

**The Annual Report
Of the Parochial Church Council
for the Parish of
St John the Evangelist, Whitfield**



**Parochial Church Council
of
St John the Evangelist, Whitfield**

Contents

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting, APCM 2017 Syresham with Whitfield (Combined Report)
2. Electoral Roll of St John the Evangelist Church, Whitfield
3. Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting Syresham with Whitfield to approve the Accounts
4. Church Representatives Report
5. Report of the Whitfield BRICC (Building Repairs Insurance and Contents Committee) for those Parishes that held a BRICC meeting prior to the end of December 2017
6. Friends of St John the Evangelist, Whitfield
7. Churchyard
8. Bell Tower
9. Coffee Mornings
10. Trustees of the Whitfield Charities

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting | Yr. 2016-2017 Dated; 28TH April 2017

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting of the Churches of St James the Great Syresham, and St John the Evangelist Whitfield held in St James the Great, 7.30pm Friday 28 April 2017

Present: Rev Carole Peters-King, Malcolm Orr-Ewing, David Wright, Brenda Faragher, Martin Brown, Clare Bonner, Alice Palmer, Kathleen Brunning, Sallie Connery.

Apologies received from Wiggy Smith, Sue Palmer, Sheila Brown, Margaret Miller, Andrew & Antoinette Hornby, Lisa & Nick Dimpleby, Sylvia McLean, Jane Rymell, Sue Timmis and Rev. John Roberts.

Prayer. The meeting started with a Prayer.

Legal requirements. Carole said Reports and Minutes should be prepared electronically. Also Electoral Roll. A quorum is two thirds of ordinary members, ie not *ex officio* members.

Vestry Meeting. Minutes of the 2016 Vestry Meeting were read out. These were deemed to be a true record. Malcolm proposed acceptance; Alice seconded. All agreed.

Appointment of Churchwardens. 1. David Wright. Proposed by Malcolm, seconded by Kathleen. All agreed. 2. Malcolm Orr-Ewing. Proposed by Kathleen, seconded by David Wright. All agreed.

Minutes of the 2016 (Syresham) APCM. Martin proposed acceptance of the minutes of the APCM as a true record. Seconded by Claire. All agreed

Presentation of 2017 Reports.

Rector's Report.

Church Electoral Roll for Syresham. All names read aloud. Kathleen proposed acceptance. Brenda seconded. All agreed.

Church Electoral Roll for Whitfield. Names unavailable as not brought to meeting.

Financial Statement.

The Syresham accounts had been audited by Bernard Wilkins and were deemed to be correct. The accounts were scrutinized very carefully and Brenda answered questions to everyone's satisfaction. Brenda proposed the adoption of the accounts. Alice seconded and all agreed.

Whitfield accounts. These have been audited. A special meeting will be held for the accounts to be examined and approved, once they have been on display at Whitfield St John the Evangelist for a full month.

Secretary's Report. This gave details of PCC meetings. Debbie Sims has resigned as Secretary due to 'pressure of work'. In her absence, she was thanked for her hard work.

Churchwardens Report.

Syresham. The churchwardens were thanked for their work throughout the year; Malcolm in particular for all his efforts to keep the church dry following the theft of lead roofing.

Whitfield. Claire and Sue were thanked for all their hard work to ensure that services could continue to be held in St John the Evangelist church.

Deanery Synod. Carole stressed the importance of attendance at Deanery Synod meetings and thanked Claire and Wiggy.

Friends. Carole thanked the friends of St James for their work and Sara and Ian Chapple for their work at Whitfield.

Hope Centre Food Collections. Lots of food available. Further volunteers welcome.

Choir Report. David and through David the choir were thanked for their valuable contributions to church services.

Election of Officers

Minute Secretary. Kathleen Brunning. Proposed by Malcolm; seconded by Brenda. All agreed.

Electoral Roll Officer. Kathleen. Proposed by Alice' seconded by Martin. All agreed.

Safeguarding Officer. David, proposed by Brenda; seconded by Alice. All agreed.

Deanery Synod. Claire and Wiggy (not yet due for re-election.)

Treasurer. Brenda, proposed by Martin, seconded by Claire. All agreed.

Hammond Trust. Sallie

Payne Trust. Martin

Whitfield Representatives. Sue Timmis and Claire Bonner. Election not required.

Recommended auditor: Bernard Wilkins, proposed by Brenda.

