



Where all find a welcome and are nurtured in their journey with Christ

**Annual Parochial Church Meeting
Tuesday 23rd May 2023 @7:30pm In the Community Centre**

1. Apologies for Absence

Giles Taylor, Lynne Pickersgill, Marsha Thorndike

2. Minutes from Previous Meeting 22nd May 2022

All present agreed these were a true record.

Proposed: Adam Kelly

Seconded: Jean Bradley

3. Matters Arising

None to report

4. Presentation of Annual report and Financial Statements for 2022

Officially approved by all members of the PCC on 28th February 2023.

Report has been available to view on the church website and paper copies made available in church from 30th April.

Alistair talked us through the main points, one of which was to keep in perspective the increase of £108,000.00 in our income. This is primarily due to the legacy left to us from Bea Greenwoods estate. A small team has been charged with ensuring we honour Beas memory with thoughtful ways of how we spend this money. We have also not paid our full Parish share for 2022, we are down by £35,000.00, although we did pay £85,000.00. Money remains a key issue and we need to maximise income and minimise expenditure. The planned giving campaign will help towards creating more income, loose plate offerings are up and the Lettings and Bar income from the Community centre is a significant contributor. Alistair wanted to personally thank all the volunteers involved in this, so everyone who looks after and runs the bar at events.

James Black asked: *The church was closed for long periods during the pandemic, so how does the gas & electric compare to 2019 figures.* Alistair said that as with us all the cost of utilities has gone up massively, but he will get back to James on this point as he did not have the 2019 figures on him

Andrew Blunden pointed out that Yorkshire Bank is now Virgin Bank at Crossgates and there is a typo on P9. Alistair agreed to have these updated.

Adam Kelly wanted to ensure we keep on the PCC radar that we need to be maximising all opportunities for card donations, especially at Baptisms & weddings.



Alistair Hezel thanked the whole finance team, Lesley Hughes, Sue Butcher, Shelagh Freer & Dave Scholey.

5. Appointment of independent Examiner

This remains with White Rose Accounting for Charity.

Proposed: Alistair Hezel

Seconded: John Freer

Approved by all attending meeting

6. Electoral Roll

Update given by Catherine Sirrell

2022:169

2023:167 (2 new & 4 removed as deceased)

Canon Matthew Peat thanked Catherine Sirrell and Shelagh Freer for their work on bring this up to date. Catherine Sirrell has advised she wishes to step down from this role; a new officer will be appointed at the PCC meeting to follow.

7. Election of 7 members of the PCC

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|---|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Janet Blenkinsop - 1 st 3-year term | Proposed: Sue Middleditch | Seconded: Melvin Herring |
| 2. Alastair Hezel - 1 st 3-year term | Proposed: Adam Kelly | Seconded: Shelagh Freer |
| 3. Shelagh Freer - 1 st 3-year term | Proposed: Joan Williams | Seconded: Janet Blenkinsop |
| 4. Vacant – to carry forward (1 Year Term) | | |
| 5. Vacant – to carry forward (3 Year Term) | | |
| 6. Vacant – to carry forward (3 Year Term) | | |
| 7. Vacant – to carry forward (3 Year Term) | | |

An updated list of who is on the PCC and their terms of office is attached

8. Election of 3 members of the Deanery Synod

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| 1. Lynne Pickersgill - 1 st 3-year term | Proposed: Jean Bradley | Seconded: James Black |
| 2. Vacant – to carry forward (3 Year Term) | | |
| 3. Vacant – to carry forward (3 Year Term) | | |

9. Chairman's Report

See attached.

10. Committees'/Officers reports

One received from Janet Blenkinsop – Safeguarding Officer – see attached



11. Any other Business

Andrew Blunden asked 3 questions; *What are we doing about connecting with other churches in the area; what fundraising plans are in place; how are we connecting with Children & Young People.* Sue Middleditch, as minute secretary of Churches together in East Leeds explained the various meetings and social events (upcoming picnic on 3rd June at St James, Seacroft) that take place throughout the year and how each church shares their what's on with each other too. Canon Matthew Peat explained the hopes for the just giving Campaign to increase our fundraising, along with other planned events and also how we currently reach out to include children as part of Easter & Christmas services held in Church for our Local Primary Schools, along with Messy Church and also hopeful to reintroduce the school assemblies too.

Sue Temple asked; *We are appealing to the same people to increase their giving to the church, but can we make this a much wider appeal. We enhance the area with the church lighting, so can we promote this more, can we have a leaflet or a stand at local events, because if we don't tell people what we do they are not aware.* Canon Matthew Peat agreed and explained we do have a new leaflet for promoting the church lighting and it is a good idea to promote what we do at other local events.

Jean Bradley asked; *Is it possible to reintroduce mums & toddlers groups, which help support the local community, they create income, we have the space & garden for them, we would just need somewhere to store all their equipment & someone to run* Canon Matthew Peat explained that pre pandemic the tots corner mums did try to get something off the ground, as this is something that should happen organically due to the strict legislations in place, and Dave Scholey confirmed it may be hard to slot them in to the already full Community centre diary.

Marjorie Bond updated the meeting regarding the Landmark magazine subscriptions for the past 12 months; £790.00 in cash and £21.00 in cheques has been received.

Tony Bond wanted to share his Thanks to Canon Matthew Peat for all his wonderful work over the last 10 years, saying we are all proud of what we have, the standard of worship is fantastic and to quote Laurie Peat, "St Mary's is the cathedral of East Leeds" so we all hope Matthew stays on another 10 years. These sentiments were echoed by everyone attending the meeting.

Canon Matthew Peat Thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting with The Grace