

Parish of Capel and Ockley
St John the Baptist and St Margaret's
Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Sunday 18 October 2020, 11.30am at St John's Capel

Present: The Revd. Liz Richardson (Chairman) and 21 parishioners

Apologies for Absence: Stuart and Suzanne Cole.

Liz Richardson opened the meeting with prayer

Meeting of the Parishioners

Election of Churchwardens - Capel and Ockley:

Nominee	Proposed	Seconder
Norman Ede	Jessie Sutcliffe	Shirley Dean Webster
Joy Harman	Jessie Sutcliffe	Shirley Dean Webster

Revd Liz paid tribute to Shirley Dean Webster who is retiring as a churchwarden at this APCM. She gave her thanks for her long years of service - 18 at the last count! Shirley was presented with a special photo album as a gift from the parish with a covering letter of thanks from Gordon Lee-Steere that was read to the meeting. The photo album includes an illustration by Diane Buckley Sander. This will be in a forthcoming book where 10% of the royalties will be given to St Margaret's. It is hoped that there will be many more additions to Shirley's photo album to come.

Shirley will join a church warden team at St Margaret's consisting of Helen Burt, Wendy Goddard, And Margaret Zandona who will work with the two churchwardens to oversee the church in Ockley.

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Any other Business: Dineke van den Bogerd informed the meeting that the church's Facebook page now has 150 followers, many of whom are not regular church goers. She asked that everyone keep sending her information to put on the Facebook page to keep it interesting and up to date.

Minutes of last APCM on 24 March 2019 at St Margaret's Ockley: It was agreed that they were a correct record; Proposed by Debbie von Bergen and seconded Margaret Zandona; all agreed. There were no matters arising.

Vicar's Report: The Vicar's report for 2019 had been circulated to everyone by email with the annual report. Since the report had been written the world and everything we know had changed. Little did we realise that within weeks the church would be closed, most celebrations, weddings and baptisms etc would be put on hold and funerals severely limited in number. During this time, we have lost a number of well-known members of the congregation - Mary Ede, Peter Ede, Neville Jolly, Neville Clifford Jones and Gillian Ashwood. We hope to be able to celebrate their lives properly when restrictions are lifted.

We have all missed being able to sing together but there have been some joys, hearing the choir sing, having Café church outside at the Crown, and the beautiful Harvest flowers.

Whilst the Covid restrictions have been in place we have been able to take the time to improve the structure of both the churches. Capel has a new lighting system and work continues on the boundary wall, and Ockley has managed to replace their boiler so everyone should be much warmer this winter.

Online services during lockdown have been a steep learning curve, many thanks go to Dik, Dineke, Claire, Bob and others for their hard work in putting them together for everyone's benefit.

Covid has made Revd Liz's ministry much harder as the restrictions have stopped much of her normal visiting to hospitals, care homes and people living on their own. The saving grace has been Zoom which we have all become accustomed to.

As the pandemic continues the finances of both the world and our churches have been difficult. The Diocese has had to take out loans to cover its expenses. We are still able to pay our Parish Share, and Revd Liz paid tribute to all those who give so generously to the Parish. The crisis has, however, shown up the fact that with 16,000 churches in the UK and not many young people joining congregations, the expectation of a church in every parish in the foreseeable future is probably untenable. It is important for all parishes to 'think outside the box' and look again at how the church buildings maybe used for other community services. Revd Liz will be speaking to Ockley Parish Council about this soon.

During the summer a new Arch Deacon, Peter Nevins, was appointed for Dorking. Helen Burt sits as a lay member on the Dorking Deanery Leadership Team.

Revd Liz concluded by thanking the churchwardens for all their hard work, everyone in the congregation and Doug. 'We are afflicted but not crushed'.

Electoral Roll: There were 105 on the Electoral Roll at the start of the year but we are now down to 99.

The Annual Reports had been circulated and accepted.

Financial Reports: Debbie von Bergen presented the consolidated accounts for Capel and Ockley which were adopted by the meeting. Proposer: Alan Smallwood, Seconder: Eric Sutcliffe. The accounts were duly signed and dated.

Annual Fabric reports: David Silliman and the rest of the Capel building committee were thanked for all their hard work, and the Friends of Capel church were thanked for their generous donation to the lighting project. At Ockley, the Friends of Ockley church were thanked for their fundraising for the new boiler.

Deanery Synod Report: The vicar gave her thanks to Graham Everness who is the lay Deanery Chair who was present at the meeting.

St John's Group of Artists has a new organizer, Yvonne Featherstone. The vicar thanked Jessie Sutcliffe for all her hard work.

InSpire was praised for having been so 'inspiring' during the crisis.

Capel Village Magazine: Barbara Grundy and Pamela Cuthbert have decided to step down at the end of 2020, after many years of producing the magazine. It is hoped that the magazine will continue in hard copy.

Ecochurch: This active group will be working on new initiatives over the winter.

Election of PCC members: Leigh de Souza was proposed by Dineke van den Bogerd seconded by Margaret Zandona. Margaret Zandona was proposed by Joy Harman and seconded by Debbie von Bergen. All agreed.

Appointment of Sidesmen:

Ockley	Capel
Helen Burt	Doug Richardson
James Burt	Norman Ede
Sally Calvert	Peter Bradley

Gordon Lee-Steere	Joy Harman
Susan Pickard	David Silliman
Veryan Pryke	Carol Cobb
Judie Thorold-Futers	Suzanne Cole
Buzz Warner	John Ashwood

The above were proposed by Sylvie Beckett seconded Dik Hoogmoed. Unanimously approved.

Appointment of Independent Examiner: Samantha Edgington was proposed by Shirley Dean Webster, seconded by Debbie von Bergen. Unanimously approved. A huge thank you was expressed to Samantha for all her time given so freely.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 12.12 with a blessing.

DvB