

## **St Chad's Church, Ladybarn.**

### **Minutes of the Vestry and Annual General Meetings**

**Sunday 28 April 2019**

#### **The Vestry Meeting, 26 people present**

The meeting opened with a short prayer led by Jenny Black while awaiting Mark Hewerdine's arrival to take the chair.

**Apologies:** Apologies were received from Shannon Hemmings-Faye, Robert Nicholls and Lewis Oliver

**Recorder:** It was proposed by Mark Hewerdine, seconded by Opal Walsh and agreed unanimously, that Leslie Fletcher should act as recorder for the meetings.

**Minutes of the Last Meeting:** It was proposed by Leslie Bell, seconded by Barbara Purvis and agreed unanimously, that the draft minutes of the 2018 Vestry Meeting be accepted.

**Churchwardens:** Jenny Black and Trena Radcliffe were elected unanimously as churchwardens for the coming year.

Mark Hewerdine thanked the churchwardens for their support of him, the congregation and the parish throughout the year.

This concluded the meeting.

#### **The 95<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting,**

The Reverend Mark Hewerdine, Rector, chaired the meeting.

**Attendance:** 26

1. **Minutes of the previous AGM held on 22 April 2017.** It was proposed by Jenny Black, seconded by Judy Fletcher and accepted unanimously, that the draft minutes of the 2018 AGM be accepted.
2. **Matters Arising:** There were no matters arising not dealt with later in the agenda.
3. **Elections and appointments**
  1. **Election of PCC members:** Leslie Bell, Leslie Fletcher, Cemil Egili, Eric Leary, Abhi Masih and Robert Nicholls were elected to the PCC;
  2. **Appointment of sidespersons:** Five persons were appointed sidespersons;
  3. **Appointment of Independent Examiner:** It was proposed by Mark Hewerdine, seconded by Jenny Black and agreed unanimously, that the appointment of an Independent Examiner be left to the PCC.
4. Reports
  1. **Revised Electoral Roll:** Leslie Fletcher reported that, in line with the rules of the Church of England, the Electoral Roll had been completely revised in the period leading up to this meeting. There are 58 names on the revised Electoral Roll, of whom 16 live outside the parish.
  2. **Proceedings of the PCC and the activities of the parish generally over the year:** Mark Hewerdine reminded the meeting that the PCC's responsibilities as trustees require the lengthy formal report; he commended the shorter and more informal report and the appendix reporting on the activities of church groups. He thanked the PCC for their focus throughout the year on the Anglican Five Marks of

Mission, hoping that wider congregation would appreciate the importance of this. Throughout the year the parish's finances had needed regular scrutiny and hoped that everyone would read carefully the annual financial report.

In questions which followed, the lack of a service at St Chad's on the recent Good Friday was raised. Following some discussion Mark Hewerdine confirmed that there would be a Good Friday service at St Chad's in 2020. *This was, of course, overtaken by the closure of all church buildings as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.*

On finance Mark Hewerdine explained that Muriel Hargreaves had prepared the 2018 accounts, currently under discussion, and that Leslie Bell would prepare them in 2019. This transfer of responsibilities had been overseen by Jenny Black; Mark Hewerdine offered his thanks to all those involved.

Jenny Black reported that income in 2019 had increased from 2018 but we are very dependent on Hall rentals. The PCC had made paying the Parish Share in full and on time a priority. Overall the financial position was sound.

Trena Radcliffe thanked those who had helped maintain the fabric of the church building. Mark Hewerdine thanked her and the Friday Group for their contribution to the much-praised feel of the building.

- 5. Parish safeguarding officer:** To fulfil the legal requirement to do so, Mark Hewerdine read to the meeting St Chad's Safeguarding Policy. Again, as legally required, he told the meeting that a safeguarding concern raised recently had been discussed with the Diocesan Safeguarding Officer. The necessary actions had been taken.
- 6. Incumbent's report and forward look** Mark Hewerdine began by offering his thanks to all who had helped maintain the vitality of St Chad's throughout 2018.
  - 1. Review of the year's worship, ministry and mission** Mark Hewerdine offered particular thanks to Canon Radcliffe and Helen Reid for the help they had given in maintaining the worship at St Chad's but reminded us that we all have ministries. It is important for all to approach worship with prayer and imagination. We should broaden our imaginations, remembering that God may have other plans for us.
  - 2. Remodelling the church building.** We have set out what needs to be done to improve the building's usefulness in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century while maintaining its primary function as a place of worship. Consultations with architects have given us options to discuss and identified what needs to be done in order to give us, by the end of this calendar year, a picture of "This is what the remodelled church would look like." Preparation of grant applications has begun. He expressed the hope that building work would begin in 2020. *This was, of course, overtaken by the closure of all church buildings as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.*
- 7. Any other business:** Mark Hewerdine reiterated his earlier thanks to all who had helped maintain the vitality of St Chad's throughout 2018. Jenny Black offered the meeting's thanks to Mark for his ministry here; this was met with applause.
- 8. Proposed date of next meetings:** Sunday 19 April 2020 *This was, of course, overtaken by the closure of all church buildings as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.*
- 9.** The meeting ended with closing prayers and the Grace at 13.20.