



PARISH OF GRAFFHAM WITH WOOLAVINGTON



Annual Vestry Meeting and Parochial Church Meeting

26 March 2023, 11.25 am, at St Giles Church

ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING

Attendance: As for APCM, noted below.

- 1 ELECTION OF CHURCHWARDENS:** Ginny Barrett was unanimously re-elected to serve as Churchwarden.
Proposed Ann Brown *Seconded* Barbara Edge.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Present: The Rev Vivien Turner and 14 parish members (Ginny Barrett, Diane Bellis, Michael Blunt, Marie Bracey, Ann Brown, Yvonne Churchward, Mary Coakes, Sue Hill, Nettie Lanaghan, Stuart Lewis, John Sutton, Rosemary Sutton, Phillip Turner, Janet Wakeford)

Apologies: Sally Blunt, Beanie Bradley, Robin Brind, Barbara Edge, Brian Lanaghan, Bridget Lewis, Fiona Mackie

- 1 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:** Minutes of the previous year's Annual Parochial Church Meeting (4 April 2022) had been posted at stgilesgraffham.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/2022-04-03-APCM-minutes-DRAFT.pdf. No questions were raised but attendees invited to make known any issues.

2 ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Matthew Pitteway stepped down from the PCC and was thanked for his contribution.

- 2a Three members for three years:** Three existing members of the PCC indicated their willingness to serve for a further three-year term and were duly re-elected unanimously – Michael Blunt, Yvonne Churchward and Stuart Lewis.

MICHAEL - Proposed Ginny Barrett *Seconded* Stuart Lewis
YVONNE - Proposed Marie Bracey *Seconded* Ann Brown
STUART - Proposed Ginny Barrett *Seconded* Ann Brown

- 2b Two members for one year:** One nomination was received to fill these vacancies – Nettie Lanaghan, who was duly elected unanimously.
Proposed Ann Brown *Seconded* Yvonne Churchward
- 3 ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE DEANERY SYNOD:** With an electoral roll of 69, Graffham with Woolavington is eligible to nominate three members to the Deanery Synod. Diane Bellis and Ann Brown offered themselves for re-election – and were duly unanimously re-elected.
DIANE - Proposed Janet Wakeford *Seconded* Carole Sargent
ANN - Proposed Marie Bracey *Seconded* Rosemary Sutton
- 4 APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER OR AUDITOR:** Ros Britton agreed to serve as independent examiner for a further year and was thanked for all of her work. She was duly re-elected unanimously to the role for a further year.
Proposed Michael Blunt *Seconded* Stuart Lewis.
- 5 REPORT ON ELECTORAL ROLL OF THE PARISH:** The report by Electoral Roll Officer John Sutton had been posted at stgilesgraffham.org/2023-APCM/ In summary, two members had sadly died during the year but three new members acquired, increasing the parish’s electoral roll by one to 69. The next new full roll preparation is due in 2025. John has indicated that he now wished to retire from this role after four years and was thanked for his contribution.
- 5 TRUSTEES’ ANNUAL REPORT AND ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:** The Trustees’ Annual Report and Annual Financial Statements for the year to 31 December 2022 had been posted at stgilesgraffham.org/2023-APCM/ The Rev Vivien commended the document to all attendees, noting a busy year for the parish, which ended with a small financial surplus after paying the diocese its parish share in full, despite the difficulties presented by the pandemic and lockdowns etc. She thanked PCC Treasurer Yvonne Churchward for her great contribution towards this, noting that Yvonne had indicated that she wished to stand down from the role one year hence.
- 6 REPORT ON THE CHURCH’S FABRIC, GOODS AND ORNAMENTS:** Ginny Barrett presented this report, which was accepted with thanks by those in attendance. A copy can be viewed at stgilesgraffham.org/2023-APCM/ Thanks were also given to Stuart Lewis and Phillip Turner for their contributions towards safeguarding the church’s building and churchyard. It was noted in particular that the installation during the year of pew heating had been warmly received in all senses. The cost of this, raised through donations and grants, was below budget – even more so with the recent return of VAT paid.
- 7 REPORT ON THE DEANERY SYNOD:** Ann Brown’s report on the Deanery Synod was available for review at stgilesgraffham.org/2023-APCM/ and received with thanks.
- 8 SAFEGUARDING REPORT:** The Rev Vivien presented Safeguarding Officer Sonya Gillespie’s report, which had been posted for review at stgilesgraffham.org/2023-APCM/ and was accepted by the meeting. Sonya was thanked for her oversight of this important area.

9 MATTERS ARISING/ANY OTHER QUESTIONS

- 9a Bell ringing:** The Rev Vivien noted that bell ringing at St Giles was being grasped with renewed enthusiasm, with 17 regular ringers from the parish, supported with training by Vicky Chase and with Howard Pescott willing to fill the vacant role of Tower Captain, subject to the completion of necessary checks. The bell ringers were thanked for their contribution, particular for ringing to mark the Platinum Jubilee, the death of Queen Elizabeth II and the proclamation of King Charles III.

The meeting ended at 12 noon