

# 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 4<sup>th</sup> May 2023 at **7.30pm**

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**Present:**

**The Revd. Gary Collins – Chair**  
**The Revd. Becky Bevan - Vicar of the Benefice**  
**David Oats– Churchwarden**  
**Kim Slade – Hon. Treasurer (Zoom)**  
**Sam Brown – Secretary**

**Also in attendance:**

**Trisha Stuart, Christopher Sears, Jane Sigrist, Maureen Munday, Frances Hawkey, David Hawkey, Julian Greaves, John Mann, Ann Dixon, Andrew Kingston, Andy Grace, Melanie Brown, Stephen Kerry, Margaret Perkins, Anne Chidlow, Leona Hill, Peter Hill, Olive Mains, Carolyn Greenwood, Lynette Edwell,**

**Opening prayer**

Words of welcome and introduction and opening prayer

**Apologies for absence: Alison Foulkes, Aeron Slade, Jeremy Wright, Margaret Baker, Jenny Griffiths**

**Correspondence:** There was no correspondence to review

**1. Minutes of previous meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2022 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 2022/2023**

Election of two Churchwardens to serve from the Archdeacon's Visitation 2023 to the Archdeacon's Visitation in 2024. David Oats was proposed by Kim Slade and seconded by Aeron Slade with all in favour. Alison Foulkes was proposed by Aeron Slade and seconded by Kim Slade 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 7.40 pm

**Chair** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

# The Parish of St. John the Evangelist Newbury

Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting – **(Meeting 2)**  
held in church and on Zoom Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2023 at **7.45pm**

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## **1. Minutes of previous meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2022, having been previously circulated to members of the PCC, were accepted as a true and accurate record, and approval was proposed by Andrew Kingston, seconded by Maureen Munday with all in favour and signed by the Chair.

## **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 Andy Grace, Electoral Roll**

Numbers have been growing on the Electoral Roll, was 76 now to 87, a net increase of 13. Aiming for excess of 100 in two years-time. Very grateful to Heather and David for managing the electoral role last year.

### **3.2 Simon Brown, PCC Secretary provided highlights.**

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

### **3.3 David Oats, Churchwarden report**

DO mentioned John Mann and thanked him for opening the church on request. Huge thank you to Fr Gary and Rev Becky for his imagination and commitment to the parish.

### **3.4 Stephen Kerry, Deanery Synod**

SK updated the meeting on the role of the Deanery Synod. Areas discussed included how the church was progressing post covid. Warm hubs and cost of living. Also discussed was Living in Love and Faith, it's a sharing meeting. Fr Gary updated the meeting on the context of the Deanery Synod. Revd Becky updated that we need to elect the Deanery Synod

### **3.5 Kim Slade, Treasurers Report for 2022 (Annual Accounts)**

Of the unrestricted accounts (not including i-CAP fundraising) operating at a £6k deficit last year, paid for by easy access savings account and 4k drawdown from CG Legacy. Good level of income from room hires (£28k), Good Exchange (£17k), and Investments (£15k). Expenditure by type, almost ½ on parish share, and some on church maintenance (some carry overs from 2021). End of year accounts (unrestricted) broadly flat year on year. Restricted and Special increased by £20k reflected the raising of funds for i-CAP (target £162k) and donations. Investments and legacies went down by £70k because of the stock market. At the end of 2022 the size of the investments is in line with 2020 (IE went up in 2021 and then down for 2022). Trends over the last 4 years show incoming recovering to 2019 levels and the deficit reducing

year on year. Room hire showing a big increase year on year (£28k v £21k for pre-covid year). Weekly giving collections increasing to approaching pre covid levels. Church gas and electricity the highest proportion of outgoing (£12k) increases likely to show in next report. Expecting a £12k deficit this year because of increased fuel costs. We expect to pay for boiler and organ works this year. KS walked the meeting through the new reserves policy to provide guidelines on how decisions on financial expenditure are made. KS reminded the meeting that we have two Good Exchange projects live. Fr Gary thanked Kim for all her work in managing the finances.

