

Parish of St Nicolas Great Bookham  
Annual Meeting of Parishioners  
on  
Monday 17 April 2023

**DRAFT MINUTES**

Present: The Chair: The Rector Alan Jenkins and 50 parishioners.

1. The Rector welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending the meeting. He opened the meeting with some thoughts on the parable of the mustard seed (Mark 4:30-32), followed by prayer.
  2. **Apologies for Absence**  
Apologies have been received from Bill Hibbert, Angela Ireland, David Ireland, Daphne Leith, Peter Leith Tim Reeder, Di Reeder, Sue Wall and Valerie Wilson.
  3. **Approval of the Minutes of the meeting held on 9 May 2022**  
The minutes were approved.
  4. **Election of Churchwardens**  
Joy Lord was proposed by Heather Gerrard and seconded by Amanda Rowland.  
Heather Gerrard was proposed by Valerie Lambert and seconded by Carole Vaux.  
Both nominations were approved.  
  
Alan thanked the churchwardens for their hard work over the past year. He thanked Catherine Jager retiring as churchwarden after 4 years' service, which included the challenges of the pandemic and then the building work.
  5. **Any Other Business**  
None.
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# Annual Parochial Church Meeting

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## DRAFT MINUTES

1. **Apologies for Absence**

As above.

2. **Confirmation of the Minutes of the meeting held on 9 May 2022**

The minutes were approved, after correcting Carole Vaux's name on page 2 in the 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph.

3. **Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 9 May 2022**

None.

4. **Election of Lay Representatives**

a. **Conduct of Ballot**

All nominations were elected, without a ballot being required.

b. **Election of the laity to the Parochial Church Council (7 vacancies)**

David Barnes was proposed by David Wall, and seconded by David King.

Anne Shears was proposed by Joy Lord, and seconded by Heather Gerrard.

Angela Stevens was proposed by Stephanie Tod, and seconded by Tina Lamborn.

Peter Evans was proposed by Jill Barrett, and seconded by Joy Lord.

Jan Williamson was proposed by Heather Gerrard, and seconded by Richard Scrase.

c. **Election of up to four members of the laity to the Deanery Synod**

Clare Curran was proposed by Catherine Jager, and seconded by Heather Gerrard.

Heather Gerrard was proposed by Carole Vaux, and seconded by Amanda Rowland.

Amanda Rowland was proposed by Catherine Jager, and seconded by Heather Gerrard.

The Rector thanked for their service those who were retiring from the PCC: Chris Bridges, Valerie Goode (retired in January 2023) and Nick Garrett, and retiring Deanery Synod Representatives: Chris Holloway, Peter Lomax and Tristan Stone.

5. **Reports from the Parochial Church Council**

a. **Electoral Roll Report;**

There are 238 on the Electoral Roll.

6 names have been removed and 5 names have been added.

b. **Report on the Proceedings of the PCC**

The PCC met 8 times during the year (6 regular meetings and 2 due to the building project) and average attendance was 70% of the membership. A report of the meetings is printed in the church magazine.

It was queried whether a copy of the PCC minutes ought to be displayed in the church. (The Church Representation Rules do not require this, but do require notice of the PCC meeting to be available.)

c. **Trustees Report and Financial Statements;**

It was noted that on page 9 'Deputy Churchwardens' should be changed to 'Assistant Churchwardens'.

Nick thanked everyone for their financial contribution to the church's work. There had been a generous response to the stewardship campaign. From the deficit forecast for the end of 2022 of £20k, we had a surplus of £2.3k in the General Fund at the end of the year.

The expenditure on the Building for the Future project had been covered by our Vision and legacy fund balances, in addition to generous grants and gifts.

Nick thanked Anne and Keith Salmon, who were retiring after many years of service managing Gift Aid and weekly cash collections.

Alan on behalf of the meeting thanked Nick for his work and Peter Lomax for his support. Alan said we are looking for a new Treasurer, and we are considering how we can redesign the role and possibly consider paying someone for one part of it, as increasingly the role requires someone who is a qualified accountant.

It was proposed by Nick Garrett and seconded by Catherine Jager that the annual accounts be adopted, and the proposal was unanimously carried.

d. **Churchwardens' Fabric Report;**

Catherine presented this report. She said how much she had enjoyed getting to know more members of the congregation during her time as churchwarden, and appreciated how much work was done behind the scenes.

Catherine thanked Neil McDonald, David Wall and David Barnes for their work managing the Building for the Future project and for their achievement in delivering the work on time and within budget. She also thanked the sidesmen and welcomers and Vicki Dixon (the rota co-ordinator) for their flexibility as we adapted post covid. Catherine recognised the reliability of the team who open and close the church, and lastly, she expressed her gratitude to her fellow churchwardens.

e. **Deanery Synod Report;**

Alan thanked Clare Curran for a very helpful and comprehensive report. He encouraged anyone who might consider being a Deanery Synod Representative to come forward.

6. **Other Reports**

a. **Report of Church Groups and Activities;**

A report had been compiled for the APCM showing the wide range of church groups and activities. Alan thanked everyone who had contributed.

b. **Families and Children's Minister Report;**

Celeste continued Alan's theme of sowing seeds, and said the focus of the work had been going into the community. Work within local schools has been expanded, and Celeste has been leading Rhyme Time in Bookham library. She has been asked by local organisations such as Beavers about visiting the church. GLOW on Sunday mornings and Tots Alive

continue, as well as Family Fun initiatives. The work was growing and there was a need for more help.

c. **Rector's Report;**

Alan recognised 2 transitions during the past year – moving on from Covid restrictions and completion of the Building for the Future project. He thanked Simon Phillips for his foundational work on the plans, and Neil McDonald, David Barnes and David Wall for managing the project.

Alan reminded us of Phase 2 of the BftF project and hoped that at some time in the future we would have the resources in finances and in energy to embark on Phase 2.

Alan thanked the PCC, the Pastoral team, the Ministry team and all those involved in our services. He also thanked the Safeguarding team. He welcomed Gill Caldwell as our curate, and explained that Tristan Stone has left to take a new post at Leatherhead Parish Church. He thanked Heather Gerrard and Jan Williamson for joining the Pastoral Team, and he expressed his gratitude to the wardens.

Alan referred to the debate on on-line church vs church meeting in person, and said we are very grateful to Heather Gerrard and Nick Garrett for continuing to provide an on-line service week by week.

With reference to the Living in Love and Faith debate in the Church of England, Alan proposes to provide an update at a meeting on 11 June 2023 after the 10 am church service.

Alan reminded us that he will take Extended Ministerial Leave this year.

He concluded with 2 principles that he strongly advocates – one was collaborative leadership and secondly a body of believers where each exercises the gifts which God has given them.

7. **Appointment of an independent examiner for 2023**

Nick proposed and Chris Turner seconded the proposal that we appoint Aidan Crilly as independent examiner for 2023. This was approved unanimously.

8. **Any Other Business**

Chris Collins asked whether our service might be moved to a later time to help older people to attend, who found 10 am was too early. Alan said he would give some consideration to this possibility, perhaps for the Thursday service.