



APCM Minutes
Tuesday 9th May 2023, 7.30pm
St Matt's Church

Item	Notes	Actions
Opening Prayer	Ed Hodges opened the meeting in prayer.	
Present	Clergy present: Ed Hodges (Rector), Vanessa Pestridge (Curate) Laity present: 23 Apologies were received from: Mike and Mel Cleveland Tim and Janet Spencer Georgina Hutson	
Introduction	EH introduced the meeting and explained what would happen.	
Appointment of meeting clerk	Sophie Giles was appointed clerk of the meeting. Ed Hodges proposed Mark Hobson seconded All in favour	
Review of the 2022 minutes	There were no matters arising. It was agreed that the minutes from the meeting on 23 rd May 2022 were a true record. Minutes were approved	
CHURCH MEETING		
Election of Church Wardens	Ed reminded the meeting that the Church Wardens are appointed by the Bishop. Two nominations have been received for the posts of Churchwarden.	

Mark Hobson
Proposed: Chris Jackson
Seconded: Rob Mountain

Rebecca Barratt
Proposed: Ben Homer
Seconded: Alastair Buick

There being no other nominations, Mark Hobson and Becca Barratt were duly appointed as church wardens.

Mark and Becca introduced themselves to the meeting.

PARISH MEETING

Reports

The full reports were made available online on the website and can be found at stmattsexeter.org/apcm.

Electoral Roll Report

- Sophie Giles delivered the Electoral Roll Report
- We have 123 people on the roll
- The number on the 2022 roll was 112
- 1 person has been removed
- 12 people have been added

Ed gave an annual report

- 2022 was our first year of 'normal operating' after covid and as a result we saw growth across all our activities
 - We were invited to Exeter in 2019 to establish St Matt's as a resource church. The idea is that by building a growing church, we can invest in the local area.
 - The strategy has always been to plant into other areas and beyond.
 - We planned two of these plants within our strategic development funding window (until August 2024)
 - The first is due to happen in September 2023, in Exwick.
 - We have appointed a curate for this plant. Mack Deptula will be the Curate of the plant, Ed will be the incumbent.
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- Mack will initially spend 50% of his time at St Matt's and 50% of his time at Exwick. As it grows, he will spend an increasing amount of time there.
 - The model is to centralise the operational running of the plants so that activity can be more effectively invested in.
 - We will be encouraging the congregation over the next few months to think about what their role might be within the plant.

Ed invited questions.

There were no questions.

Deanery Synod Report

- Lorraine Hayes gave the Deanery Synod Report
- Two members of the PCC sit on the Christianity Deanery Synod
- This provides the PCC with a link to the churches around us
- Two meetings in 2022 both at St Mark's church
- In the first, there was a discussion around the question "What do you mean by mission and what are you doing about it?"
- In October the meeting heard two presentations on revitalising a parish, one from Carl Robinson at Whipton and Beacon Heath and one from Ed from St Matt's.

Fabric Report

- Mark Hobson gave the Fabric Report
 - Phase 2 of the renovation is complete and we are moving onto Phase 3.
 - The Quinquennial Inspection has been completed and we are awaiting the report.
 - Private donations have allowed us to carry out works in the hall kitchen and to install windows on the stage room
 - SDF funding will allow us to complete the stage room and carry out further works in the hall
 - At St Sidwell's, the Community Centre are planning to install a Green House on the church yard and we have renewed the licence they have to use the outside space.
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- Ed added that the facilities of the building are critical
 - Ed told the meeting that we are naming our meeting rooms after people – the back vestry by the store room is called the Millar Room after Sandy Millar, previous Vicar of HTB.
 - The stage toom will be renamed the Kemp Room in memory of Alec Kemp who came down from London with the team and sadly died last year.

Ed Hodges gave the Safeguarding update

- St Matt's has complied with its duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016.
- There are a number of ongoing safeguarding concerns. None of these relate to activities within the church but have been disclosed during taking part in church activities.
- We have a new online reporting system.
- We work hard at safeguarding and we should never become complacent.

Financial Report

- Neil Williams gave the Financial Report
 - All parts of the report are equally important
 - The Annual Report & Financial Statements for 2022 has been approved by the PCC
 - Neil thanked the meeting for their time, energy and contributions as without that, we would not be able to do what we do.
 - The accounts have been examined by Bush & Co.
 - The Statement of Financial Activities show what we have spent and what we have coming in
 - As Ed mentioned, the church is getting larger and the numbers are doing the same.
 - In 2022, we had an income of £430,000; of that £175,000 came from giving to our church.
 - Last year, we spent £335,000 which, after adjusting for our end of year position, left us with a surplus of £88,000.
 - We have been very fortunate to have been granted funding from the SDU (Strategic Development Unit of the Central Church) until August 2024. Half of the
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£88,000 is linked to SDU funding, half is unrestricted and the PCC can decide how to use this.

- We had a surplus last year and hope to have a surplus this year, which is essential if we are going to continue doing what we are doing.
- The value of our assets is £1.3m. Most of that is the buildings that we have.
- The church building is not included in that. It is a consecrated building and is vested through the incumbent in the parish.
- The hall has a value of just over £500,000. We also have Crown House, the hall at St Sidwell's which has a value of about £300,000.
- We have £55,000 in investments.
- We have about £200,000 that we can make decisions about – our unrestricted reserves.
- We need keep in mind what will happen in the post-funding stage.
- The funding we received from the SDU was to cover two aspects – one being the buildings, and the other was to fund most of our staff posts. What we have been doing with the PCC over the last 18 months, is looking at our financial position, particularly from 2025 onwards, the year after the funding ends. We need to have a budget that looks sustainable without that external funding.

Business

Appointment of Independent Examiners for 2023

- Neil Williams proposed the appointment of Bush & Co. as our Independent Examiners for the 2023 Accounts.

Vanessa Pestrige seconded

Bush & Co. were appointed

Election of PCC Members

- Ed explained the role of the PCC and explained that the lay (non-clergy) people of the PCC are appointed for three years, with a third seeking re-election every three years.

There are four vacancies

Ed expressed his thanks to Lorraine Hayes for her time on the PCC since 2009 and prior to that being church warden for 7 years and for her faithful service to St Matt's.

- Ed Hodges read out the PCC nominations:
 - John Kow (seeking re-election)
 - Proposed: Sophie Giles
 - Seconded: Rebecca Barratt
 - Kim Wilding (seeking re-election)
 - Proposed: Adam Westaway
 - Seconded: Mark Hobson
 - Kate Jackson (seeking re-election)
 - Proposed: Vanessa Petridge
 - Seconded: Janet Spencer
 - Frank Ford
 - Proposed: Matthew Giles
 - Seconded: Josh Chesworth
- As there were the same number of candidates as vacancies (four) they were duly elected.

Ed thanked everyone for playing their part in St Matt's.

Ed invited questions.

Jackie Hobson asked if we have given consideration for the need for extra services on a Sunday given that we are reaching capacity.

Ed replied that we are currently at an average of about 150 adults at the 10am and, 50-60 children. We could fit more people in the building but the opportunities for conversation and community building are more challenging. Whilst we could add another morning and evening service, this would involve changing the times of services. Ed's preference would be to plant and become a church over a larger area as we do so.

Closing prayer

Mark Hobson closed in prayer.