### **3.6 Chair's report**

Revd Gary started by thanking everyone for their support as we navigated through Covid. He found a huge amount of potential in the church, then Covid arrived. The community has showed imagination and grace, especial thanks to the PCC, to David and Alison and to Revd Becky. I strongly believe in a outwardly facing church, with thin walls and at our heart serving this parish is a shared table, a shared meal where all are welcomed. Revd Gary presented pictures of events of the last 12 months. The federation of the school means we have more interaction with Key stage 1 and Key stage 2 children. We have pastoral care for those beyond our immediate congregation. An ongoing task is to serve both the church and the community. An example is work with charities and with environmental groups, and pride groups. Revd Gary updated on the streaming of services and new services, including lunchtime communion. In 2022 we were a butterfly just emerging. Working with local artists, book reading and poetry meetings. Soup lunches started at the end of the year where different groups of people come into the church. Interactions with Enborne Church is enriching our lives with pilgrimages following the words of a psalm, and mutual enrichment of both churches. Weddings and baptism. Fr Gary recognised for some people coming into a church can be a strange place, and for our future how we can encourage people to come in. Thinking about our environment, Melanie's alter frontal, Stephen Kerry's work in the garden. We are stepping out into the community. Through i-CAP our desire to make accessibility a physical statement that all are welcome. Now £37k raised for i-CAP is encouraging and appreciated and we can now start work on electrics and the ramp. Into 2023 and the excitement for working with Open Studio where people can come in, how can we express the deeper and richer emotions. A parish church which is welcoming for everyone. On a Friday morning we set up one big table and over the last 5 months we have seen all sorts of people come in to share their thoughts. OM queried i-CAP stating that some people have been very generous, but we have only a quarter of the funding required, and she asked whether the PCC had considered paring down the scheme so that progress could be achieved quickly. Ak responded that we are breaking the project down into phases so that we can start this year. DO updated that it took some time to get all the permission and that it was envisaged that i-CAP would be undertaken in stages, and we have raised funds for the moving of the electricity, the followed by the ramp. Stages will only be started when we have the funds for that phase.

### **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. Kim Slade, proposed by Andy Grace and seconded by Andrew Kingston, Andrew Kingston proposed by David Oats, seconded by Trisha Stuart and Aaron Slade proposed by Margaret Perkins, seconded by Stephen Kerry. Stephen Kerry as one of three Deanery Synod representatives, proposed by David Oats, Seconded by Andrew Kingston. Sam Brown as one of the three Deanery Synod representatives, proposed by Trisha Stewart and seconded by Maureen Munday. Revd Becky thanked those volunteering for the PCC and the Deanery

Synod and she highlighted the importance of these roles to the continued vibrancy and success of the benefice.

**5. Appointments**

Auditors C.B Heslop and Co. Ltd, 1 High Street, Thatcham, RG18 3JG were confirmed as independent examiners for the coming year. Proposed, David Oats proposed and Andy Grace Seconded, all in favour.

**6. Parochial questions and any other business**

No AOB

**7. Chair's final comments**

**Closing Prayer & Blessing**

There being no further business the meeting was called to a close at 8.50 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 4<sup>th</sup> May 2023 at **8.45 pm**

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## **Present:**

**The Revd. Gary Collins – Chair**  
**David Oats – Churchwardens**  
**Kim Slade – Hon. Treasurer**  
**Sam Brown – Secretary**

## **Also in attendance:**

**Andrew Kingston, Melanie Brown, Andy Grace, Stephen Kerry, Christopher Sears**

**Apologies for absence; Aeron Slade, Jeremy Wright, Margaret Baker, Alison Foulkes**

### **1. Minutes of previous meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2022, having been previously circulated to members of the PCC, were accepted as a true and accurate record and approval was proposed by Andy Grace, seconded by David Oates, with the majority in favour and signed by the Chair.

### **2. Appointments**

PCC Secretary (and Deanery Synod representative) – Sam Brown  
PCC Lay Vice Chair – David Oats  
Electoral role officer – Andy Grace  
Safeguarding Officer and Deanery Synod representative – Stephen Kerry  
Treasurer – Kim Slade  
GDPR Officer – Jennie Marwick-Evans  
H&S officer – Margaret Baker  
Deanery Synod representative – Aaron Slade  
Deanery Synod representative – Stephen Kerry  
Ex-officio members, churchwardens David Oats and Alison Foulkes.  
Co-opted on the PCC, Christopher Sears

Standing committee

Fr Gary, Sam Brown, David Oats, Alison Foulkes, Kim Slade, Stephen Kerry

### **3. Date of future meetings**

Next PCC meeting Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June – 7.30pm in church

## **Closing Prayer & Blessing**

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

**Chair** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_