**All Saints, Malvern Wells & Wyche Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

Sunday 16th April 2023

APCM

At All Saints at 10am

**Present:** Sarah Yeadon, Peter Yeadon, Jean Williams, Patience Broad, Robin Broad, Suli Pallett, Margaret Buchanan, Peter Buchanan, Ken Beecroft, Andy Green, Janet Finch, Janet Simmonds, Revd. Geoff Vevers, Lois Jones, Joan Westbury, Diane Southall, Joanne Spencer, Revd. Dave Bruce, Bea Magowan, Paul Soyhern, Les Hammond, Helen Rhodes, Revd. Paul Hunt, Diana Hunt, Carol Wilson, Martyn Wilson, Liz Sauders, Kathleen Horwood, Angela Davison, Noel Goodwin, Kay ?, Denise Ditchburn, Revd. Helen Wilkinson, Andew Crumpler, Brian Rhodes, Sylvia Miles, Margaret Smith

**Apologies**: Dawn Hatch, Derek Sheldon, Shirley Sheldon, June Vevers, Keith Jones, Susan Crumpler.

**Meeting of the Parishioners**

*For those on the electoral roll or who are resident in the Parish of All Saints. Others may be present as observers.*

**1. Apologies for absence** as above

**2. Election of Churchwardens**

Patience Broad is stepping down as Churchwarden this year. She has been such an amazing help over the past three years and Dave is so grateful for her wisdom and ability to get things done. Patience will be remaining on the PCC and continue to help with matters concerning the church. She was presented with some flowers and responded with thanks.

**Sarah Yeadon** has agreed to stand as a new churchwarden this year.

Proposed by Patience Broad, seconded by Janet Finch and all in favour.

**Janet Finch** is standing for a further year. Proposed by Patience Broad, seconded by Joanne Spencer and all in favour.

**Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

*For those on the electoral roll. Others may be present as observers.*

**1. Apologies for absence** as above.

**2. Minutes of the APCM held 27th March 2022**

These were approved as a correct record.

**3. Matters Arising.** There were none.

**4. Reflections on our ministry and mission across the parish in 2022 and looking ahead.**

This report was delivered in parts throughout the service and meeting, but consolidated here for simplicity.

Dave reported that we have much to give thanks for over the past year.

* **Alpha Course –** a video report from Colin Robbins about the success of the course last year including a testimony from one of its participants.
* **People –** we said goodbye to Peter Myres, our curate, and many of us attended his induction at his new church in Poole and we give thanks for Geoff Vevers who has stepped into the role of leader in charge at All Saints. Dave also thanked the many others who have roles of responsibility at All Saints and who have kept things running so smoothly.

The cost of living crisis has affected many of us and CAP (Christians Against Poverty) has never been so busy. Denise Ditchburn took over the leadership of our CAP centre in Malvern and Ledbury in the past year and we praise God that he called Denise to this post. Denise spoke about her role and thanked those who had come forward to help as befrienders or who have given financial support. The job can be stressful, unpicking years of addiction, trauma, fear and anxiety. It is messy and Denise referred to Ephesians 6:10 (… put on the full armour of God so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes...). Denise does this every day for her clients but she needs more support. Please speak to her if you are interested.

* **Octagon Ministries: Community Pantry and the Coffee Shop** run by teams of helpers from both churches to support families as well as older members of the community.
* **Holiday @ Home:** a mission to reach out to the more senior members of the parish. Patience, Angela and Rosemary have all done a wonderful job organising meals and outings throughout the year but in 2022 they stepped down and we now turn to God to find out how we might continue to minister to this age group. Megan’s Kitchen could provide an opportunity to serve.
* **Men’s Breakfast (and more recently Ladies’ Breakfast):** a great ministry where both churches combine to socialise and welcome newcomers.
* **Schools’ mission:** All Saints’ is used by the Wyche and Malvern Wells Schools three or four times a year for special services which are well attended by parents and when the church is very full. The recent ‘Experience Easter’ was a great success. Ruth Walton has recently been appointed to support Helen with our Children and Families mission andAll Saints is a perfect venue for such events, alongside Messy Church and Toddlers, and demonstrates that significant work is being achieved with children and families here.
* **Dave’s Sabbatical:** Looking ahead, Dave feels that God is telling him this not just a time of rest for Dave but for the church too. He urged us to rest, recharge, celebrate and enjoy each other's company. In so doing:
* **God will strengthen us**
* **Christ will dwell in or hearts**
* **Our faith will be deepened even further**
* **We will be rooted and established in love**
* **We will know how wide, long, high and deep the love of God is**

On Dave’s return, we will be overflowing with the Holy Spirit and ready to be sent out to help in the flourishing of our communities.

How do we achieve this?

* **We keep on connecting with God through scripture**
* **We keep on praying together**
* **We keep on worshipping**
* **We keep on loving each other**
* **We keep on being open to the Holy Spirit**

Exodus 14:14: The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still.

