

Agenda for APCM Sunday 21st May after 10am Eucharist

182nd Vestry meeting

- Apologies
- Minutes
- Matters arising
- Election of Churchwardens

103rd Annual Parochial Church Meeting

- Buzz: 'To the person next you, what have been your highlights this year at St Peter's? What have you most enjoyed? What's most given you life? (Mae)
- Minutes of Last Meeting
- Matters arising
- Thank Yous (Fr Simon)
- Election of PCC members
- Electoral Roll (Vivette)
- Financial Overview
- Financial report and annual accounts (Paul)
- Appointment of examiner for accounts (Paul)
- Fabric report (Gillian)
- Warm Welcome (Simon P)
- Safeguarding report (Jay)
- Deanery Synod (Jay)
- Vicar's Report (Fr Simon)
- The Year Ahead

ST PETER'S
DE BEAUVOIR TOWN

St Peter De Beauvoir Town
Sunday 22nd May 2022
182nd Vestry Meeting

(1) Opening, apologies and introductions

1. Fr. Simon Cuff welcomed everyone to the meeting (his first at St Peter's) and thanked them for attending. The meeting, he said, would take the form of a reflection on the previous year, and a brief look at the year ahead. No apologies for absence had been received. The meeting then opened in prayer.

(2) Minutes of the 180th Vestry Meeting

- 2.1 The minutes of the 181st vestry meeting held on Sunday 23rd May 2021 were reviewed. Their approval was proposed by Vivette Ferguson and seconded by Margaret Glover, and they were approved nem con.

(3) Matters arising

- 3.1 Gillian Borrie reminded the meeting that it had been agreed at the previous AGM that the very helpful recently produced parish profile be used more widely, possibly in the form of a booklet, and asked whether this could go back on the PCC agenda. Fr. Simon agreed, saying he had used it already, most recently to help inform candidates for the post of Musical Director, but he would also ensure it was made more visible.

(4) Election of two Churchwardens

- 4.1 The two currently serving churchwardens Mae Fredericks and Anna Dalton had indicated their willingness to stand again for office, and both were elected unopposed. Fr. Simon thanked both of them for all the work they had carried out throughout the year.

St Peter De Beauvoir Town
Sunday 22nd May 2021
101st Annual General Meeting

(1) Minutes of 100th Annual General Meeting

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Sunday 23rd May were approved.

(2) Matters arising

- 2.1 There were no matters arising other than those already scheduled for discussion.
- 2.2 Welcoming everyone, Fr. Simon said the aim was to both raise issues and to celebrate the past year's achievements as well as looking at what needed to be worked on.

(3) Election of PCC members

- 3.1 Included as ex-officio PCC members due to their other offices were the following:

- Fr. Simon as incumbent
 - Sarah Dallas as licensed lay minister
 - Paul Snow and Jeanette Wilkes as Deanery Synod representatives, being formally approved by the meeting.
- 3.2 Jacqueline Grace, Boachie Dankwah and Jane King remained as PCC members due to their length of tenure.
- 3.3 Six further nominations had been received, namely:
- Amanda Bart-Plange
 - Gillian Borrie
 - Margaret Glover
 - Kate Green
 - Lorna Whilby
 - Iris Bachmann.

All were declared elected nem con for a period of one year.

- 3.4 This left two remaining spaces on the PCC plus one vacancy for a third Deanery Synod representative.

(4) Appointment of independent examiner for 2022 accounts

- 4.1 Paul Snow reminded the meeting that the annual accounts produced each year were of necessity subject to independent examination. The 2021 accounts had been audited by Data Developments, who were associated with the software used by the church, and the process had remained smooth and represented good value for money. Paul therefore proposed that Data Developments be retained to audit the 2022 accounts. Those present formally agreed the proposal.

(5) Deanery Synod Report

- 5.1 Paul Snow, Jeannette Wilkes and (latterly) Fr. Simon's had represented St Peter's at the Deanery Synod during 2021, and Fr. Simon's written report gave an account of activities and issues for that year in the Stepney Diocese. High on the agenda had been diversity, the mission of the church, and the response of the church to the pandemic. The report was noted and there were no questions.

(6) Electoral Roll

- 6.1 Vivette Ferguson confirmed that unless people actively sought to be removed from the parish electoral roll they remained members until the next renewal (every six years). She reported that there were currently 195 members, 12 of whom had joined during 2022, and some who had subsequently moved away from the parish continued to donate to the stewardship campaign. She had also spoken to some people who had left the parish and enquired whether they wished to remain on St Peter's electoral roll, and they had confirmed that they did. The next renewal was due to take place in three years' time.

(7) Financial Report & Annual Accounts

- 7.1 Introducing this item, Paul Snow confirmed that the written report circulated with papers for the AGM had been approved by the Standing Committee.
- 7.2 During the last two years St Peter's had taken a cautious approach to its finances, perhaps with hindsight an over-cautious one. This had however meant that the church was in good stead when facing issues such as mending the roof, and addressing St Peter's contribution to the Common Fund. He stressed however that fundraising

remained a high priority if the church was to fulfil its obligations under the Mission Action Plan and keep the building fit for purpose.

