

THE PARISH OF ABBOTS LANGLEY

**St Lawrence, Abbots Langley with
the Church of the Ascension, Bedmond**

Sunday 30th April 2017

11.30 am **Vestry Meeting** in the Church Hall
to elect the Churchwardens

followed by

THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Agenda

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of the APCM held on Tuesday 26th April 2016
3. Accounts for 2016 - Budget for 2017
4.
 - a) Appointment of an Independent Examiner
 - b) Appointment of the Electoral Roll Officer
 - c) Election of Parochial Church Council members
 - d) Election of Deanery Synod Members
 - e) Election of Sidesmen and Women
 - f) Ratification of the appointment of representatives to Churches Together in Abbots Langley (CTAL)
5. Annual Report
6. Any Other Business

THE PARISH OF ABBOTS LANGLEY
St Lawrence, Abbots Langley
with the Church of the Ascension, Bedmond

Minutes of the Annual Vestry Meeting
held in the church hall at 8.00 pm on Tuesday 26th April 2016

Those present:

The Parish being in a Vacancy there was no Vicar present: the Revd David Warner (Curate) and 43 parishioners were in attendance.

The Meeting opened with a prayer led by the Revd David Warner, who took the Chair.

Minutes:

The Minutes of the Annual Vestry Meeting held on 28th April 2015 were signed as a correct record.

Election of Churchwardens

The Revd David Warner gave thanks to Jane McHugh and Bill Sanderson for their work during the past year, including much which goes on behind the scenes, especially during the vacancy. He also thanked Paul (McHugh) and Sally (Sanderson) for the support of their respective spouses.

There being no further nominations he was pleased to announce that Jane McHugh and Bill Sanderson, having been proposed and seconded, were duly elected as wardens for the coming year.

The meeting closed at 8.05 pm.

Signed _____

Date 30th April 2017

**Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting
held on 26th April 2016 in the Church Hall at 8.05 pm**

Present: The Revd David Warner (Curate) and 43 parishioners.

Jane McHugh, Churchwarden, was in the Chair.

1. **Apologies for Absence** were received from Brian Hibberd, Debbie Herrington, Sarah Reeve, Andy Reeve, Sally Sanderson, Mary Dyer, Brenda Southorn, Lesley Cummings, Jenny Sanders, Jill Matthews, Carol Higgs and Claire Higgs.
2. The **Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting** of 28th April 2015 were signed as a correct record.
3. **Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2015**
The Treasurer announced that the Accounts had been approved by the PCC on 6th April 2016; prior to that, they had received a clean bill of health from the Independent Examiner. There had been a depletion in restricted funds due to the work on the organ and to the work on the extension. Total income was up due to fundraising for those two specific projects although the General Fund (ie day-to-day income and expenditure) showed a deficit of £10,000 when we had budgeted for a deficit of £3,700. The fall in offertory giving might have been due to the concentration on fundraising for the two specific projects. The constitution for the hall accounts has been changed so income from hall lettings can be included in the General Fund in future. £10,000 had been received from the Friends of St Lawrence. The Parish Share payable to the Diocese is the major expense. A proportion of income is given to mission; all money from the St Lawrence fete is given to local charities. Thanks to Hannah Courtney, grant applications had been made for both the organ work and the extension.

Budget for 2016

The expenditure figures had been kept as close as possible for the actual costs of 2015; modest increases had been included for income. It is an ALFA year so hoping to boost the income from those events. The hall rents have been increased.

Jane McHugh offered grateful thanks to Claire Stephenson for her expertise and for the clear message of our financial situation.

Acceptance of the Accounts to 31st December 2015 and the Budget for 2016 was proposed by Bill Sanderson, seconded by Marcus Coultrup and all were in favour.

4. a) **Appointment of an Independent Examiner**
Howard Wilson are willing to continue with this work. It was proposed by Marcus Coultrup, seconded by Norman Meldrum and agreed by all present, that Howard Wilson be appointed as Independent Examiners for the coming year.
- b) **Appointment of Electoral Roll Officer**
It was proposed by Linda North, seconded by Anne Donald, and agreed by all present that Pam Rastall be appointed Electoral Roll Officer for the year.

- c) **Election of Parochial Church Council members**
Liz Dormer-Ainge, Simon Stanley and Martin Tanner are not standing for re-election; thanks were offered to them for their contributions over recent years. Lesley Cummings, Mark Dyer, Claire Higgs and Brenda Southorn had offered themselves for election. There being no further nominations it was agreed to leave the number of elected members at 8 (out of a possible 9).
- d) **Election of Sidespeople**
A list of names, including both churches, was available and it was agreed to elect them en bloc. It was therefore agreed by all present that the list of people as shown be elected as sidespeople for the coming year. Thanks were offered to all sidespeople for their welcome to those arriving not just to Sunday worship but to special services and to visitors at baptisms, weddings and funerals.
- e) **Ratification of the Appointment of Representatives to Churches Together in Abbots Langley**
David and Nikki Williams, working together, will continue as reps for St Lawrence; John Noonan will continue to represent Bedmond.

5. **Curate's Report**

The Parish being in a Vacancy, the Revd Dr Jo Spreadbury having moved to be Canon Precentor at Portsmouth Cathedral in August, the Revd David Warner, curate, gave a report on the Parish during 2015.

Jane McHugh gave thanks to David for his report and for all the 'fantastic' work he has done through the Vacancy.

6. **Any Other Business**

- i) What responsibility do we have for the Vicarage?
The wardens check the building twice a week; we have no financial obligations. The access will be negotiated before the sale. Restrictions and covenants still have to be negotiated – work in progress
- ii) Pew Bibles – would we consider putting them back in the pews?
The Bible is absolutely central to the life of this parish but many of them were being mistreated when left in the pews. A number are as available as they can be, for regular use by those who choose to do so, and it is hoped they will be treated with respect.
- iii) Thanks to the Revd David Warner – Bill Sanderson wished to record our thanks to David for his enthusiasm and hospitality; we are very blessed to have him and proper thanks will be given when he leaves.
Liz Burns wished to record thanks from Messy Church for David's contribution as well as that of Liz Dormer-Ainge, now that she is leaving the area.

7. **Guest Speaker – Chris Moffatt, Chaplain, YMCA**

Chris has been a YMCA Chaplain in Watford, based at Charter Place although he covers the YMCA in Abbots Langley, for 2 years. He talked about the foundation of the YMCA, its membership and the work of the Chaplaincy. There are three full time chaplains and 13 volunteer chaplains acting as a listening ear and spiritual support for residents, clients and staff. Much of the YMCA is now secularised so they are wanting to bring back the Christian emphasis. The building in Charter Place is the tallest in Watford and now has a cross on the top. They are connecting with all the local churches. Chris is a member of CTAL and attends their meetings when he is available.

The Revd David Warner gave a vote of thanks.

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

Signed

Date

30th April 2017