



CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS, CRANLEIGH, SURREY

**Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting
on Wednesday 30th Sept 2020 via Zoom
MEETING OF PARISHIONERS or VESTRY MEETING AT 7.30 PM**

Chairman Revd Roy Woodhams, welcomed parishioners to the meeting and led the opening worship, 45 parishioners attended the meeting.

1. Apologies for absence to cover both meetings: Linda King, Tim Oxborough, Jill Saunders, Colin Tilbury

The Rector then opened the meeting with prayer.

2. Minutes of meeting of Parishioners: April 24th 2019 were presented. Malcolm Keeping proposed that they be accepted, seconded by Joan Greenwood. The meeting agreed, and the minutes were signed as read.

3. Matters arising: None

4. Election of Churchwardens: The two current wardens, Katherine Tuck and Michael Roberts, were the only ones standing for election. There being no other candidates they were unanimously elected.

Katherine Tuck was nominated by Gabrielle Clarke and seconded by Linda King, Michael Roberts was nominated by Alison Isherwood- Crook , seconded by Katherine Tuck.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

1. Minutes of the last APCM meeting held Wednesday 24th April 2019
Sue Ansell proposed that they be accepted, seconded by Jeff Wood. The meeting agreed, and the minutes were signed as read.

2. Matters Arising
None

3. Election of Triennial Deanery Synod

Deanery Synod meet 3 times annually and members also sit on the PCC

The parish is entitled to 5 members on Deanery Synod. We have 4 nominations. The Rector asked for any further nominations and none being made we continue to have 1 vacancy.

The 4 nominations:

Sandra Keeping (Proposed by Malcolm Keeping, seconded by Chris Robinson)

Joan Connolly (Proposed by John Greenwood, seconded by Sandra Keeping)

Margie Nursey (Proposed by Katherine Tuck, seconded by Alison Isherwood-Crook)

Gabrielle Clarke (Proposed by Steff Shepherd, seconded by Maria Poole)

There being no further nominations, these were elected for 3 years

4. Election of Parochial Church Councillors

This year there were 3 vacancies and three nominations.

Georgina Francis (Proposed by Mike Roberts, seconded by Katherine Tuck)

Frank Sole (Proposed by Margaret Booth, seconded by Alan Walton)

Paul Dyer (Proposed by Katherine Tuck, seconded by Mike Roberts)

No other nominations being put forward the above were duly elected for 3 years.

5. Presentation of the Electoral Roll.

On behalf of Margie Nursey, the Rector reported that there were 342 people on the Electoral Roll of which 47 were new members.

6. Statutory reports.

These have all been submitted and are available on the website

7. Annual Report given by Jeff Wood, treasurer

The financial statement and accounts for 2019 are tabled on the website

Jeff gave a general overview of the Statement of Financial Activities and Balance Sheet.

He reported that one legacy amounting to £3,000 was thankfully received during the year.

The full amount was allocated to general unrestricted Church funds.

Reserve Funds

2019 - Unrestricted	2019 – Restricted
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TOTAL £104,123	
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	£76,744
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Performance against Budget

For 2019 a break-even budget was set based on anticipated income and expenditure; expenditure was carefully calculated in close consultation with each of the teams to ensure that their financial needs could be met with an emphasis on seeking the best value. In the final analysis both income and expenditure were approximately £5,000 less than the budgeted figure which is in no small part down to frugal expenditure during the year. Had this not been the case the accounts would have shown a deficit in unrestricted funds; i.e. the funds required for the day-to-day running of the Church.

While the policy of the Finance Team is always to find ways of reducing expenditure (and achieve end-of-year figures below those in the budget) there is only so much that can be done to achieve this. In order to maintain a break-even position through 2020 and 2021, which is the aim of the PCC, there must be a concerted effort by the whole congregation at St Nicolas Church to increase income. This will need to come through ensuring that rates of planned giving are at least maintained in line with inflation, and through other fundraising activities. The main casualty in ensuring that a break-even position is maintained is in the amount that St Nicolas Church is able to spend on Mission giving. This has been reduced considerably in 2018 and 2019 compared to previous years as a necessary means of not only reaching a break-even position but providing surplus towards rebuilding the reserve fund.

While the year-end figures show a nominal surplus (£163) we cannot become complacent, mindful that the legacy received was unexpected. In the forthcoming year(s) we should continue to build the reserve fund to a level that complies with the reserves policy. Therefore, the Finance Committee have once again recommended that the PCC, as Trustees, should agree a budget (and ensure a result for 2020) which, at worse, is breakeven.

Sandra Keeping proposed the financial report be adopted and this was seconded by Doug Lock. All were in favour.

8. Adult and Children Safeguarding report.

Brian Boxall reported

There were no safeguarding incidents in 2019

Brian reported that DBS checks and training were still being upheld and urged PCC members to look at the available online training.

During the pandemic we need to be aware that Safeguarding does not go away but can be more hidden. Be vigilant and be aware of issues that may arise such as domestic abuse, emotional abuse.

We need to be aware of connecting with each other and keeping each other safe.

