

Parish of Richmond with Hudswell – Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Sunday, 15th November 2020 at 11.15 a.m. in St. Mary's Parish Church, Richmond via zoom.
Chairman: Rev'd Martin Fletcher

Annual Vestry Meeting

1. **Welcome and prayers:** Rev'd Martin opened the meeting with prayer.
2. **Appointment of Clerk to the meeting:** Sharon McCormack was proposed as Clerk to the Annual Vestry Meeting and A.P.C.M., and this was approved unanimously.
3. **Apologies for absence:** were received from Valerie Strawbridge.
4. **Minutes** of the Annual Vestry Meeting held on 7th April 2019: approval was proposed by Martin Fletcher, seconded by David Frankton, and carried unanimously.
5. **Matters arising:** there were no matters arising from the minutes.
6. **Election of churchwardens for the year 2020-21:** the term will be until the next APCM in May 2021. Peter Trewby was proposed by Chris Denton and seconded by Anna Boyce. Jan Jack was proposed by David Frankton and seconded by Margaret Merlane. Both were elected unopposed.

On behalf of everyone Rev'd Martin thanked David Frankton for all his dedication and hard work as Churchwarden over the past 12 years, informing the APCM that David was to be bestowed with the honorary title of Churchwarden Emeritus. David was also presented with a gift, for which he thanked everyone.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

1. **Apologies:** as above
2. **Minutes** of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on 7th April 2019: were signed with no amendments by Rev'd Martin. He thanked Jennifer Patrick for her work as Clerk.
3. **Matters arising:** Rev'd Martin stated that due to the Covid-19 pandemic 18 months had passed since the last APCM. During this time our Electoral Roll Officer John Dickinson had sadly died and was a great loss to our church community. We as a church continued to look for Deputy Churchwardens and are grateful to David Frankton, our new Churchwarden Emeritus, for his willingness to take on this role. Rev'd Martin informed the APCM that Sian Lawton who was on placement with us, and was still in contact with us, had now been ordained as a priest.
4. **Reports which must legally be presented:**
 - 4:1 **Electoral Roll:** Claire Murray stated there were currently 141 people on the Electoral Roll, 18 of whom lived outside the parish. This was down by two from last year. The report was unanimously accepted. Rev Martin thanked Claire Murray for taking on the role after the death of John Dickinson.
 - 4:2 **Proceedings of the PCC (including Safeguarding):** Rev'd Martin thanked Sharon McCormack for preparing the report and there were no matters arising. Claire Murray proposed and Margaret Clayson seconded that the report be accepted and this was carried unanimously.
 - 4:3 **Financial statement for the year ending 31st December 2019:** Paul Carnell had circulated the Financial Statement prior to the APCM. He made a PowerPoint presentation to the meeting showing the accounts in graph and pie chart form. He reported that monthly income ranged between £6,000 and £15,000, with an average figure of a little over £10,000, whereas the lowest monthly payment was around £9,500 with the average a little over £11,000. There were only three months when receipts exceeded payments. Paul then removed the monthly Share payments from the graph to indicate our 'local' payments, suggesting that the PCC were being good stewards. Paul said that we have approximately 100 people in our Planned Giving Scheme and that he was very grateful to them. Their giving accounted for 48% of the church's total receipts in 2019.
Paul told the APCM that the PCC prides itself in paying the Parish Share in full, which is proving difficult in 2020.
Rev'd Martin thanked Paul for all his hard work, with thanks also given to Peter Trewby and the Fundraising Team who had done a huge amount of work and without whom our 2019 deficit would have been much larger. Christine Stedman proposed and Jan Beeton seconded acceptance of the report which was carried unanimously.

- 4:4 Fabric, goods, and ornaments of the church:** thanks were expressed to Peter Trewby, and to David Frankton for their hard work during the last year. Peter then discussed briefly the work undertaken on the church heating, the organ, adding heating to the disabled toilet, and other more recent improvements. The Quinquennial Inspection had been undertaken by Richard Crooks Partnership, advising that gutter and pointing work is required. Rev'd Martin thanked Peter and David for their dedication in such eventful times. He acknowledged that David had honoured the late John Blenkiron's 'mantle' as Churchwarden. Pamela Holland proposed and Dennis Stedman seconded acceptance of the report which was carried unanimously.
- 4:5 Deanery Synod Report:** Rev'd Martin thanked Jonathan Roberts, Claire Murray and Susan Welch for their report. Susan Welch proposed the report and Tony Dykes seconded acceptance and this was carried unanimously. Rev'd Martin also expressed thanks to all who had contributed to the complete Annual Report, which demonstrated the breadth of church life.
- 5. Elections and Appointments**
- 5:1 Members of the Parochial Church Council:** Rev'd Martin informed the APCM there were three members to be elected, for a 3-year term. He thanked those stepping down from the PCC this year (Jennifer Patrick, Sarah Love and Alastair Lunn), having been co-opted for a 12-month term but which had become extended to 19 months due to the pandemic. David Frankton was proposed by Peter Trewby and seconded by Jennifer Patrick. Andy Lovell was proposed by Howard Walker and seconded by Jim Jack. Pamela Holland was proposed by Christine Lunn and seconded by Graham Merlane. All three were elected unopposed. Rev'd Martin congratulated the newly elected members. Wendy Pritchard, Christine Stedman and Jan Beeton have two years remaining of their terms; Margaret Clayson, Sheila Harisson, Sharon McCormack, & Leonard Scrafton have until 2021.
- 5:2 Deanery Synod Representatives:** Rev'd Martin informed the APCM that Claire Murray, Susan Welch and Jonathan Roberts were each willing to serve another three-year term, and thereby serve as ex-officio members of the PCC. He was delighted as they are all experienced representatives. They were respectively proposed and seconded by Margaret Clayson and Christine Blenkiron, Jan Jack and Alastair Lunn, and Scott Lunn and Angela Dickinson, and elected unopposed. Rev'd Martin told the APCM that there is a vacancy for a fourth representative, and anyone interested in being co-opted should please contact him.
- 5:3 Appointment of Sidespersons:** Rev'd Martin thanked Jeanette Sunderland for preparing the Sidespersons list. This was read out and approved by the meeting and will be circulated with the Minutes of the meeting. The Sidespersons were thanked for their important welcoming role in which they are the first point of contact with our church.
- 5.4 Appointment of Independent Examiner:** Alistair McLean, being willing to continue in his role as independent examiner, was appointed unanimously. In addition, David Frankton was appointed Deputy Churchwarden, the aim being to appoint more to this role.
- 6. Rector's Report**
- Rev'd Martin stated that he was privileged to be the Rector of Richmond with Hudswell, to belong to the town, and to lead the congregation of St Mary's Church. He thanked everyone for their continued welcome, and their support and encouragement. He said he felt blessed to be working with a team of people with such a wide skill-set. This included Paul and Jeanette Sunderland who since their arrival this year had quickly settled as valued members of our church family. Thanks were given to our Churchwardens, Vergers, the Parish Development Group, our Teams, all involved in upholding the strong Music and Ringing traditions of the church, our Treasurer and Parish Administrator. He stated that together we are St Mary's church and reflected on all those who are sadly no longer with us.
- 7. Any other business:**
- Peter Trewby thanked Rev'd Martin for all his vibrant work during the pandemic and over the past year. This was followed applause. Rev'd Martin thanked everyone – including his new wife Anna – for their support.

The virtual meeting closed with the Grace at 11.55am.