Eucharistic Assistants. For Syresham Sue Palmer and Kathleed Brunning. For Whitfield Claire Bonner, Sue Timmis and Shaun Sullivan.

A vote of thanks to Carole was proposed by Malcolm, agreed by all.

The meeting ended with the Grace at 8.45pm

Kathleen Brunning. April 2017

2. Electoral Roll for the Parish of St John the Evangelist Whitfield

March 2018

Mr W Adams
Mrs L Adams
Mrs C Bonner
Mr J Brisby QC
Mr R Digby
Mrs J Digby
Mr W Dodd
Mrs D Dodd
Mrs W Procter
Mr P Rhodes
Mrs C Rhodes
Mr J Sayer
Mrs L Smalley
Mrs A Smyth-Osbourne
Mr P Stubbs
Mrs B Stubbs
Mr S Sullivan
Mrs S Timmis
Mr N Towers
Mrs J Towers
Miss F Towers
Mr M Vallis
Mrs P Vallis
Mr T Walton
Mrs H Walton
Mrs B Wallace

26

3. Minutes of an extraordinary meeting of Syresham and Whitfield PCC re. Accounts Audit

St John the Evangelist Church on Sunday 12th February 2017 after the morning service.

PRESENT: (7) Rev. Carole Peters King (CPK), Wiggy Smith (WS), Malcolm Orr-Ewing(MOE), Brenda Faragher (BF), David Wright (DW), Kathleen Brunning (KB),
Whitfield reps: Claire Bonner (CB) Sue Timmis (ST)

Apologies: Debbie Sims (DS), Martin Brown (MB) Sheila Brown (SB)

The meeting was to approve the church accounts as ready to go to the auditor.

Syresham Accounts.

After clarification of various items Brenda Faragher proposed that the accounts should be sent to the auditor. This was seconded by David Wright and agreed by all.

Whitfield accounts.

After a brief discussion it was agreed to send the Whitfield accounts to the same auditor as the Syresham accounts. This was proposed by Brenda Faragher and seconded by Sue Timmis – agreed by all.

4. Church Representatives Report APCM 2018

Repairs and Maintenance

No major repairs have been undertaken in 2017.

The Quinquennial inspection is overdue – still waiting to hear from John Barker.

We have service contracts for the annual service and repairs to the Organ, and the Fire extinguishers and safety check.

A pipe became dislodged from the organ in December, repair has been undertaken by Brian Carlick, and it will be refitted when he is back in the area. The organ can still be played in the interim.

Services

It has become harder to cover the 9am Holy Communion service on the third Sunday of the month following the retirement of Rev Canon John Roberts. A new service pattern is under review by the Worship committee.

Our annual average attendance is 7.

Special and Festival services are well always well supported.

A very successful Harvest Festival and Supper supported Hearing Dogs for the Deaf, Carol Muddiman brought along her dogs and gave a very interesting talk. We were very pleased to raise enough money to sponsor a puppy through its training.

BRICCs

As we move forward with the new Benefice PCC we are pleased we have a new team to form the Building and Running Costs Committee (BRCCS). Only one meeting has been held so far but we look forward to organising some social/fundraising events in the spring.

Summary & Thanks

We are very grateful for all help and support in running and maintaining services and the building.

Thank you to Rev. Carole Peters-King, Rev. Canon John Roberts, Wiggy Smith, the Ministry and Benefice team, and Syresham Churchwardens and PCC and all those worked so hard to forge a revolutionary partnership within the Benefice.

Thank you to The Friends of St John who organise social events and raise money for the Fabric of the Church.

Special thanks to Hilary Walton, Juliet Shepherd-Smith and Amy Sullivan for the Fete, and the Walton family for opening up their garden to host the event.

Thank you to Sara and Ian Chapple for all they do in the Churchyard, and the Bell Tower.

Thank you to the teams of cleaners, readers, flowers arrangers, Sacristans, Sidesmen, Ringers, mowers and all the other people who are just there to help when needed.

Thanks also for the Coffee Morning, not only a great meeting place with delicious homemade cakes, but often a starting point and 'think tank' in event planning.

