

St Andrews Church, Chesterton

Annual Meeting of Parishioners

Sunday 30th April 2006

Present: about 60 parishioners and clergy.

1. Election of two Churchwardens.
 - 1.1 There were two nominations for the post of churchwardens, Mary Pountain and John Reynolds. As there were no other nominations, they were elected unopposed.

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1. Minutes of the meeting of 10th April 2005.
 - 1.1. These were circulated and accepted as a true record of the meeting – proposed by Nicholas Bull, seconded by Patricia Abrey. James signed a copy of the report.
2. Electoral roll
 - 2.1. Margaret Partridge reported that there were 178 people on the electoral roll to date. On the 10th April 2005 there had been 182, of whom 9 had left the parish, 3 had died; 8 people had joined since last year.
 - 2.2. James commented that the electoral roll was a rather poor record of active membership, and suggested it should be reviewed by the PCC, to consider who might be encouraged to add their names to the roll.
3. Annual report on the PCC and parish generally.
 - 3.1. James circulated some copies of his report. He began by saying that this would be the last APCM he would lead. He commented that during his years at St Andrew's he had enjoyed church meetings, which he believed were full of love, hope and laughter, and thanked the parishioners for this.
 - 3.2. James had been sad to say goodbye to our curate, Helen Dawes, in the autumn and informed the PCC that she was getting on well in her new parish, having drawn much from her experiences at St. Andrew's.
 - 3.3. He is also sad to be saying farewell to Liv Lazarus, who he believed had helped us to turn outward as a church, partly through her work with Wintercomfort. He thanked Liv for her contributions, and a presentation of a card and gift was made.
 - 3.4. James very much welcomed working with Antje Schwartz, and the new ideas she brought, and was pleased to report that she would complete her year with St Andrew's, thus remaining after James' departure in September.
 - 3.5. James believed that the church had had another good year, and that, with the help of St Andrew's Hall, we were making more links with the local community. Also we were beginning to look at our environmental responsibilities as a church, and had recently appointed a Green Officer, Lynda Taylor.
 - 3.6. Finally, James commented that many individuals were responsible for the success of each service and the church in general, and wished to thank everyone for their hard work.
4. Financial statements.
 - 4.1. Simon displayed some figures showing both current and capital expenditure, making the distinction between the two funds. These showed that there was a

- deficit of only £700 on a current expenditure of around £80,000, which he believed was a very good position. He explained that the vast majority of the current expenditure came from donations, and thanked everyone for their contributions. It was pointed out that people also donated much of their time.
- 4.2. Capital expenditure had included work on mending the vestry door, the fire alarm, mending of the churchyard wall, woodworm treatment and floodlight repair. This had been balanced almost exactly by the capital income, including the regular donation from the Friends of St Andrew's, for which Simon was very grateful.
 - 4.3. Simon also displayed a graph showing month by month giving, which indicated a slight rise through the year 2005. He commented that next year our parish share (giving) would increase by £2500, and that he had budgeted for a total extra £3500 of current expenditure compared to last year.
 - 4.4. Finally Simon wished to record his thanks to Peter and Jean Welham, who helped him out regularly in cashing in parish money from collections etc.
 - 4.5. James thanked Simon warmly for his hard work on our behalf.
5. Report on fabric, goods and ornaments.
 - 5.1. John reported that repairs had been made to the pews and communion rails in the south aisle. These had been paid with the money from the Friends of St Andrews, and he too thanked them for their support.
 - 5.2. The quinquennial review had highlighted a few areas needing attention – largely repointing, which could be quite costly. Also the internal timber joists were beginning to rot and the Finance and Buildings Group were treating this as a priority. Also, the electrics need to be checked out.
 - 5.3. John pointed out that organising the building review and ensuing repairs was very time-consuming, and wished to thank Margaret Partridge for her help with this.
 6. Deanery/Area Synod report.
 - 6.1. Ruth Jones, the elected member from St Andrews, reported on a recent meeting of the North Cambridge Deanery Synod, which was concerned with housing and homelessness in Cambridge. James had been one of the speakers, to relate our links with Wintercomfort.
 7. Elections to Deanery Synod
 - 7.1. Ruth Jones told the meeting that she would like to stand again, and was duly re-elected.
 8. Elections to the PCC
 - 8.1. James reported that there were eight vacancies on the PCC, and eight nominations. He invited Margaret to read out the names of those already serving, and the nominees, all of whom were unanimously elected. The new members are: Dr Ellen Nisbet, Mrs Pam Lumsden, Dr Lynda Taylor, Mrs Lyn Carr, Mr Richard Collins, Mrs Alicia Bailey, Mr Nigel Taylor and Mrs Jean Sanderson.
 9. Appointment of sidespersons
 - 9.1. Margaret read out a list of those who had agreed to be on the rota from May 2006.

- 9.2. Margaret asked us to elect these people, and to allow the Churchwardens to coopt further sidespersons as needed. These motions were unanimously agreed.
10. Appointment of independent examiner or auditor to PCC.
- 10.1. Simon hoped that Roger Hall would continue in this post, and it was unanimously agreed that he should be asked to do so.
11. Report on St Andrew's Hall
- 11.1. Eleanor Whalley, the Hall Administrator, reported on the progress of the Hall. She began by thanking everyone in St Andrew's for their welcome and support.
- 11.2. Eleanor showed some statistics on the bookings – so far 8 groups had come from the Chesterton community, 20 from the wider community (including various courses), there had been 9 private bookings and 4 from commercial groups. The church was also making use of the Hall for various meetings and groups, some of which (Church Mice, the Coffee Morning, the Garden team, and the lunch provided after the Tuesday Communion) she highlighted as serving as good links with the local community. She reported that the University of the Third Age had booked a number of events, including five new courses, which could make special use of the Hall's facilities.
- 11.3. Linda Stollwerck-Boulton, the Hall Treasurer, circulated some detailed accounts. She pointed out that the Hall was the biggest financial project of the PCC, and the accounts had been separate from the PCC accounts since 2004.
- 11.4. Linda informed us that the Section 106 agreement money from the Council (£256,000) was due to arrive by the end of the week, which would enable us to pay back the temporary loan from the Diocese; this effectively means that the Hall will have been paid for, with no outstanding debt, which should be viewed as a major achievement. In fact, with the money raised from donations and fund-raising, and the sale of the Old Hall, the PCC has £100,000 left over, which will help in maintaining the Hall until it can pay its own way.
- 11.5. Linda displayed the income and expenditure, and a balance sheet showing assets and liabilities to the end of 2005. She also showed the budget for 2006, which predicted a shortfall of £11,000, which could be paid by the PCC. Simon commented that such a deficit in the first year or two had been expected all along. However, Linda was pleased that the Hall was already making more money than originally envisaged at this stage, and she believed the outlook was good. James commented that it was hoped that the Hall would be breaking even by the end of the year.
- 11.6. Linda thanked Simon for his help in managing the accounts, and also Eleanor and the Hall Management Group for their support.
- 11.7. Jan Payne thanked Eleanor for her work and her friendly welcome at all times; she also thanked James and Helen for all their efforts in making the Hall happen in the first place. Eleanor also thanked James for his very effective Chairmanship of the Hall Management Committee.

12. Any other business

12.1. Mary proposed a vote of thanks to the clergy team – James, Dorothy, Antje, Lorna, Jan, and Liv for their excellent preaching and pastoral care.

The meeting ended with the Grace

The date of the next meeting of the PCC is Monday 15th May at 7.30 for 7.45 in the Hall.