

Christ Church with St. Marys, Old Town, Swindon

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church meeting held on Sunday 28th April 2019 at 11.30am in the Community Centre @ Christ Church.

1. Opening Prayer and Worship

Simon led prayers and welcomed all to the meeting

2. Attendance and apologies

Apologies were received from Angela Ruck, Simon Opande, Anne and David Sharpe, Christine Senior, Eileen Sawyer, Daniel Pitt, Reg Hardwick and Mike Fisher. 32 people signed the attendance sheet which is attached to the file copy of the minutes.

Annual Vestry Meeting

3. To elect two church Wardens

Pam Bridgeman and Jim D'Avila were nominated. Simon led the meeting in prayer for them both.

Name	Proposed by	Seconded by
Pam Bridgeman	Caroline Pitt	Janet French
Jim D'Avila	Janet French	Norma McKemey

Resolved: The congregation elects the two persons named above to serve as Church Wardens. All Assented.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

4. To approve the minutes of the APCM held on the 29th April 2018

Resolution proposed by Sandie Rule and seconded by Pam Bridgeman.

Resolved: The congregation approves the minutes of the meeting held on 29th April 2018.

5. Matters arising from the 2018 APCM – none

6. To approve the report of the electoral Roll officer.

This year, as happens every six years, the roll was started from scratch. The acting Electoral Roll Officer (to be confirmed in this role at next PCC meeting), Alison Harris, reported that the new roll stands at 142. Simon spoke of his concern at this low number (273 in 2018).

7. **To notify other items not covered on the agenda below** – two items. Firstly Caroline Pitt will speak about the Mothers’ Union and Anne Macmillan about the Old Town Festival.

8. **To elect:**

a) Up to 3 PCC members including one Deanery Synod representative. Vacancies arise because members of the PCC have stepped down, either because they have reached the end of their 3 years term or for personal reasons. This year Brian Harris, Richard and Annette French, and Graham Kemp stepped down. They were warmly thanked for their hard work and for their years of service on the PCC.

Resolved: The congregation elects those named below to serve as members of the PCC. All assented. Ruth has stepped down at PCC Secretary but is elected onto PCC.

Name	Proposed by	Seconded by
Charles Vince	Caroline Pitt	Angela Ruck
Ruth Awinyo	Ailsa Palmer	Janet French

b) **1 Deanery Synod Members**

Members of Deanery Synod also serve on the PCC as ex-officio members. The current members with one more year to serve are Greg Kendall, Ian Farr and Sheila Wright. Greg Kendall spoke about being a member of deanery synod and how it gives a wider perspective than just Old Town. Simon mentioned the installation of the new Archdeacon of Malmesbury Christopher Bryan and the new Deanery School opening in September 2019.

The 2019/2020 PCC now consists of

Ex-Officio: Revd. Simon Stevenette, Revd. Norma McKemey, Anne Macmillan (Lay Minister representative), Pam Bridgeman, Jim D’Avila, Greg Kendall, Ian Farr, Sheila Wright. Andrew Yeoward (Hon. Treasurer).

Ex-officio but non-voting members: Helen Parker-Drabble (Parish Administrator); Chris Smith (CCDM).

Elected members serving

till APCM 2020: Saimon Opande, Janet French, Ailsa Palmer, Stephen Shinde; Our deanery synod members will come to the end of their term at this time too: Ian Farr, Sheila Wright and Greg Kendall.

Till APCM 2021 Daniel Pitt, Sandie Rule and David Ratnam;

Till APCM 2022 Charles Vince and Ruth Awinyo.

9. To appoint:

a) Side People

Those listed below have volunteered to continue as side people and were affirmed by a show of hands;

Anne and David Sharpe, Jennie Loveday and Richard Leach, Roger Morcumb, Christine Senior, The Shinde Family, Margaret Harber, Marjorie Wilson, Angela Wirdnam, Henry Fitzsimmons, Irene MacDonald, Steve and Dee Cox.

The volunteers were thanked for their faithfulness.

b) Independent Examiners for 2019

Proposed by Andrew Yeoward and seconded by Daphne Hardwick.

All Assented

Resolved: The congregation approved the appointment of Monahan's as Independent Examiners for the 2019 accounts

10. To receive and approve the Annual Report and Accounts 2018

Andrew Yeoward, the PCC Treasurer, presented the Finance Review for 2018.

