

The Parish of St. John the Evangelist Newbury

Annual Parochial Church Council Meetings – **Meeting of the Parishioners (Meeting 1)**
held in church and on Zoom Thursday 5th May 2022 at **7.30pm**

Present:

The Revd. Gary Collins – Chair
The Revd. Becky Bevan - Vicar of the Benefice
The Revd. Julie Howell - Curate
David Oats and Alison Foulkes – Churchwardens
Kim Slade – Hon. Treasurer
Sam Brown – Secretary

Also in attendance:

Andy Grace, Julian Greaves, Andrew Kingston, Carolyn Greenwood, Jennifer Wright, Melanie Brown, Olive Maines, Adrian Edwards, Jenny Griffiths, Margaret Perkin, Ann Dixon, Jane Sigrist.

Opening prayer

Words of welcome and introduction and opening prayer

Apologies for absence: Heather Holloway, John Mann, Aeron Slade

Correspondence: There was no correspondence to review

1. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 24th June 2021, having been previously circulated to members of the Council, were accepted as a true and accurate record, and approval was proposed by David Oats, seconded by Andrew Kingston, with all in favour and signed by the Chair.

2. Election of two Churchwardens for the year 2021/2022

Election of two Churchwardens to serve from the Archdeacon's Visitation 2022 to the Archdeacon's Visitation in 2023. David Oats was proposed by Kim Slade and seconded by ~~Jeremy~~ Julian? Greaves with all in favour. Alison Foulkes was proposed by Aeron Slade and seconded by Andy Grace with all in favour. There were no other nominees and having declared their willingness to serve as Churchwardens for a period of one term they were duly elected. The Churchwardens were thanked for their diligence and faithful work they do on behalf of the whole church.

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 7.45pm

Chair _____

Date _____

The Parish of St. John the Evangelist Newbury

Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting – **(Meeting 2)**
held in church and on Zoom Thursday 5th May 2022 at **7.45pm**

1. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 24th June 2021, having been previously circulated to members of the PCC, were accepted as a true and accurate record, and approval was proposed by David Oats, seconded by Julian Greaves, with all in favour and signed by the Chair.

Fr Gary thanks all those who support the Church.

2. Reports

Fr Gary asked those present for any comments relating to the reports (Electoral Roll, Proceedings of the PCC, Churchwarden's Report and Deanery Synod informal reports).

3. Presentations

3.1 David Oats - Electoral Roll, numbers have been growing on the Electoral Roll, an encouraging sign, three years ago, we had +6 last year +2 this year +6 and another joining at the end of the meeting.

3.2 Simon Brown – Secretary provided highlights

The Secretary provided an update on the PCC's year. The report is available to read.

3.3 Kim Slade – Treasurers Report for 2021 (Annual Accounts)

The Treasurer updated finance report for 2021. The report is available to read.

David Oats commented that he felt that people were happier now to provide giving from other methods, and suggested we look at the giving in the round. Revd Becky updated that most churches are finding that open-plate giving is now very small in proportion to overall giving as more people are encouraged to give regularly by the stewardship scheme which can be yellow envelopes or standing orders or electronically at the back of church. Revd Julie asked how much is given through electronic card giving. Kim Slade advised around £20 per week through the contact-less system, this increases when we have visitors and is popular for concerts and special events. Revd Julie suggested we communicate to the congregation the different methods of giving and how the contact-less unit works. Revd Becky updated that at St George's there is an annual service – Stewardship Sunday, that reminds people of inflation and an opportunity to update their giving and payment arrangements. The target date for the Access Project is 2 years to reach our target. Andrew Kingston indicated there are some deadlines due to planning permission and faculty approval deadlines. Fr Gary expressed thanks for Kim's work as Treasurer.

