

## **The Parish of Hawkley with Priors Dean**

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting held on Sunday April 21<sup>st</sup> 2024 in the Parish Church of St Peter and St Paul Hawkley at 11.30am.

Present; The Venerable Peter Sutton, Elizabeth Hawkins, Sue Jones, Jane Wyman, Neil Chrimes, Henny Chrimes, Pat Barnes, Tom Wilkinson, Alex Wilkinson, Carmen Tarnowski, Maggie Johnson, Christine Offin, Jeremy Philp, D Green, Robin & Mary Crittenden, Brian Cain, Rosie, Nick Pettman, Fred & Orin Potts, Heather Whitcher, Molly Keer.

### **Annual Meeting of Parishioners**

Election of Churchwardens

Jane Wyman was standing down after a term of 6 years as Churchwarden. Peter thanked her on behalf of Hawkley and Priors Dean and the whole Benefice for her dedication and hard work throughout her term of office.

Tom Wilkinson had offered to stand for election as Churchwarden and was proposed by Neil Chrimes and seconded by Jane Wyman.

Neil had agreed to stand for a further term and was proposed by Mary Crittenden and seconded by Fred Potts.

Both Tom and Neil were unanimously elected to serve as Churchwardens for the forthcoming year.

### **Annual Parish Meeting**

#### **1. Introduction**

Peter welcomed those present to the meeting.

#### **2. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Mike Offin.

#### **3. Minutes of the Meeting 2023**

These were agreed

#### **4. Church Electoral Roll**

Mary Crittenden was thanked for being the Electoral Roll Officer. She is standing down from this position and a new Officer will need to be appointed as there is to be a wholesale review of the Electoral Roll in 2025.

Currently there are 100 on the Electoral Roll, 88 for Hawkley and 12 for Priors Dean. Of the 100 registered, 25 are non-resident.

#### **5. PCC Annual Report and Accounts**

Jane Wyman was thanked for preparing the Annual Report. The aim is to gradually reduce the size of the report to ensure all the essential points are covered but more concisely.

Questions were invited but none raised.

Alex Wilkinson has taken over as Treasurer and had prepared the Accounts. She reported that overall the accounts were in a positive place, receipts exceeding outgoings across all the accounts. The underlying message however is that without the investment income received from past generous bequests the picture would be very different. Donations received do not meet the high running costs of the Church.

Peter indicated that later in the year the Diocese will be focusing on Generosity and Giving and we can look then to do what we can to boost donations.

A question was raised about Charitable Giving and whether the 10% donation figure from unrestricted funds to three nominated charities had been met. It appears that there is a shortfall in the amount donated and this is something the PCC will look at.

Alex was thanked for all her work on the accounts and for taking over as Treasurer from Robin Crittenden.

Peter also thanked D Green for her work as Treasurer of Priors Dean and for preparing the Accounts.

The Report and Accounts were duly accepted by the Meeting

## **6. Election of PCC Members**

In the past year, Mary and Robin Crittenden and Liz Buckle have resigned from the PCC and were thanked for their valuable contributions.

The following were standing for election/re-election

Jane Wyman

Alex Wilkinson

Tom Wilkinson

Jo Knight

Nick Pettman

Elizabeth Hawkins

Maggie Johnson

These were proposed by Henny Chrimes, seconded by Pat Barnes and all were unanimously elected.

## **7. Appointment of Independent Examiner to PCC**

.Ken Wickenden has indicated that he may not continue and no successor is yet in view. This will be addressed by the PCC during the year.

## **8. Update on Diocesan, Deanery, Benefice, ChurchWISE and Parish Plans**

Peter reported that post-pandemic the Diocese and Deanery are making a slow financial recovery but a deficit remains in the Diocesan budget. Neil confirmed that there was overall a good working relationship between the Parish and the Diocesan management team which is helpful.

There is currently only one clergy vacancy in the Deanery and appointments have been made in various imaginative ways by combining roles.

## **9. Questions to the Incumbent**

Peter reported that there was a possibility that the Diocese could acquire the late Clare Baker's house which is right next to the Church. This would require less upkeep than the Vicarage and it may be possible to incorporate some of the garden into the churchyard to increase space available. The plan is at a very early stage however and will be dependent on a number of issues being resolved.

Mary Crittenden gave an update on the Village Hall management and confirmed that Simon Adler has taken over from her as the Church's representative on the Hall committee. She also confirmed that Lya Marischa would be handling bookings for the Hall.

She also raised a query about whether there should be a Welcoming Board in the Churchyard. Peter confirmed that this would be raised with the PCC.

Heather Whitcher said she would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone in the Church community for their love and support for her.

Maggie Johnson wished to make special mention of Christine Offin who, with Elizabeth, has made the Tuesday morning Coffee and Chat session a much valued village institution.

Sue Jones thanked the congregation for welcoming her so warmly and confirmed that she hoped her Ordination would be on June 29<sup>th</sup>.

Peter confirmed that numbers in both Churches were slowly growing, particularly in Priors Dean. He thanked all present and the wider community for all they do in the life of both Churches.

Neil concluded the Meeting by thanking Peter on behalf of all present for his tireless work and dedication to the people and Churches of the Parish.

The Meeting closed at 12 noon.