

PARISH OF WHYKE, ST GEORGE WITH RUMBOLDWYKE, ST MARY AND PORTFIELD, ALLSAINTS. CHICHESTER

The Annual Parish and Parochial Church Meetings were held in the Church on Sunday, 27 April 2008 at 11.30 am.

Chair: Father Stuart was in the chair
Number Present: 69
Apologies: 5

Annual Parish Meeting

1 Election of Churchwardens

Father Stuart advised that Liz Cooper and Mike Glancy had been nominated, proposed and seconded to stand as Churchwardens. There were no other nominations and they were therefore elected to stand for one year.

Father Stuart thanked Mike and Liz for the work they did during the vacancy and for their support since he and his family had arrived.

The Annual Parish Meeting Closed.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

1 Minutes of Annual Parochial Church Meeting Sunday, 27 April 2007

The Minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record.

Proposed: Emma Stonham
Seconded: Barbara Phillips
Unanimously agreed

2 Election of Parochial Church Council Representatives

The following had been proposed and seconded to serve on the Parochial Church Council:

Ken Green
Carole Lamborne
Geoff Merry
Sheila Price
Neville Stevenson-Watt

There were five vacancies and all were elected to the Parochial Church Council

3 Election of Deanery Synod Representatives

The following had been proposed and seconded to serve as Deanery Synod Representatives:

Tom Batting
Fred Corbin
Emma Stonham

There were four vacancies and all were elected as Deanery Synod Representatives

Father Stuart thanked those who had agreed to stand. There is one vacancy outstanding for the Deanery Synod.

4 **Appointment of Stewards**

The stewards were appointed en block. It was proposed that the Churchwardens should have the authority to co-opt new stewards during the year.

Proposed: Pat Sparks
Seconded: Susan Howell Evans
Unanimously agreed

Father Stuart said that it was important to encourage more people to come on to the Steward's Rota because welcoming people into church was an important part of our ministry.

5 **Report on Parish Electoral Roll**

Rosemary Lay, Electoral Roll Officer, reported that there are 213 members on role.

Number on role last year:	187 members
New names on register:	30 members
Deaths:	3 members
Removed:	1 member

Father Stuart thanked Rosemary Lay for all the hard work that she does as Electoral Roll Officer.

6 **Annual Report, Fabric Report and Accounts 2007**

The Reports and Accounts had previously been circulated.

Annual Report

Father Stuart opened his address by reading the Saint George's Church Mission Statement to the meeting. He then acknowledged his appreciation of the work carried out by Father Paul during his ministry, which has given him a strong base from which to begin his own ministry within this community of faith.

Father Stuart thanked the Churchwardens and supporting clergy for sustaining the church and encouraging growth in many areas during the vacancy. He also said how overwhelmed and encouraged he and his family had been by the warmth and generosity of the welcome they had received.

Father Stuart spoke of the revision of our Sunday morning activities for our children and young people in church. He said that the style of provision needed to change due to the large numbers of children and young people now attending church. He explained that with the support of 28 volunteers from the congregation a different approach has been adopted for the running of the J Team, with the children being divided into four groups by age, enabling the leaders to differentiate what the children are doing.

Father Stuart concluded by saying that he has shared with the PCC his vision for the next eighteen months and that together we will step boldly into new

and possibly risky pastures, confident in the knowledge of the love of God which surrounds us and His spirit which guides us.

Fabric Report

There were no questions raised on the Fabric Report. Mike Glancy thanked all those in the parish who helped decorate and work on the rectory and gardens in late summer.

Accounts and Appointment of Auditor

It was proposed that Mr James Chisham be appointed auditor.

Proposed: Vernon Scullard
Seconded: Rosemary Lay
Unanimously agreed

Tom Batting ran through the accounts that are now shown in a way that conforms to Diocese instructions, which are governed by the Charity Acts.

He drew attention to the fact that whilst there is surplus of £16,000 appearing to show a healthy return, it masks an underlying trend of deficit. He explained that this is due to us receiving a generous donation of £8,000 during 2007 combined with there being no major repairs to the church fabric, a period of vacancy and a change in the way the Gift Aid tax is refunded. Tom said that without the £8,000 donation then overall giving would have declined 4%, continuing the trend of recent years. He said that regular giving and the benefit to the church of using the envelope/gift aid scheme and fund raising are areas that require particular consideration in the near future.

Tom concluded by thanking Fred Corbin and Rosemary Lay for all their help counting and banking the monies and for their support during his first year as Treasurer.

The reports were accepted by the meeting.

Proposed: Jeff Thompson
Seconded: Geoff Merry
Unanimously agreed

7 **Deanery Synod Report**

There were no questions raised on the Deanery Synod Report, which was circulated at the meeting.

8 **Any other business**

8.1 Mike Glancy advised that there is a board at the back of church for people to write suggestions on the wish list of things needed for church.

8.2 Pat Sparkes asked how the money from the Community Grant had been spent. Mike Glancy advised that the grant was given primarily for community use and that it has been spent on chairs for the centre, a digital projector, electric piano, cycle and table racks. There is

approximately £3,915 left to be spent and the PCC will discuss how it is to be spent soon.

- 8.3 Brenda Glancy requested that the PCC consider fund raising to replace the organ as soon as possible. Father Stuart confirmed that the organ is failing due to age and the effect of the present heating system. He said that it is estimated to cost in the region of £200,000 to replace the organ but that we would look for major fundraising to come from external sources. Father Stuart said that if the organ is replaced he would envisage St George's Church becoming a concert venue which will bring people in.
- 8.4 Mike Glancy confirmed that proposals on how to enhance the sound system have started to be considered. He said that we are looking at a system that will tackle the sound inputs, better microphones and the use of a sound desk. We will then look into whether a new speaker system is needed, for which a faculty will be required. Estimated time scale will be the next four or five months.
- 8.5 Liz Cooper said that social events and fundraising are an integral part of churchmanship and requested everyone to complete and return the tear-off slip. She also asked for volunteers to be part of the fundraising team
- 8.6 Liz Cooper said that it is wonderful having Father Stuart, Laura, Tom and Libby with us. She said that she wanted to thank him for all that he has done so far and to assure him that he has our loyalty and support.

The meeting closed with the Grace.