3.4 Chair's report

Fr Gary wanted to start with the Image of Christmas 2020, Fr Gary in an empty church. He drew us to the poem about the fragility of 'Hope is the thing with Feathers' on the back of the annual report. 2021 an unusual year, got used to new challenges like holding a community together on telephone, on zoom etc. How do we enable worship and prayer? How do we maintain our own energy? 2021 was sustaining a sense of hope. How do we care for people (the buddy system and fostering great friendships remotely)? The grounds and boarders still being diligently cared for, the Benefice Office

Manager providing real support. The gift of Revd Julie has been great and seen new faces and become involved and the benefice has sustained its friendships and relationships. Other regular events, school assemblies ('Tom the Bear!' and 'Dadenah'). St John and St Nicolas School Federation was successfully achieved. Slowly and surely at Easter we opened, midday prayer, midweek communion is a lovely event. Invitation to expand the benefice with St Michaels Church, the pilgrimage, attended climate conferences, new opportunities to think about worship in different ways. Working with the Soup Kitchen. The work the Greening Group has achieved in 2021. Interactive play and storytelling by the Altar encouraging the young into the church. Expanded our liturgy. Start fund raising for iCAP, a project of passion for this year with St John's being a hospitable and open church, having the doors open is a grand statement that says whoever you are you can access this community space. So, encouraging to get the Christmas Trees back, the Crib Service and other Christmas services. Noted Christopher as a real gift to our church with his music.

Fr Gary finished with an image of the full church at Christmas 2021 and the image of the illuminated church on Christmas Eve 2021.

4. Election of Parochial Representatives of the Laity to serve the PCC

Election of Parochial Representatives of the Laity to serve on the PCC for a period of 3 years. Jennifer Wright, proposed by Kim Slade, seconded by Alison Foulkes. Andy Grace, proposed by David Oats, seconded by Andrew Kingston.

5. Appointments

Auditors C.B Heslop and Co. Ltd, 1 High Street, Thatcham, RG18 3JG were confirmed as independent examiners for the coming year. All in favour.

6. Parochial questions and any other business

Noted that Heather Holloway is stepping down from the PCC, she has given huge support for the PCC and the Church, thank you.

Revd Becky said she wanted to congratulate St Johns. The interactions within the church and parish mentioned by Fr Gary shows that you can see there are signs of growth, and that the spirit within St John's is strong. She said that the last 2 years have had a devastating impact on all churches and given that, we should feel encouraged and continue to make the right incremental steps as we look outward towards the local community. Her final comment was "Well done!"

David Oats proposed a vote of thanks to Revd Gary for his unfailing energy, his unlimited skill set, his eagerness to try new things and get everything as correct as possible and for the number of hours that he gives to his ministry, which is well over what we would expect.

7. Chair's final comments

Closing Prayer & Blessing

There being no further business the meeting was called to a close at 8 45. pm

Chair _____

Date _____

The Parish of St. John the Evangelist Newbury

Annual Parochial Church Council Meetings – **Short PCC meeting (Meeting 3)**
held in church and on Zoom Thursday 5th May 2022 at **8.45 pm**

Present:.

The Revd. Gary Collins – Chair
The Revd. Julie Howell - Curate
David Oats and Alison Foulkes – Churchwardens
Kim Slade – Hon. Treasurer
Sam Brown – Secretary

Also in attendance:

Andrew Kingston, Jennifer Wright, Melanie Brown. Andy Grace

Apologies for absence; Aeron Slade

1. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 24th June 2021, having been previously circulated to members of the PCC, were accepted as a true and accurate record and approval was proposed by David Oats, seconded by Andrew Kingston, with the majority in favour and signed by the Chair.

2. Appointments

3.

PCC Secretary – Sam Brown
PCC Lay Vice Chair – David Oats
Electoral role officer – Vacancy
Safeguarding Officer – Stephen Kerry
Treasurer – Kim Slade
GDPR Officer – Jennie Marwick-Evans
H&S officer – Revd Julie Howell (interim)

Sam Brown, co-opted on the PCC (unanimous)
Welcome to Andy Grace to the PCC
Ex-officio members, churchwardens David Oats and Alison Foulkes.

Standing committee
Fr Gary, David Oats, Alison Foulkes, Revd Julie, Kim Slade.

4. Date of future meetings

5.

TBC (NOTE date of next PCC meeting will be changing)

Closing Prayer & Blessing

There being no further business the meeting was called to a close at 9pm

Chair_____

Date_____