Dave senses that God has great plans for us in the coming two years.

**5. Electoral Roll Report.** Sarah Yeadon reported at the last APCM that there were 53 people registered on the Electoral Roll. We have since lost two members and gained three, so as of April 1st, the number on roll is 54. The updated Electoral Roll is available to be viewed at the back of the church and is open to new applicants. Please see Sarah if you wish to apply.

**6. Financial Report**

* **Annual accounts for 2022 for approval .** These had been circulated in advance. At the start of the year, a significant deficit had been forecast, but by the end of the year, we had a surplus of £15,000. This was largely due to a reduction in the Ministry Share and the fact that we did not appoint the staff we had expected to appoint. Looking ahead, the finances remain uncertain and a deficit of £1,500 is predicted.

There were no questions.

Paul thanked Jacqui, Jean and Patience, who approve everything that he does as Treasurer.

The accounts were unanimously receivedand Paul was thanked for his tireless efforts.

* **Appointment of Independent Examiner.**  Paul Southern proposed that once again, Paul Lythgoe be appointed for a further year as Independent Examiner; Patience Broad seconded and all were in favour.

**7. Receiving the Annual Report, which lays out the ministry and mission across the parish.**

The Annual Report is a great advertisement of all that we do across our churches. Please hand it out to people and also use it as a stimulus for prayer. Thank you Liz for putting this together.

There were no questions. The report was received unanimously.

**8. Safeguarding update.**  Sarah Yeadon reported that the PCC has complied with its duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops’ Safeguarding Policy nd Practice Guidance. The parish is now mostly compliant with the Church of England requirements. All required documents and procedures are in place, alongside good practice. The final elements of the new Safer Recruitment Guidance are in the process of being implemented. However, we still have a duty to be vigilant and to report any safeguarding issues which concern us. Please speak to Dave Bruce, Val Fane (our Safeguarding Officer), Liz Saunders or myself if you have any concerns.

**9. Elections and appointments:**

**a) Deanery Synod representatives.** There are two vacancies and two nominations:

**- Angela Davison** proposed by June Vevers and seconded by Diana Hunt

**- Peter Buchanan** proposed by Peter Yeadon and seconded by Janet Simmonds

**b) PCC Members.** There are 6 vacancies and 5 nominations:

**- Andrew Crumpler** proposed by June Vevers and seconded by Andrew Green

**- Andrew Green** proposed by Janet Finch and seconded by Andrew Crumpler

**- Paul Southern** proposed by Ken Beecroft and seconded by June Vevers

**- Patience Broad** proposed by Carol Wilson and seconded by Sarah Yeadon

**- Kathleen Horwood** proposed by Janet Simmonds and seconded by Margaret Buchanan

All were unanimously approved.

There is one more vacancy which it is hoped will be fille by Karen Enwright. As she is new to All Saints, Karen will need to be co-opted on to the PCC for 6 months before being voted in.

**c) Deputy Wardens.** Andrew Crumpler and Paul Southern agreed to continue in this unofficial role.

**10. AOB**

**a) Megan’s Kitchen.** Paul Southern reported that since the last update, the Diocesan committee was unhappy that the kitchen design allowed access to children. So the plans were changed to include lockable gates and a larger, longer work surface (including our two rolling cupboards) . This means that there is increased storage space and the overhead cupboards in the original design are no longer needed. The font will be moved to the front and Andy’s sound desk will be fixed centrally at the back of the church. So there will no longer be a sound desk on the right hand side as we walk in to church, which will open up the church space.

The plans are now ready to submit to apply for a faculty. Following this, building quotes will be sought and it is hoped that the kitchen may be completed by the end of the year.

**b) Closing words from Dave.** Jesus said ‘I don’t call you servants, I call you friends’.

Throughout what has been a challenging year, it is the support of his friends at both churches that has kept him here when there have been struggles. There are still uncertainties ahead and we must keep our eyes on Jesus.

Two years ago, Dave drew a parallel with the development of the QinetiQ building site and housing development. Some buildings have now appeared but there is still much rubble and further buildings to appear. The future mission at All Saints has changed. God is calling us to a new mission. What is going to be the stepping stone that feeds into our congregation here?

We have exciting developments on the horizon for our schools’ youth through CPAS School Ventures and Dave is reviewing our Youth Ministry in July.

We have an effective leadership team and life groups. Dave is hoping to advertise for a new Associate Minister in July and have an appointment in place by Christmas. This will be a team vicar to work across our three churches.

Following Lynne Sparkes’ retirement in January, Dave has met with St Mary’s PCC and the outcome was positive. They are wanting to explore a future involvement with St Andrew’s and All Saints so please keep praying about this.

Step into the coming year with confidence and expectation.

At the end of the meeting Geoff presented a gift to Dave from All Saints and church members laid hands on Dave as Geoff prayed for Dave and his family for protection and blessings during his sabbatical. In return, Dave prayed for All Saints church and its leadership.