- Fabric
- Worship
- Church Website
- Covid 19- infection Guidelines and safety

Church of England Audit and Statistics for Mission were both completed and processed online for the year January to December 2020.

Finance Report

- 5) Treasurer Alex Sneddon reported we are aware that finance throughout the Church in this difficult time, thanking parishioners that decided to setup a direct payment to Church as Gift Aided planned giving. Gift Aided Planned Giving was a loss with Plate suffering a big loss year 2019 £5802 - £1068 year 2020. Autumn Fayre income also was greatly reduced although fundraising continued online with the Church Hub.

Church hall income was reduced due to none hiring, although a Grant was received from North Tyneside Council of £2000 for loss of income church hall hiring and further £200.

Diocesan Parish Share payment was dramatically reduced finding it difficult to pay the requested amount as discussed in PCC meetings.

The vicarage rental received for the year goes direct to Newcastle Diocese making this about equal to the full amount that could have been paid for the Parish Share.

Ian Shaw Deanery Finance Officer give a brief talk about the Parish Share explaining that Tynemouth Deanery were able to pay 87% of the Parish Share which included outside funding from local government, this giving Newcastle Dioceses a much better position than expected with Bishop of Newcastle thanking everyone for their efforts.

Question and Answer:-

Mrs J Clarkson asked if the envelope system for counting cash after the Church service was still needed. Treasurer Alex Sneddon reported yes the envelope system would continue for counting with a rota as soon as the Church service with parishioners goes back to normal, recording of envelopes and baptism fees will be recorded as always.

Mrs E Doran commented that and asked if anyone had seen the Generous Giving Team newsletter from Newcastle Dioceses as this was a missed opportunity for support for the Dioceses.

Iain Shaw Deanery Finance Officer also asked if a news letter was received.

Treasurer Alex Sneddon asked the parishioners could the accounts be approved:-

Proposed by Mrs S Horn and Seconded by Mrs E Doran.

Fabric Report

- 6) Nic Coulson reported the Church and hall remain in good condition thanks to the efforts of the team of people who work to maintain the buildings and the grounds with the support of the PCC.

The report of the quinquennial inspection, which took place in the previous year, was received in December last year after a delay caused by the lockdown. The quinquennial inspection refers only to the church building.

I have concluded some comments from the report:

The church has been well cared for during the last six years (2013 – 2019). It is a solid brick structure and it is being maintained and improved to a high standard.

The solid wall construction of the brick walls gives rise to areas of efflorescence and salts on some areas internally as moisture levels change. These are evident particularly on the east gables and on the north side of the chancel arch. This area should be monitored and periodically the brickwork surface could be wiped clean, but they do not present a major problem – rather an aesthetic inconvenience.

The adjoining parish hall and kitchen facilities, which do not come under the faculty regulations provide excellent social and community spaces and separately these rooms are subject to a programme of repairs and improvement.

Geoffrey Purves Architect Reported that overall, the church presents itself as a building which is enthusiastically cleaned and cherished by the PCC.

There are no items of repair requiring immediate attention.

During the last year lockdowns have meant that there has been significantly less use of the hall and church and opportunities for undertaking maintenance as a team has at times been severely restricted. However we have managed to carry out a number of tasks.

It was reported that the back door of the Church was becoming difficult to close. A new “Yale” lock was fitted and a small amount of wood was taken off the side of the door which had expanded in the wet weather.

Locks have seemed to feature this year:- the lock on the back door of the hall also failed and needed replacing but this lock is different from most and had to be specially ordered.

Following that the barrel of the lock failed and it is currently at the locksmiths being repaired. These are security barrels and there are four on the hall of the Church which are keyed alike for safety convenience

Before the painting of the hall exterior took place the door at the top of the ramp was repaired and also the panel above the door was renewed.

At the back of the hall there was a significant growth of ivy which was beginning to grow into the mortar and under the roof covering. This has all been removed.

Also at the back of the hall one of the rainwater down-comer pipes had become detached from the wall causing water to run down the wall which would lead to water ingress. This has been repaired.

During the wet weather earlier this year a rood leak was noticed in church. A roofer was engaged who has fixed the leak but unfortunately the parquet floor was damaged by the water. This has now been repaired.

Qualified engineers have been engaged to service the boilers in Church and the hall and the fire extinguishers throughout have also been checked and serviced.

In order for the hall to be brought back into use a risk assessment has been written along with guidelines for the users. We have sourced all the signs and equipment (soap, sanitiser, wipes, paper cloth etc.) necessary to make the hall Covid secure and have calculated maximum occupancy levels, removed extra chairs and soft furnishings, fixed signs and closed off some rooms. We have liaised with the cleaner who is now working to maintain the necessary standards. There is now some limited use of the hall by permitted young people's groups and hopefully as we return to normality more groups will be able to use the hall again.

I am particularly grateful to Dave Fielding and Tom Scott for their assistance with all of these tasks. See ever

As always could I remind people that if you see something that needs fixing, have a word with me and I will make sure that it is dealt with appropriately. I am around regularly but I don't see everything and an email, text message or phone call if you don't see me personally will be responded to.

