

DRAFT

**Parochial Church Council of the Parish
of St Lawrence with St Swithun-upon-Kingsgate**

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners and Annual Parochial Church Meeting
held on Sunday 2nd April 2023 in St Lawrence Church**

Present: The Revd Karen Kousseff (Rector) and 30 people in Church and 5 observing on Zoom.

The meetings began with an Opening Prayer.

ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

1. Minutes of the meeting held on the 2nd April 2022

Minutes of the last meeting (at which Beauman Chong and John Stanning were elected, in the same document as the Minutes of the APCM, as below), **were approved and signed.**

2. Election of Churchwardens – elected every year, ex-officio members of the PCC

Beauman Chong: Proposer Geoffrey Bennetts, Seconder Louise Kerr

John Stanning: Proposer Beauman Chong, Seconder Elizabeth Baron

Both were declared elected, no other candidate having been presented.

Thanks to both for their wisdom and leadership and all that they do especially in these challenging times.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

(Voting by Electoral Roll members only)

Present: The Revd Karen Kousseff (Rector) and 30 parishioners (with 5 observing on Zoom).

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from John Aston, Lizzie Aston, Anna Bennetts, Geoffrey Bennetts, John Beveridge, Penny Beveridge, Janet Dawson, Revd Norman de la Mouette, Clare Kilroy, Jane Powlett, Chris Pilgrim, Caroline St Leger Davey, Judith Worth and Peter Worth.

2. Minutes of the meeting held on the 2nd April 2022 were approved and signed.

3. Matters arising

There was nothing to address that was not on the agenda.

4. Electoral Roll

John Stanning, the Electoral Roll Officer, presented the following figures as at 2nd April 2023: the electoral roll had increased to 108 members, of whom 33 are resident in the parish and 75 are resident elsewhere. He was thanked for the work he undertook as Electoral Roll Officer.

5. To receive and adopt the Annual Report for 2022

John Stanning was thanked for co-ordinating the Annual Report and distributing it,

together with everyone who had contributed to it. The Annual Report had been agreed by the PCC.

It was agreed and adopted.

6. Financial Statements for 2022

Nick Goulding presented the Financial Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2022. There was a small deficit in 2021 but finances were better in 2022. There was a surplus of £20k assisted by a legacy and a grant from the Diocese. The letting of the Parish Room during the past year had yielded a better income. There was plenty of maintenance to be done in both churches and the Parish Room with the Quinquennial next year. There had been no new Parish Giving. The Parish Share would increase by £7k. There would be an increase for electricity and gas by £1k each month. The energy basket had been signed up for a two year contract. Salaries increased and the Parish room would have a new carpet. Overall the parish finances were in good shape.

The Treasurer answered a question from the floor concerning the definition of Designated Funds. The Treasurer responded to another parishioner's unease regarding the high level of parish reserves. The Rector reminded the meeting that queries or suggestions about any PCC policy should be submitted in writing for consideration by the PCC.

Resolution: "To receive and adopt the Financial Statements for 2022".

Proposed by Nick Goulding these **were approved and adopted.**

Thanks were given to Nick Goulding and Bethany Milward for their diligence, expertise and dedicated hard work for the parish.

7. Election of Deanery Synod Representatives

Nominations were received for:

Nick Goulding (nominated by John Stanning, Seconded by Beauman Chong)

Tom Nell (nominated by John Stanning, Seconded by Christina Reid).

Both were declared elected, no other candidates having been presented.

Geoffrey Bennetts did not wish to be re-elected and all three were thanked for representing the parish at Deanery Synod meetings.

8. Election of Parochial Church Council members

Nominations were received for:

Elizabeth Baron (nominated by Sarah Chester, Seconded by Rodney Targett)

Anna Bennetts (nominated by Louise Kerr, Seconded by Clare Kilroy)

Geoffrey Bennetts (nominated by Beauman Chong, Seconded by John Stanning)

Chris Higgins (nominated by Beauman Chong, Seconded by John Stanning)

Rosalind Nell (nominated by Meriel Walton, Seconded by Louise Kerr)

Richard Stead (nominated by John Beveridge, Seconded by Kathryn Whelan)

All were declared elected, no other candidates having been presented.

The Rector thanked continuing members and those now re-elected, with the addition of Richard Stead who had been co-opted during the year.

9. Appointment of Independent Examiner

Tim Light of Lightatouch was appointed as Independent Examiner until the APCM 2024.

Nominated by Nick Goulding, and seconded by the Revd Karen Kousseff.

This was agreed.

10. Date of 2024 APCM

The provisional date for the next APCM is Sunday 21st April 2024. If the date needed to be amended church members would be informed.

11. The Rector’s Review and Comments

The Rector’s review and comments are attached to the minutes.

Following her report she informed parishioners that there would be an art series in St Bartholomew Church during April and May.

There would be a Palm Sunday lunch in St Lawrence Parish Room following the APCM at which cards would be sold for the Sudan Medical Mission.

She wished everyone a blessed Holy Week.

John Stanning thanked the Revd Karen Kousseff (who had completed her appointment as Area Dean during the year), the Revd Amanda Goulding, Meriel Walton, Nick Goulding and Chris Pilgrim for all their work during the past year enabling the worship pattern to be maintained, at which the parishioners applauded.

Bethany Milward and Elisabeth Wicks were presented with flowers and Nick Goulding and Beaman Chong were presented with bottles of wine and thanked for assisting the parish in many ways.

12. Closing Prayers

The meeting closed with a prayer and the grace at 12.15pm

Terriers and Inventories were available for inspection on request.

SignedDate

Chair