

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2025 of All Saints Spelsbury held in church on May 4th at 11.24am

Present: Rector, Rev Mark Abrey, Rev Ilona Cheyne, Gillie Galloway, Chris Galloway, Ken Wakefield, Andrew Griffiths, Elizabeth Llewellyn Smith, Caroline Williams, Maxine and Robert Hobill.

Apologies for Absence: George and Ally Bailey

Vestry Meeting:

I. Election of Churchwardens

Nominations have been received for:

Ken Wakefield [Proposed by Chris Galloway; Seconded by Gillie Galloway]

Mark said how incredibly grateful he was and thanked Ken for all the work he had done as churchwarden over the past 17 years. He had been churchwarden since taking over from Lady Higgs. He said this would be his last year. The meeting were unanimous in their thanks to him.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

2. Report of the Electoral Roll

In preparation for this meeting a new Electoral Roll for the Church has been prepared. The Electoral Roll now has 22 members - up from 17 last year.

3. Presentation and Receipt of the Annual Report on proceedings of the Parochial Church Council and activities of the parish - *circulated*

The PCC's Annual report has been circulated in advance of the meeting - the relevant pages are 1 - 6 including the Safeguarding statement. It aims to give a snapshot of life in the parish during 2023. This was the opportunity for members of the Electoral Roll to comment on the report or life in the parish/ Benefice..

Thanks were recorded to all those who have contributed to our common life over the past year and in particular to all the retired clergy and Rev Ilona Cheyne who had helped by taking services. Also to all the PCC members for giving their time and expertise.

To Gillie, Ken and George for the preparation of the APCM Report,

To our musicians Gillie Galloway, Elsa Williams and Rosy Nixon.

To all who have helped out at services, -Ken for setting up, sidespeople and those who had provided refreshments.

To Our Flower arrangers led by Maxine Hobill

To the Bell ringers led by Ken Wakefield.
To the Friends and all their committee

The report was received by the meeting with a show of hands.

4. Presentation and Receipt of the Financial Statements of the Council for the year ending 31st December 2024 - *circulated*

Financial Statement and accounts have also been circulated - pages 9 - 18.

Of key importance is George Bailey's report on page 6.

The Rector said that the accounts were in better shape than in previous years helped by the receipt of the Ditchley Day monies and also generous donations from some Baptism families.

Especial thanks were recorded to George Bailey for his work as Treasurer and to Beth as book-keeper and Alison - Independent Examiner

Also to Gillie, Chris and the Friends for their fundraising efforts and to David and Jill Edwards.

The report was received by the meeting with a show of hands.

5. Report on the fabric, goods and ornaments of the Church - *circulated*

First few paragraphs under heading of Serving our Community on page 4 are about the fabric. The South Aisle roof repairs were ongoing and the Architect had a plan to prevent the leaks that were still happening. He is not charging for his time for this as he just wants it completed. Awaiting permission from the DAC. The broken glass in the windows and paneling was about to be repaired.

Thanks were recorded to Ken, and Robert Hobill for their watch over the roof and to Hugh and Helen Datson for opening and shutting the Church Daily.

The report was received by the meeting with a show of hands.

6. Report on proceedings of the Deanery Synod - *circulated*

Pages 19-20 of the report. Andrew Griffiths is our Deanery Synod representative and thanks were recorded to him for this. He said he had nothing further to add.

The report was received by the meeting with a show of hands.

7. Election of Deanery Synod Members

No election

8. Election of Parochial Church Council Members

5 vacancies: Gillie and George retire by rotation and 3 vacancies from previous years.

Gillie and George had agreed to stand again.

George Bailey Proposed by Ken Wakefield, seconded by Chris Galloway

Gillie Galloway Proposed by Ken Wakefield and seconded by Chris Galloway

Thanks from Mark were recorded to all members of the PCC for the work that they do on behalf of the Church community.

9. Appointment of Independent Examiner

The meeting appointed Alison Parker for the coming year and agree to gift as a thank you. [£75 Burford Garden Centre voucher]

10. Comments from the floor and suggestions for the new PCC

Rev Ilona Cheyne wished to record thanks to Rev Mark Abrey for all his hard work as Rector. Agreed unanimously by the meeting.

The Rector said that the architect was drawing up plans for a toilet and servery at the back of the church which would involve moving the font and screen slightly forward. He hoped that the OHCF would be able to give a grant towards this. He confirmed that there were monies that could be used towards funding this including those made by The Friends.

Maxine Hobill asked about the green mould on the floor. The Rector said that once the roof stopped leaking the church would dry out and then correct cleaning fluids could be used effectively. Internal redecoration of the church could also then be done. The French drains to prevent damp were all working.

The installation of the contactless machine was now bringing in @£50 per month in visitor donations.

There being no further suggestions and questions the meeting closed at 11.48 am with The Grace.