

**PARISH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE. BOLNEY**  
**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING, HELD ON 23rd APRIL 2018**

The meeting was chaired by the Incumbent, Father Keith Littlejohn, and attended by Father Martin, Reverend Ruth Bond and 10 parishioners.

**1. Apologies for Absence.**

Apologies were received from Linda Barker, Emily Hutchings, Peta Pratt, Rodney Pratt and Judy Woodland.

**2. Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church meeting held on 27th March 2017**

These were accepted as a true record.

**3. Matters Arising.**

There were no matters arising.

**4. Annual Reports.**

Most of the reports had been made available to members of the congregation prior to the meeting and were not read out. The Reports Document is attached (Appendix 1)

The reports, having been read in advance, questions and comments were invited.

**1. Churchwardens**

**Report attached.**

Father Keith thanked Sue and Tim for all they did as churchwardens.

**2. PCC Secretary**

**Report attached**

There was a discussion about the new data protection rules (GDPR). One parishioner did not want to sign as they disagreed with the process. A question was asked about replying by email to give consent but Claire said the C of E seemed to be wanting consent forms signed and Sue Ayres said we did not have email contacts for these recipients. Thanks were given to Claire for all she had done regarding GDPR.

**3. PCC Treasurer**

**Report attached.**

Tim Hutchings said that 2016 -17 had been an unusual year re grants and the capital budget. This year was more normal and we will probably looking to make a very small loss. PGS was going well with 17 regular subscribers. He reminded parishioners to encourage others to go onto PGS. Tim explained that contactless giving is being trialled by the C of E in some parishes and is an excellent idea for giving.

Thanks were given to Tim. Tim also recorded thanks to Brian Cook who does the book keeping for us.

**4. Electoral Roll Officer**

**Report attached.**

Sue Ayres reported there are currently 81 members on the roll. An amended roll was prepared in 2013 and this remains valid until 2019.

This year there has been two new applicants and one deletion. Of the 81 members 64 are resident within the parish and 17 non-resident. Thanks were expressed to Carole Wood who has been Electoral Roll Officer for many years. Sue has now taken over this position.

## **5. Deanery Synod Representative**

### **Report attached**

Fr. Keith reminded us that anyone can go to these meetings.

## **6. Children's work**

Father Keith thanked Peter for all he does for our children with Young Pilgrims. Fr. Keith had read in the Church Times recently that a significant number of churches had no children attending and that we are very fortunate to have Peter and his co workers and our children. We are, and should be continuing to encourage young people to be fully part of the church through, reading, taking up the bread and wine, serving coffee etc.

## **7. Safeguarding Officer**

### **Report attached**

Peter reiterated the importance of Safeguarding. He said everyone on the PCC should ideally do the level one (C1) safeguarding course (can be done online). Claire reminded everyone that there was a link to the Diocese's Safeguarding Website on our Church website.

## **8. Bolney-CEP School**

### **Report attached**

Fr. Keith said we are very conscious of trying to bridge the gap between school and church. St Peter's (Cowfold) had a family 'Short and Sweet' service with about 50-60 people attending. He felt however that there was a different feeling in Bolney to Cowfold and that we need discernment on how to draw families fully into the sacramental life of the church here. He is thinking of a more family friendly Eucharist for St Mary Magdalene Church but not by duplicating family worship at St Peter's.

Peter said he knows of children from school who would like to come to church but don't because their parents don't want to come. Fr. Keith said it was good that our focus is on children and we should continue at PCC to form a plan/strategy appointed by God.

## **9. Monday Group**

### **Report attached**

Tony reported this was found to be a safe place to ask challenging questions. He reminded parishioners that it is not a closed group but is for anyone who wants to learn more and to grow. Thanks were given to Tony for all he does.

## **10. Tower Bell Ringers**

### **Report attached**

Martin Burgess commented that the bell ringers are hoping for two younger ringers to join.

## **11. Parish Magazine**

### **Report attached.**

Sue thanked Linda Foster for her time she generously gives to distribute the delivery of the parish magazine. There are presently 220 magazines delivered. Tim reported that income through subscriptions and advertising was £2267 and our costs are £1496.

## **5. Nominations for, and election of, representatives to serve on the Parochial Church Council and the Deanery Synod.**

### **Election to the Parochial Church Council and Re election to the Parochial Church Council.**

**There were no elections required this year however we still have four vacant places.** Secretary Mrs Claire George (*elected 2017*), Safeguarding Officer Mr Peter Sutton (*elected 2017*), Mrs Janice Warren (*elected 2017*), Mr Martin Burgess (*elected 2016*), Mr John Allen (*elected 2017*).

## **Election to the Deanery Synod**

**There were no elections required this year.**

Deanery Synod Representative Mrs Peta Pratt (*elected 2017*) e.o

Deanery Synod Representative Mr Rodney Pratt (*elected 2017*) e.o

## **6. Election of auditor to the PCC**

Tim explained we have an independent examiner - Susannah Bowen.

Tim proposed her re election and Tony Bond seconded,

## **7. Any Other Business**

None

## **8. Incumbent's Report**

### **Report attached in the Reports Document item 8 (Appendix 1)**

Fr. Keith reported that had been gentle growth in the last year. Five people had been confirmed. The website is being a real benefit.

He announced that at the 'Breathing Space' (third Sunday of the month service) in May a colleague of Martyn Belsey will be filming worship at Breathing Space in May. Fr Keith will ask for volunteers to witness, on camera, why they enjoy worship at St Mary Magdalene. This will be added to the website in due course.

He said a big thing this year had been in welcoming Tony Bond (as our first ever reader) and to the Rev. Ruth Bond. We are blessed to have them with us. Tony said they had had a fantastic welcome and gave thanks to everyone.

Fr. Keith gave thanks to Fr. Martin for all that he does. He asked us to pray for Father Martin as we are going to appeal to Archdeacon Fiona that he can continue to be with us beyond the four years ministry he has had with us already.

Margaret Burgess asked that recorded thanks went to Martyn Belsey (our organist) for all he does.

Fr. Martin gave thanks to Fr. Keith for sharing his ministry in a very generous way. Also thanks to Rev Ruth and for Tony. Tony then said he knew Rev. Ruth ( who had had to leave earlier in the meeting) would like to give her thanks to all too.

The APCM ended with prayer and closed at 8.15 pm

Signed ...

Father Keith Littlejohn.

Claire George PCC Secretary 26th April 2018