

**Draft Minutes of Annual Meeting of Parishioners and
Annual Parochial Church Meeting of St Peter and St Paul's Church, Aylesford
held on Sunday 12th May 2024 at 11.45am in the Church.**

1. Welcome and Prayer.

Ruth thanked everyone for attending and opened the meeting with a prayer.

2. Apologies for absence

Emma Parren, Anita and Michael Keays, Gordon and Barbara Hunt, Peter Walton, Sheena and Des Nolan.

MEETING OF PARISHIONERS (VESTRY MEETING)

3. Election of Churchwardens

a) Ruth advised that Ian Packer is standing down as churchwarden this year due to his ongoing discernment for ordination training and thanked him for his dedication and hard work in the role.

b) Aline Ongley is willing to stand again this year and had previously been proposed and seconded. Ruth asked all those present if they were happy for Aline to be churchwarden again and all those present agreed unanimously. Ruth thanked Aline for her continuing dedication to the role, and her very hard work as a churchwarden and generally in church life.

Ruth advised that Tania Dosoruth and Sharon Stigle had both said they would be prepared to act as Assistant Churchwardens for the next year. Ruth asked all those present if they had any objections to this alternative approach. There were no objections. Ruth thanked Tania and Sharon for taking on the commitment.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Hard copies of the Annual Report, Draft Minutes of the previous APCM in 2023, Statement of Financial Accounts, the Independent Examiner's report and the reports from Additional Groups were distributed before the morning service. Ruth apologised for the late availability of the reports this year which was due to unforeseen circumstances.

Ruth reminded all present that only those on the Electoral Roll could vote at this meeting.

4. Approval of the Draft Minutes of the APCM held on the 14th May 2023

There were no amendments to be made and the minutes were agreed to be a true record. Matters arising from the minutes would be taken under 'any other business'.

5. Report on the numbers entered on the new Electoral Roll

Anita Keays is our Electoral Roll Officer and in her absence Ruth read the electoral roll report.

a) The Electoral Roll is renewed every six years and was last renewed in 2019.

b) There were 109 parishioners on the Electoral Roll as of 27th April 2024 of which 54% are resident in the parish. Since the publishing of the revised electoral roll on 30th April 2023 5 members have been removed and 5 added.

Ruth thanked Anita for her work as Electoral Roll Officer and for preparing the presentation.

6. Parish Annual Report

All the reports made in the Annual Report were taken as read and there were no amendments to be made.

7. PCC Financial Report and Accounts

Ruth advised that Peter was unwell and unable to attend. Ruth presented the main points of the financial report previously provided by Peter. Clare Hughes commented on the possible ways funds may have been moved, but without Peter present it was impossible to reply in detail. Peter had said he is willing to take on the role as Treasurer again this year. Ruth also thanked Tania Dosoruth for her work as Giving Secretary. Ruth asked if there were questions for Peter, but there were not.

8. Fabric, Goods and Ornaments Report

Ruth thanked Ian who chairs the fabric committee. Ian presented and advised that the Quinquennial Inspection was eventually carried out September 2023 and there is nothing that must be done immediately. He mentioned that the Fabric Committee consists of only the vicar, Aline (churchwarden), Bob Greenway and him. Ruth stressed the difficulties caused by the shortage of members, which mean that work gets delayed, and she asked everyone present to think about becoming a member or suggesting it to friends and family.

9. Deanery Synod Report

Ruth's brief report gave an indication of the content of Deanery Synod meetings in 2023.

Ruth apologised that she had left Emma Parren out by mistake; Emma had been a representative since the annual meeting last year.

Ruth advised that the Deanery Synod meet 3 times a year.

10. Vicar's Comments

Ruth had already presented her comments during the morning service and as no additional people were present at the meeting, she did not repeat them. Her comments are appended to these minutes.

11. Election of Members to the PCC

Ruth advised that as our Electoral Roll has over 100 members we can elect 12 PCC members. This number is then divided into three groups each with four members who serve a three-year term. This year the term ends for Christine Hatfield and Emma Parren with two historical vacancies. Christine is willing to stand again and has been proposed and seconded, but Emma has stepped down. Ruth thanked both Christine and Emma for their past contributions to the PCC.

These changes left 5 places available for elected members. Ian, as churchwarden, automatically became a member of the PCC and although he is unable to continue as churchwarden he is willing to stay on as a PCC member. He has been proposed and seconded. Des Nolan and Tania Dosoruth have both put their names forward to join the PCC and have been proposed and seconded. All those present agreed to all appointments. Ruth thanked Ian and Christine for staying on the PCC and Tania and Des for taking on the role.

12. Election of 1 Representative to the Deanery Synod

With 1 House of Laity vacancy available, Ruth asked if anyone at the meeting would be interested in becoming a representative. Tania Dosoruth agreed and Ian proposed, Sue Gallico seconded. All those present agreed.

13. Appointment of Independent Examiner.

The Independent Examiner, Martyn Burt, advised he was willing to continue. Agreed unanimously.

14. Any Other Business

There were no matters arising from last year's minutes.

It was agreed that a copy of the PCC minutes could be published for wider communication with church members. It was noted that members of the church can have their say on anything, but would be unable to reverse any decisions formally made by the PCC.

Clare Hughes mentioned the danger of someone entering the tower on their own to wind the clock or access the roof. All agreed that the lone working policy and risk assessment should be examined and updated if necessary, as soon as possible.

Ruth thanked the providers of all the additional reports included in the annual report. She also said, thanks were due for all the work that goes in, often unnoticed, by so many people across the breadth of church life. There were no matters arising from the additional reports.

15. Date, time and place of next AMP and APCM

Ruth suggested the 11th May 2025 in church after the Sunday morning service.

Ruth thanked everyone for attending the meeting and advised that a meeting of the new PCC to elect officers would follow immediately.

The meeting closed with The Grace.