Claire Bonner and Susan Timmis
Church Representatives

5. Whitfield BRICC Tuesday 28th November, Old Chestnut Farm, Whitfield

Present: Jane Rymell, Claire Bonner, Bo Wallace, Nick Goodwin, Gloria Gardner, Carol Rhodes, Sue Timmis

1. Carol Service 16th December – Mulled wine and mince pies to be served before the service (to help warm everyone up and also because a number of people are going on to other events afterwards) Offers of mince pies given and help with the mulled wine
2. Suggestions for fundraisers and community events: quiz, bingo/beetle drive with fish and chips, curry night, cheese and wine. A larger event involving more organisation such as open gardens was suggested. The fete is the main fundraiser and we will wait to hear from Hilary the date for this.
3. Sue will look into the possibility of starting a 100 club which has been a fundraiser in the past. We will try and get details of this organised in time to promote it at the quiz night in January.
4. A number of people, eg Gilda Short and Bill Dodd have offered help on an ad hoc basis.

Sue Timmis

6. Friends of St. John the Evangelist Church, Whitfield

Funding Position The balance in the bank account on 1 January 2017 was £8,661.25, providing a reserve for work required to the church. During the year £155.06 was incurred in respect of the electrical system. However, we are still awaiting the Quinquennial Review which has the potential to use up any funds very quickly. The committee decided to hold only one Friends event during the year so that villagers could spend more time raising money for the running costs of the church.

Event The annual quiz was once again a very enjoyable evening, impeccably devised and organised by Sue Timmis with Ian Timmis presiding as debonair question master. A net amount of £94 was raised for the coffers.

Acknowledgements We would like to thank the staunch members of the committee for their hard work during the year, together with the loyal band of helpers who are always willing to join in and contribute time and effort whenever needed.

Nick Towers
Treasurer

7. Churchyard Report

Thanks as always are due to the people on the mowing rota; Ian Chapple, Bill Dodds, Mark Rowlands, Roy Spittal, Jo Taylor, Ian Timmis. They managed to keep the churchyard looking well cared for throughout the mowing season. Additional thanks to Bill Dodds, who keeps the hedges trimmed.

Bill and Ian Chapple also help with any tree trimming that is necessary. Last autumn they cut a couple of trees next to the fence by Jenny and Paul Hunter's house - aided by Jenny. These had become too big and were threatening to reach the roof, and also blocking the light from the solar panels.

On the other side of the churchyard the big copper beech is badly overhanging the roofs of the two houses by the village hall. Pam and Mark Vallis asked if we would get it trimmed back. Two quotes were obtained, and it was recommended that all the ivy be removed so that the tree could be properly assessed. This was done by Sara and Ian Chapple in the autumn, and the tree itself was declared sound and not in need of felling. We are expecting the tree surgeon to come and trim back the offending branches mid-April.

Sara Chapple

8. Bell Tower Report

Sara and Ian Chapple are the only two really active ringers, although Bo Wallace and Jo Taylor try to make themselves available for service ringing. To make up a full band we have to call on the help of ringers from other nearby towers. However since we have an undertaking not to ring before 9.0 am which is the normal time of the almost monthly communion service, and we do not get regular other services, some months we are not required to ring. Sara and Ian continue to help out with service ringing at both Brackley and Syresham. They also support the relatively new band at Syresham with weekly afternoon practices whenever there are enough locals to make it practicable.

Sara Chapple

9. St John's Coffee Morning

In September 2017 it was decided that because of falling numbers we would change to a monthly coffee morning. We meet on the first Tuesday of each month and so far it has been well attended.

We are still saving our 5p pieces into a beautiful Dimple bottle which has already paid for a toilet in Burundi for the price of £60 which is twinned with the Village Hall toilet through the Tearfund 'toilet twinning' charity. We are now aiming to pay for a block of four for a school and are well on our way to the £240 required for this.

£150 was paid for the hire of the VH from September 2017 to July 2018

Sue Timmis

10. Trustees of the Whitfield Charities

The Charities Trustees Meeting was held on Tuesday 21st November 2017 at The Old Rectory, Whitfield. Present were Tim Walton – Chairman, Stephen Brooker – Treasurer, Rev Carole Peters-King, Sue Timmis, Bo Wallace, Shelia Brownsell, Claire Bonner

Matters arising

A village meeting is required to confirm/elect members of the Trustees as elections are overdue. It was agreed to look into changing how donations are made, combining accounts for greater flexibility with a wider remit. The trustees will investigate how restricted funds can be used.

Awards

Forest Allotment Five awards were made ranging in size from £250 to plants and festive gifts. It was discussed if, where there is cash available not directly needed in the village, a donation could be made to help those in need locally.

Listers No applications at present.

Old School One-off gifts of bibles were made to children under the age of 5 who have lived in the village for more than a year.

Tim Walton
Chair