Our policy is up to date and was adopted by the PCC in May 2020

The Rector thanked Brian Boxall for his ongoing work

7. The Rector's Report

The Rector reported that the last 6 months have been unprecedented in his time of ministry, both quite unbelievable and very challenging.

Many people have been doing a lot of work to enable us to be a ministering, pastoral and missionary church.

It has been difficult to make the best decisions and they have not always been accepted by all the congregation.

One of the most challenging aspects for Roy and for the Churchwardens has been the continuing barrage of changing guidelines from the Government, national church, the diocese - who have not always been in alignment with each other!

We have done our best to keep the church safe and together and to 'keep the show on the road'.

Thanks to Mike Roberts and Katherine Tuck, Churchwardens; to Gabrielle for her online worship work; to the stewards and to all who have helped tread this unchartered territory.

8. Appointment of Auditors

Oakwood Business Consultants were reappointed as account examiners proposed by Jeff Wood , seconded by Alan Walton and approved by all.

9. Youth Minister's report

(Gabrielle's report attached to these minutes)

Roy began by commending the work that Gabrielle has undertaken during Covid in keeping the online worship alive and the work with young people and families has been 'cutting edge' and is thriving.

Gabrielle is due to go to a selection panel for ordained ministry in October and we wish her all the best for a successful outcome.

Gabrielle then gave a talk about the work happening on 'Zoom' – or 'worship from home'. This includes SEA church for children, outdoor services, Youth group and youth bible study. Gabrielle thanked everyone who had helped and continued to help with any of these groups and for supporting all the online worship

10. Curate's ordination

Tim Clifford-Hill will be ordained at St Bartholomew's Haslemere at 9 a.m Saturday 10th October. A You tube code to join the service will be available.

The Meeting closed at 8.10pm with the Grace

Followed by a music Worship video made by the children

Children, youth and families during Lockdown

All age worship/ Zoom Church services

- **Our Zoom Church services are on Sundays at 10am** (printable orders of service and activity sheets are also available on the website for families) These last about 40 minutes, followed by chat. Gabrielle is always logged on from 9:30am, so if you ever want to come in early to chat/ check your Zoom works, you can as well!
Follow this link to join us:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/148785166>
(Meeting ID: 148 785 166)
- We have also are now having live preaching through Zoom almost every week and have even had a couple of youth led Zoom Church services. You can watch some of these sermons on the Church YouTube page. This has included the young people planning the service, leading prayers and even preaching.

SEA Church with Zoom

- We are now having SEA Church every Sunday on Zoom (during term time) from 11:15am. (Same Zoom code as 10am: 148785166)
- Before each Zoom session, the children receive a pack in the post, which includes a craft and some sweets related to the bible story, as well as a booklet with activities and prayers for the bible stories coming up this term.
- During each Zoom session, we have our SEA prayer, a game of pie or no pie (ask Gabrielle!), a bible story with a short reflection, some time for prayer and a song. We also have some puppets that like to join the fun! This lasts about 20-25 minutes.
- If you know anyone that would be interested in joining our SEA Church sessions, please speak to Gabrielle (gabrielle@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk)

Youth Bible study:

- **This is on Thursdays at 6:30-7:45pm (For school years 7-11)**
- Follow this link to join <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82545819400>
- After completing our Youth alpha course, we have followed this up with a now weekly bible study with our young people. Over the last term we looked at topics such as the armour of God, the fruit of the Spirit, 1 Timothy 4: 12 and Romans 12. At the moment we are looking at what it's like to be a Christian around the world and even had a guest visit from Open doors who spoke about Christian persecution around the world.
- We've currently got Sophie, Annabel, Luke and Ella Pearson (Barbara Pearson's granddaughter) joining us, with Georgie and Gabrielle as the

designated adults. Sue Knight has also been helping out. We are looking for another adult to help; if you are interested, please speak to Gabrielle

Youth Group

- **This is on Sundays at 4-5:30pm for those in school years 6-9**
- <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/262262749>
- (Meeting ID: 262 262 749)
- Youth Group seems to be going well so far (but if anyone has suggestions of games that work over Zoom, please tell me!)
- We did consider going back to meeting in person, which is technically possible, however the young people have agreed that they would prefer to stay online for now.

Outdoor Church Services

- We have also done a couple of outdoor Church services and hope to do some more before it gets too cold/ dark. If you look on our Facebook page, you'll be able to see some photos/ videos!
- Our next one is on the 4th of October; please follow this link to sign up with Google forms <https://forms.gle/qWjBogDLbPyPY9wM6>

JAM (Jesus and Mums)

- Thanks to Steff Shepherd for coordinating the Jesus and Mums group during lockdown, where the Mums at Church have been able to stay connected, support each other and pray for one another. They have a WhatsApp group and meet on Zoom every other Friday evening. Please talk to Steff if you're interested! steffacts@gmail.com. Keep an eye out in the next Parish Magazine for an article about it!

Men's group

- This is a social group run by Bryn Jones, Nigel Lynn and Tim Oxborough. I hear they have non Alcoholic beer!

'Church is the people' WhatsApp Group

- We also have a Church WhatsApp group that we use to stay connected. We share photos/comments of what we've been up to in lockdown, post updates about upcoming events and post prayer requests.