

Minutes of APCM

3rd May 2023



The Annual Meeting of Parishioners 3rd May, 8pm

Song: Tell out my soul

Simon Scott opened the meeting with prayer.

Simon welcomed everyone with a brief explanation of what to expect. Reports have been available on our website and in a booklet in advance of the meeting.

1. Apologies

Robin Church, Caroline Kingdon, Daphne Abbott, Susan Wade, Vicki Georgiadis, Monica Cragg, Nick & Karen Romans, Christine Ayling (it is accepted that spouses of those present have given apologies)

2. Nomination and election of churchwardens

Clive Ayling: nominated by Monica Cragg and seconded by Fiona Law.

Justin Cross: nominated by Caroline Bewes and seconded by Jo Harris.

Without other nominations Clive Ayling and Justin Cross are appointed with thanks expressed for their willingness to serve in this role and for the friendship, support and partnership they offer Simon.

Prayers were said.

The annual meeting of parishioners closed.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

3rd May 2023

1. Introduction and apologies for absence

Apologies as above.

Liz Halliday read Philippians 2 :12-16

Prayers of praise and thanks were shared.

2. Minister's Report

Simon Scott

The message of salvation is at the heart of our church; hold it firmly and to hold it out, keep the Bible and its message of salvation central.

The Deanery plan (a pastoral plan looking ahead) has happened and has been a benefit to ASLS. David Brock, involved as a lay representative of ASLS within the 23 parishes of Granta Deanery, has reported that there is a reluctance to talk about the Gospel within the Deanery churches, and perhaps ASLS too, with the Gospel only assumed. If we don't talk about the Gospel, it is lost by the next generation.

There is concern about the Living in Love and Faith (LLF) process it has revealed a loose hold on the message of salvation.

The ASLS vision statement was read aloud together.

Evangelism has taken a knock in our church life post-Covid, an uptake of online courses has now dropped off.

Homegroups are relaunching next week with a central meeting on Wednesday 10th May. The re-shuffle is a good thing to do and important to welcoming new people.

As a church we must encourage each other in 'every member ministry'. We have resourced the staff team in the past which, over time, has led to less volunteers. We are grateful to Ian Sanders for taking on the men's ministry. We do need to recruit a youth worker.

The floor was opened to questions:

When might we appoint a youth worker? We could make a short-term appointment soon. It will not be a 3-year senior post as finances do not support that model.

Prayers were said in small groups.

3. Minutes of 2022 APCM and Matters Arising

Simon Scott

Proposal to accept the minutes as a true record: David Jones

Seconded: Christopher Catherwood

With no abstentions or objections (of those present at that meeting), the proposal is passed.

Matters arising: The service review group and inclusive group are both pending their first meeting.

4. PCC Report

Simon Scott

Thanks were expressed to Neil Wade for his hard work with the fabric. His term is over on the PCC but he will return in an LLM role.

The floor was opened to questions: None.

Without comment or objection, the report is accepted.

5. PCC Elections

There are 3 vacancies on the PCC. The following have been proposed:

Christopher Catherwood: nominated by Nick Romans and seconded by Angela Palmer.

Sarah Nye: nominated David Brock and seconded by Neil Wade.

Caroline Bewes: nominated by Helen White and seconded by Tim Glauert.

Without other nominations Christopher, Sarah and Caroline are duly elected.

Robin Church has retired from his term on the PCC. We are grateful to him and Joan for the years they have served, and it is worth noting that without their encouragement and dedication the church graft may not have happened from St Andrews the Great.

The number of PCC members is currently set at 14. It was proposed to keep that number for the next year: Ian Sanders

Seconded: Jane Greaves

Without any abstentions or objections, the proposal is passed.

Prayers were led by Edward Keene.

6. Receiving Annual Accounts / Appointment of Independent Examiner

Tim Glauert

Having now reached the accounting threshold of £250,000 the accounts require a more stringent examination.

The treasurer explained the expenditure and income with visual props of beans and bottles. A budget for this year was discussed with the PCC including the costs a youth worker, which showed a clear lack of funds to support that proposal.

The floor was opened to questions:

What and who are the debtors? Deposits and gift aid waiting to be recovered.

What is the parish share? £69,000, a variable annual cost paid to Ely for things such as property and clergy.

Thanks to Sarah Glauert and to Steve Pearce.

Proposal to receive these annual accounts: Clive Ayling

Seconded: Fiona Law

Without any abstentions or objections, the proposal is passed.

Appointment of independent examiner:

It is proposed to appoint S G Berriman of Charter Allen: Simon Conway-Smith

Seconded: Neil Wade

Without any abstentions or objections, the proposal is passed.

Prayers were led by Helen White.

7. Fabric Report

Neil Wade

Two bollards need repairs since the report was written. Faculty is being applied for for the paths and the vestry door.

The fabric committee includes Neil Wade, Paul Danes, Justin Cross, Tim Glauert and David Brock

The floor was opened to questions: None.

Without comment or objection, the report is accepted.

Thanks were expressed to Charles for his work on the churchyard and a reminder was given for the working party on Saturday 13th May.

Prayers were led by Simon Scott.

8. Report on Electoral Roll

Alison Hynds

The floor was opened to questions:

How has attendance been over the past year? Compared to last year, in-person attendance has grown.

Without comment or objection, the report is accepted.

Prayers were led by Caroline Bewes.

9. Report on Deanery Synod

Simon Scott

The floor was opened to questions:

Have the vacancies for vicars in the Deanery churches been filled? Yes

Without further comment or objection, the report is accepted.

Prayers were led by Liz Halliday.

Song: By faith

10. Closing Prayer

The Grace was said.

The meeting closed at 9.32pm