

APCM

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

THE PARISH OF NORTON

SUNDAY 21st May 2023

11.15am

ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHONERS To elect Churchwardens for 2023 / 24

Anthony Giles opened the meeting with a reading – the gospel for this morning & prayer.

Clerk: Susan Taylor: proposed by Tim Croot and seconded by Ros Pratt. All agreed.

1. Election of Churchwardens for 2023 / 24

Neil Greatorex: proposed by Keith Taylor, seconded by Tim Croot

Ros Pratt: proposed by Nadine Miles, seconded by Margaret Andre.

As there are only two proposals Neil and Ros were duly elected.

After the election this meeting is closed.

MINUTES OF ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

There were 56 people present.

Apologies: None

1. **Appoint Clerk for Meeting:** Susan Taylor: proposed by Neil Greatorex and seconded by Tracey Fletcher. All agreed.
2. **Minutes of last APCM:** Andy Nicholls proposed, and Olive Greatorex seconded that we accept the minutes which were agreed and signed by Neil Greatorex.
3. **Matters arising:** Neil Greatorex recorded thanks for the ministry of Trevor and Ann Sharp who have now left the parish. A gift of £539 has been given to Trevor.
4. **Electoral Roll:** Tracey Fletcher presented the Electoral Roll which will run until 2025. There are 157 members on the Electoral Roll; 3 have been added and 3 have been removed.
5. **Elections:**

Elections of members to serve on the Parochial Church Council for three years, 2023 / 2026

Christian Allen: proposed by Rachel Phillips, seconded by Vicky Cameron

Emma Boniface: proposed by Angela Caldwell, seconded by Liz Beardmore

Vicky Cameron: proposed by Neil Greatorex, seconded by Susan Taylor

Margaret Day: proposed by Jackie Halter, seconded by Susan Taylor
Sue Dulley: proposed by Don Salisbury, seconded by John Smith
Ginny Morris: proposed by Joyce Dcunha, seconded by Pat Timms
Helen Smith: proposed by Margaret Wenman, seconded by Tony Daley
Keith Taylor: proposed by Tony Daly, seconded by Ros Pratt
Barbara Young: proposed by Angela Caldwell, seconded by Timothy Croot

As there were 9 available spaces on the PCC all were elected without the necessity of a vote.

Election of Sunday wardens for the coming year. (see attached sheet)
Margaret Wenman proposed, and Helen Giles seconded that those named should be elected. **All agreed.**

Election of members to serve on the Deanery Synod for three years, 2023 / 2026
Neil Greatorex: proposed by Susan Taylor, seconded by Vicky Cameron
Olive Greatorex: proposed by Vicky Cameron, seconded by Andrew Nichols
Karen Williams: proposed by Susan Dulley, seconded by Vicky Cameron

As there were 3 available spaces on the Deanery Synod all were elected without the necessity of a vote.

6. **VICAR'S REPORT** As there is no report this year Neil Greatorex reported from the listening exercise conducted by Bishop Jane and Rural Dean Bill. The five points that emerged from this are:

- There is a culture of challenging behaviour in the church,
- Communication needs to improve,
- The Vicar's workload should be addressed.
- Support for the vicar needs to be in place.
- There is a fall in the numbers of children in the children's ministry

A copy of the report with an attached letter from the bishop is available to all in the Parish to look at and work on.

The PCC are going to work with an external consultant to improve the culture at church

7. **FINANCE:** Carol Greatorex presented the main points from the Treasurer's report
- The church is in profit of £11,000 – this has been heavily supported by a legacy
 - The income from the parish hall has increased.
 - There has been high investment into the house in Common View, so the accommodation is up to standard, also in the parish hall
 - There is a drop in stewardship giving due to a loss of significant givers
 - Utilities have gone up significantly.
 - We have received an £8,000 grant from the Heritage for the maintenance of the St George's spire.

Thanks were expressed, by Keith Taylor, to Carol and Neil for all the hard work they do with the finances. All agreed.

The audited accounts for the year ending 31/12/2022 were accepted by the meeting.

8. **AUDITOR**
Carol proposed we ask Robin Mead to audit the accounts again next year. Fiona Eve seconded and all agreed.

9. **FABRICS, GOODS AND ORNAMENTS.**
See the reports on St. George's and St Nicholas churches.

REPORTS The following reports were given.

- a) A report on the proceedings of the Parochial Church Council.
- b) Safeguarding. Neil thanked Andy Nicholls for all his work as safeguarding officer.
- c) Reports on the proceedings of Hitchin Deanery Synod.

There are other reports highlighting the work among our young people and youth –

- Sunday Dragons, Neil thanked all who work with this group, particularly Jane Mumford for leading the work.
- Dragonflies
- Aspire for children in year 4 and upwards. Neil thanked Angie Caldwell for this work.
- Messy church
- Norton Nippers,

On behalf of the PCC Neil thanked to all who run these groups.

Tracey Fletcher proposed, and Vicky Cameron seconded that we accept the reports. All agreed.

10. **ANY QUESTIONS** none

Neil thanked Susan Taylor for all the work she does as PCC secretary.

11. **RESULT** none to report

Anthony closed the meeting in prayer at 11.58