Andrew said he was following Keith Tredget's plan for the accounts.

The complete treasurer's report will be attached to the minutes for future reference.

- 2018 income and expenditure was more in line with previous years compared to those for 2017. With income of £338327 and expenditure of £444,962.
- Looking at our income more closely our legacies and donations were up. CC@CC doing very well. Thanks to Friends of Christ Church for their donations.
- Looking at our expenditure more closely; it was up because of work on roof and organ. There is money left in budget as we did not employ a Missioner to children and young families. The depreciation is something we have to accept.
- Andrew commented on the amazing fact that the actual spend over the budgeted amount for the year was bang on as it represented the salary we did not pay to the new Missioner!
- The balance sheet slide gives a complete picture. Andrew commented that he would be carefully watching that the PCC continues to uphold its reserve policy of having the amount of 4 months turn over in our account at all times.
- Sarah Bowden thanked Andrew for his clear presentation.
- Acceptance of the accounts was proposed by Stephen Grosvenor and seconded by Mike Palmer and passed unanimously.

11. There were no more questions from the floor.

12. Vicar's report: Vision, mission and strategy

First Simon took the two points of Any Other business.

- a) Caroline Pitt announced that after 114 years, the Mothers' Union branch at Christ Church with St Mary's would be closing at the end of 2019, so the reference to this branch on page 7 of the Annual Report would need to be removed for future years. Caroline also asked that the MU Banner stay in the Lady Chapel. Simon thanked Caroline warmly for her 14 years of service as Branch Leader.
- b) Anne Macmillan then spoke about the Old Town Festival starting on Sunday 9th June and our Partnerships role in this event especially linking in to our 50th Anniversary Year celebrations. The charity supported by the event this year is Wiltshire Search and Rescue. 9th June is Pentecost and to enable us to support the event our services at 9am and 10am will be cancelled. There is a parade at 11am when we are encouraged to wear red, yellow, orange and white. The family fun day will begin on Lawns at 12.15pm. The Partnership will have a stall. We will have an open-air service at 3pm in the grounds of Holy Rood Church on the Lawns. Volunteers are needed to help marshal, to be on a rota to look after the stall and we are all encouraged to come to the service. Other events during the Festival week are Paul Turner's concert, Friends of Lethbridge 10k run and concerts in the Old Town Bowl. See the June magazine for details. Please contact Daniel Pitt or Anne Macmillan if you can help. Simon also mentioned the Partnership Christmas Tree Festival for three weeks in December.

- Simon began his report talking about the "noise" that has been on the Christ Church site over recent months; lots of banging. Simon posed the question where is Jesus Christ making a noise in your life?
- Simon has spoken often to Rob Skinner, our roofer, and his colleagues about what they see looking down on us.
- Simon mentioned that two of the old-fashioned large church keys were discovered on the bank by the community service teams as they worked. They are going to Bernard Oxborrow for possibly renovation.
- Simon thanked Phil Mansfield for his work so far on our mission and values and strategic review; and how this has helped us so far in our ministry.
- Simon thanked Andrew for his clear presentation and support.
- Simon passed on that Christ Church with St Mary's together with Wroughton Parish Church do the most funerals in Bristol Diocese.
- We hope to have our new Garden of Remembrance up and running by the end of June/start of July.
- Many people see Christ Church as a place of sanctuary, a place to meet with the living God.

- Simon posed the question “what keeps your faith going when all seems too much?” He recommended going on a retreat or seeing a spiritual director.
- Simon is going on a course from 1st to 11th July at St George’s College, Windsor. He will be with 23 other clergy considering how we speak about God today. Simon visited St George’s 3 years ago and after Morning Prayer and Holy Communion was left in the Chapel on his own; he was very aware of the love of God.
- Simon gave thanks for Ruth, Simon and baby Martin.
- Kevin Penfold will be licensed as a Lay Minister on Saturday 21st September in Bristol Cathedral.
- Simon said our role is to play our part and keep the rumour of God alive. To live and share the Gospel in the power of the Spirit. It is an exciting and daunting task for us all.
- Thank you O my Father for giving us your Son and leaving your Spirit till the work on earth is done.

13. A provisional date for the next APCM was set for Sunday 26th April 2020

14. Closing Prayer and Blessing

Simon closed the meeting (12.33pm) with prayer.