Deanery Synod

- 7) Emma Doran Deanery Synod Representative reported that since our last APCM in October the Tynemouth deanery synod has met twice, via Zoom, with good numbers in attendance. St. Peter 's is represented by Jan Porter, Pamela Hood and me, with Iain Shaw also being in attendance, in his role as Deanery Finance Officer.

At the first meeting we welcomed the then Archdeacon of Northumberland, Mark Wroe, (now Bishop of Berwick) to the meeting to have a discussion about the future shaping of Tynemouth Deanery, given the challenges that the Deanery and Diocese are facing, with regards to finance, declining numbers, buildings maintenance and resource.

The newly reformed deanery development group (DDG) will take these conversations forward and work with the Diocesan Transformation team.

In the second meeting it was announced that Rev'd Dr Rae Caro will be the new Priest in charge at St. Mark's Shiremoor, and the Deanery mission enabler for estates ministry. She will work alongside the DDG to decide what her role will look like. Tim Mayfield, the Area Dean discussed the future training plan within the Deanery and reported that training for Lay people in Pastoral care had begun. David Burnside is undertaking this training on behalf of St. Peter's.

The Deanery ran a Lent course this year, based on St Mark's gospel, entitled "Jesus" Love in Action. This course was very well received and very well attended, with over 100 attendees taking part.

The Deanery focus this year is very much on bringing the Deanery together during these difficult times and to consider how the Transformation strategy will be implemented.

Additional Reports

- 8) Nothing to report from the various groups listed:-

Safeguarding and Safeguarding Policy
St. Peter's Youth Club
Whitley Bay and District Churches Together
Stepping Stones Sunday School

Election of Deanery Synod

- 9) The following nominations for Deanery Synod representatives continue as 3 year term still in place so no election needed, representatives as follows:-_

Mrs Janice Porter
Mrs Emma Doran
Mrs Pamela Hood

Election of Representatives to the PCC

- 10) Elected Members of the PCC are:- 9 for first 100 people on Electoral roll, then additional 3 per 100 up to a maximum of 15, the PCC has already 12 members with term not ended, a vacancy now available for 3 people and no election necessary.

The following nominations for the PCC are:-

Audrey Matthews	proposed by J E Clarkson	seconded by Dorothy Elliott
Marjorie Wilcox	proposed by M Johns	seconded by C A Soar
Janice E Clarkson	proposed by P A Hood	seconded by J Porter

Appointment of Independent Examiner

- 11) Alex Sneddon reported and confirmed that David Morrison Independent Examiner was still willing to audit the yearly Financial Statement of accounts.

Any Other Business

- 12) Helen McDermott Church Warden reported that a question had been given and it should have been discussed at at previous meeting of the APCM and approved. Question related to postal votes for APCM meetings comes under the Church of England Representatives rules for 2020 and needs to be returned after the meeting. Church Warden Helen McDermott asked the parishioners at APCM the question of postal votes, no interest shown except for one person.

June Dawson parishioner thanked PCC Secretary for all the work that had been done, and also thanking everyone else for their support and work done by keeping the Church open for services.

Emma Doran thanked everyone during this long time and journey we have all been on throughout Lockdown and what has been achieved and hopefully we will be able to get together again soon, and we are not to compare St. Peter's Church with other Churches in the Deanery as we need grow again in Faith, Hope, and Community.

Parishioner Maureen Barlow commented about down pipe at back of hall was leaking.
Parishioner John Bowes commented that the flat roof of the hall needed a repair.
Nic Coulson replied to the above and said if anyone saw anything that needed to be repaired or needed attention then to please contact him direct.

Parishioner Maureen Barlow commented that a special thanks should be given to all those concerned for keeping the Church open during lockdown and keeping St. Peter's together, especially thanking Daniel Doran for his work of Live streaming, Facebook and Zoom connection.
Also commenting that you should never complain about a volunteer helping in Church.

Parishioner John Bowes commented about the 8.30 am Church service, saying hopefully this will be soon reinstated.

Helen McDermott Church Warden commented that we are keen to return to normal as soon as possible especially to the 8.30 am service when Church guidelines allows.
Helen McDermott Church Warden informed the meeting that advert had been placed for the Incumbent vacancy with a discussion taken place with Archdeacon and Area Dean as 4 people had shown interest in the vacancy, shortlist is scheduled and a date placed in the Bishop of Newcastle diary for interviews on 21st June 2021, and hopefully we will have a new Incumbent by the end of summer.

Daniel Doran explained to the meeting about Broadband and that previous discussions had been held at PCC meeting for installing Broadband into the Church.
Broadband speed was actually slower than what was being used compared to wireless.

Helen McDermott thanked everyone for attending the meeting and the contribution from the parishioners, and hopefully we can build a stronger congregation together as a church especially when a new Incumbent arrive here at St. Peter's Church.

