

**St Simon's Church, Southsea**

**Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2016**

Note: These minutes are subject to acceptance at the next annual meeting and should be read in conjunction with the Annual Report previously circulated.

**WELCOME:** The meeting was opened by Hugh Mason, chair of the PCC, at 7.30 p.m. 31 people were present.

**APOLOGIES:** Apologies were received from Margaret Burke, Barbara Diani, Cliff & Maggie Golledge, Phil & Julie Gower, Jim & Julie Jamieson & Ken Slater.

Hugh Mason read from the book of Philippians and opened the meeting with prayer.

**A. VESTRY MEETING**

**a. Minutes of the annual meeting in March 2015**

Acceptance of the minutes for the meeting held in March 2015 was proposed by Michael Piper and seconded by Denis Llewellyn. This was carried unanimously.

**b. Election of Church Wardens**

The existing Church Wardens (Hugh Mason & Mike Taylor) had both been nominated for re-election. The meeting was asked to vote if they would like the existing wardens to continue and this was carried unanimously. Mick Walters (Church Administrator) thanked the wardens for their work during the interregnum following the retirement of Rev Matthew Holland.

**B. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**a. Minutes of the meeting in March 2015**

It was proposed by Stuart Bentley, and seconded by John Diani, that the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2015 be accepted as an accurate record. This was carried unanimously.

**b. Matters Arising** None.

**Election of Deanery Synod Members**

No election was necessary since Hugh Mason and Sue Piper were willing to continue in these roles.

**c. Election of lay PCC members**

There were four vacancies on the PCC and nominations had been received from Jo Crawley, Rob Borley & Gail Chipperfield. In the absence of any further nominations the chairman declared that they were elected to serve on the PCC. One vacancy remains so a further person can be co-opted onto the PCC before the next AGM.

**d. Presentation of Accounts**

The treasurer (Gail Chipperfield) presented the accounts for the financial year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2015, as outlined in the Annual Report. Thanks were expressed to the Waverly Trust and Coffee Tavern Trust for their continued financial support. Income from church centre lettings had increased over the last year, but this was offset by a decrease in the tax recoverable from the Gift Aid scheme. The treasurer said that she hoped that the accounts for Breakthru could be incorporated into the main church accounts and she was talking to Ali Ashworth, the treasurer of Breakthru, to see how this could be achieved. A question was asked about how Breakthru was funded, in reply Lorna Sandland (Community Development Officer) explained that Breakthru was self-sufficient and did not receive any financial assistance directly from the church. This year it had also benefitted from voluntary donations and a grant from the Coffee Tavern Trust.

At the conclusion of the report it was proposed by Barbara Moore, and seconded by Ali Ashworth, that the accounts for the last financial year be accepted. This was carried unanimously.

**e. Appointment of independent examiner**

Margaret Burke has indicated that she was happy to continue to act as the independent examiner of the church accounts. It was proposed by Pat Jolly, and seconded by Lois Earl, that Margaret should be invited to continue in this role, and this was carried unanimously.

The chairman thanked Margaret Burke & Gail Chipperfield for their work as examiner and treasurer, and also thanked Mick Walters for the assistance he had given to the treasurer.

**f. Presentation of Annual Report 2015**

Most of the details about activities undertaken can be found in the Annual Report previously circulated, but members were also given the opportunity to ask questions. The following made short presentations to the meeting:

Activities at St Simon's (overview) (Mike Taylor, Church Warden)

Children & Families work (Amy Allen, Youth & Children's pastor)

Youth work (Babette Shaw, Youth Outreach worker)

Sunday suppers & Breakthru (Lorna Sandland, Community Development worker)

Fabric & Development work ( Pete Towell [fabric] & Michael Piper [development])

Deanery Synod report (Hugh Mason, Church warden)

#### **g. The Future**

The Chairman talked about the past year and the way ahead, based on his Introduction in the Annual report. In particular he was pleased to note that in the past year we have seen the strength of St Simon's Church during the interregnum, with a very full year that has seen new initiatives developing and the maintenance of all existing ministries. In particular:

- Development work has continued within the nave and chancel, with the removal of the pews, repairs to the floor & the re-carpetting of the chancel area;
- Separation of the youth and children's work with the appointments of Amy Allen (Children & families' pastor) and Babette Shaw (youth outreach worker) in September;
- The introduction of a new Children's "Shipmates" service on the third Sunday of each month;
- Outreach to the community has been strengthened through the Breakthru & Sunday suppers ministries, in addition to pastoral visits to care homes & the housebound;
- Continuing development of the mission partnership with St Jude's;

The Chairman made special mention of all the help given this year by Rev Bob Mason, in his involvement with leading services, preaching and conducting occasional weddings and baptisms during the interregnum.

Despite these positive achievements, there was still a need to see how we can make meaningful contact with all who live within the parish, and we must not become complacent about the financial position of the church. The arrival of the new incumbent, Rev Susi James is exciting and brings high expectation as we look to the future.

**A.O.B.** None

The meeting closed with prayer led by Michael Piper at 9.20 p.m.

