**Minutes of Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

**Held in All Saints Church**

**Wednesday 27th April 2022, 7.30pm**

Present: Rev Thomas Robson, 23 Laity

**Annual Vestry Meeting**

**Chaired by Rev Thomas Robson**

Rev Robson thanked all for coming and said that he looks forward to the annual meeting as a chance to recognise what God is doing and give thanks for all He has done over the last year. He read 1 Thessalonians 5 v 12-27, Paul’s final instructions to the church to ‘acknowledge those who work hard among you‘, and to support one another, and opened the meeting in prayer. He explained that although Churchwardens usually serve for three years, they are re-elected annually. Mr David Green is stepping down to focus on his training for ordination, and Rev Robson expressed his thanks for all he has done in the role over the last few years, much of it unseen. He also extended his thanks to Mrs Clare Purdom for all her hard work, and to Jon Purdom and Karen Green for their support behind the scenes. Clare has completed one year of her second three-year term, and Miss Ann Macaulay is standing for the second position. Rev Robson thanked them both for their readiness to serve and prayed for them.

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**Election of Churchwardens**

**Mrs Clare Purdom (for two years)**

Proposed by Ann Macaulay

Seconded by Carol Groves

**Miss Ann Macaulay (for three years)**

Proposed by Clare Purdom

Seconded by Janet Webb

Elected en bloc.

The Annual Vestry Meeting was then closed.

**Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

**Chaired by Rev Thomas Robson**

1. **Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Rev Mark Rodger, Clive and Janet Abbott, Trevor and Jan Mills, and Perry and Julia Eastaugh

1. **Minutes of previous meeting**

The minutes of the 2021 APCM were approved and signed.

1. **Reports**
   1. **Vicar’s Report**

Rev Robson said that his report is a chance to say thank you and express his gratitude for all that everyone has contributed. The Church feels like a family where people get involved and use their gifts. At the beginning of 2021 we were in the third national lockdown due to the Coronavirus pandemic, and it is amazing to see how far we had come by the end of the year. He expressed gratitude for how God has got us through it and brought in new people, for all that people do within the Church, often unnoticed, and for all God is doing among and through us as a Church.

**3.2 Updated Electoral Roll**

Alison Manester as Electoral Roll Officer said that last year the number on the roll was 134; after six removals and seven additions, it now stands at 135. Rev Robson thanked Miss Manester for her continued service in this role. He reminded everyone that people can join the Roll at any time.

* 1. **Trustees’ Annual Report**

Rev Robson encouraged everyone to read this on the website if they have not already done so. The format is determined by the Charity Commission but within that we try to highlight some of the things that happened during the year under the headings ‘know, love, follow Jesus’, relating to evangelism, discipleship, and living out faith. Sample quotations were added from the Church surveys to give a balanced overview. No questions on the report had been received in advance of the meeting and none were offered in the room.

* 1. **Financial Report**

This is available on the website, with separate accounts for the Church, Wick Hall and the Wick Information Centre, and a summary in the Trustees’ Report. Rev Robson said that massive thanks are due to Janis Myers for all her time spent in keeping the accounts in order. There were no questions on the finances. Rev Robson thanked all who give financially to the life of the Church. The Church has no historic reserves, investments or property, and little income from weddings and funerals, and relies on the giving of the congregation. He explained that we are still not paying our full costs to the Diocese but are getting closer every year. Our aspirational aim, for All Saints and Lyminster together, is to pay 80% of our actual costs within three years, and we believe we should be able to achieve this. In the long term this will secure the ministry of the Churches; once we pay our costs we can be more creative and proactive in spending money to reach people for God in this area. Wick Hall is in a strong financial position and the Wick Information Centre will receive more funding from the Town Council which will enable improvements to be made to the outside. Roger Purdom asked if 80% of what we give goes to the Diocese, and Rev Robson explained that the Diocese work out our actual costs and have asked us to pay 80% of this figure, in the knowledge that we are unlikely to be able to meet the full cost.

* 1. **Deanery Synod**

Rev Robson thanked Janice Betson for her report, which he read out. There were only two meetings last year, mainly about finances. Our Deanery consists of about eighteen Churches along the coast from East Preston to Pagham, with meetings held to support each other and share ideas. He thanked Janice Betson, Alison Manester, and Felix Gillett for serving as our Deanery Synod representatives.

* 1. **Fabric, Fixtures & Fittings**

Rev Robson read out the Churchwardens’ report. He thanked Clare and Dave for the report and there were no questions. We have money set aside for the window repairs, but the Diocese has asked for a second opinion on whether the transfer windows can be saved. Rev Robson has just received permission to drop the kerb in the car park to improve access.

A short period of open prayer followed.

1. **Elections and Appointments**
   1. **Elections to the PCC**

Four nominations were received in advance of the meeting. No objections were raised and no votes required.

Mr Dave Green Proposed by David Sax/Seconded by Maryann Gillett

Mrs Vivienne Jones Proposed by Jenny Tillman/Seconded by Steve Barber

Mr Alan Hodgson Proposed by Janice Betson/Seconded by Alison Manester

Mrs Carol Groves Proposed by Alison Manester/Seconded by Janis Myers

Rev Robson thanked Alan Hodgson and Carol Groves for agreeing to stand again for new terms, and Trevor Mills for his service on the PCC and especially for his work on health and safety.

* 1. **Appointment of Child Protection Officer**

Rev Robson reminded all that safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility. The summary of our policy is available on the website and at the back of the Church. Julia Eastaugh has agreed to stand again as Child Protection Officer and was voted in unanimously. An assistant will be appointed later in the year to help Julia.

**4.3 Appointment of Independent Examiner**

For the last two years Les Drew of Arun Bookkeeping has been appointed as Independent Examiner. Rev Robson recommended reappointing him this year, and all voted in favour.

1. **Prayer of Commitment**

Rev Robson asked everyone to stand and read the Prayer of Commitment together:

**Almighty God, Lord of the Church, we want You to have Your way among us. Our desire is to know You more clearly, love You more dearly, and follow You more nearly, day by day. Relying on Your grace, we covenant together to be a family of Your people where Your Word is our rule, Your Spirit is our guide, Your love is our motive, and Your glory is our goal. We commit ourselves afresh to support one another, to look out for one another, and to encourage one another. May our life and witness together in Christ be such good news that many will come to believe. In the name of Jesus, our Saviour, Lord and friend. Amen.**

1. **Any Other Business**

Rev Robson invited any questions or comments. Carol Groves asked if we are going to have a bike rack in the car park, and Rev Robson said that we plan to do so. Roger Purdom asked if a rota could be set up for packing away in the Hall after the 10am service on Sunday mornings, as currently Clare and Jon do this every week.

**Action Point: Rev Robson will arrange a rota for packing away in the Hall after the Sunday service.**

There being no other business, Rev Robson closed the meeting with a final prayer of thanksgiving at 8.20pm.