- 7.3 Michael Davies enquired about the cost of the new electronic donation machines situated in the church, and Paul replied that the cost was in the region of £35 per month. A break-even position had not yet been reached but he was confident it soon would be, furthermore if the church was to remain open there could be no question of having cash lying around. The machines had only been in situ for ten days and the signage completed less than one week ago. It was noted that the finance team had looked carefully into cost-effectiveness prior to recommending their installation.
- 7.4 Peter Day asked about Gift Aid, and Paul confirmed this had been built in; the church (through Margaret Glover as lead for stewardship) was entitled to submit regular claims. Paul was happy to take any further questions outside the meeting.

2021 Annual Accounts

- 7.5 Agreement of the Annual Accounts was proposed by Jeanette Wilkes and seconded by Kate Green. The proposal was agreed nem con, and Paul and the Finance Committee were thanked for the huge amount of work that had gone into this.

(8) Fabric Report

- 8.1 A written report had been circulated, and it was noted that scaffolding was due to be erected the following week so as to enable the repairs to the roof and downpipes to be carried out. Page 4 of the report made reference to the cracks in the finials – these were difficult to see due to their position, but it had been estimated that repairs could cost in the region of £230k if all needed work. Stephen King suggested a drone be utilised to gain the most accurate view. In the meantime, however, St Peter's had been assured that there were no pressing safety issues.
- 8.2 Fr. Simon said that many visitors to the church had commented on how well it was maintained, and paid tribute to Gillian Borrie and the fabric committee for their role in this. The report was formally received by the AGM.

(9) Safeguarding Report

- 9.1 Jeannette as safeguarding officer thanked everyone at St Peter's who carried out a role or tasks that necessitated safeguarding checks. She added that training on issues such as safety, confidentiality and holding difficult conversations had been carried out during the year. Fr. Simon thanked Jeannette for taking on this role, as well as the many other tasks and duties she performed; this was echoed by the meeting.

(10) Vicar's Report

- 10.1 Fr. Simon said that his report was available on the website. He had now been at St Peter's for six months, and had been impressed by all that had been achieved during the interregnum, particularly under difficult circumstances such as the pandemic. Many thanks went to Jeannette, Eckart, Sarah, Vivette, Boachie and Amanda, as well as Irena and Andy who had regularly officiated as well as providing advice and support.
- 10.2 There were two individuals Fr. Simon wished to single out for special thanks. The first was Eckart, who had given so much over the years, including the worship committee and training of servers. He was now stepping down from these roles, and was presented with a small gift in recognition of everything he had done. It was noted Hope was to oversee the servers from henceforth. The second person to thank was Vivette, who had contributed so much that Fr. Simon felt she should have her own report! Although she had also announced her intention to step down, it was felt this should be seen as more of a 'stepping back', and she too was presented with a gift in recognition of her dedication to St Peter's. In response, Eckart said that over the last two years one of the most joyful

things was the way everyone had come together during a time of crisis - with pastoral assistants playing a key role - and had stayed as a group to support visiting clergy and ensure no areas of church life were neglected. He concluded by saying that St Peter's had indeed been blessed in finding Fr. Simon.

- 10.3 Thanks were also given to staff Julie and Haran, both of whom worked well above and beyond the call of duty in roles that were not always easy to carry out.
- 10.4 The church had been shocked and saddened by the death of Liz Kohler, who had given so much to the church community. Her legacy was to try to make St Peter's church more accessible, a project dear to her heart. Recently the church had also suffered from the tragic death of Sharon John, who had attended the wedding of her daughter Savannah just a few days previously.
- 10.5 New relationships established had included a number of community groups including the De Beauvoir Association, the Women's Institute, and a Community Round Table. Under the leadership of Jane King the church and local community were about to welcome a young family from Afghanistan. Young people were also playing an important role, with Charlie, Sarah and Robin exploring their vocations, and Fr. Nathan being formally licensed to celebrate and preach at St Peter's.
- 10.6 Moving onto music in church, Fr. Simon thanked David Millington for his contribution over the last several years and the continued commitment shown by organist Romee Day.
- 10.7 Since arriving at St Peter's Fr. Simon had presided over 2 weddings, 6 baptisms and 8 preparations for first communion, as well as an extremely successful concert in aid of charities to support people in the Ukraine. In addition, Noisy Church continued to flourish, and there had been two popular events for children; Christingle and an Easter Egg Hunt, both of which had been attended by around 30 children.
- 10.8 Finally, Fr. Simon acknowledged that there were some challenges to be faced over the coming year, not least of which were financial, for to continue to grow and increase outreach funds would need to be raised and grants applied for. There were also many good things to celebrate. He hoped there would also be some fun, and finished by thanking everyone for making him feel so welcome.

11. Any other business

- 11.1 A half-eaten can of food had recently been discovered; there could be a number of explanations for this but it was agreed to maintain a watching brief around the environs of the church to ensure no-one was in need of food/shelter and required assistance.
- 11.2 It was agreed that Hackney Citizens would be a subject for discussion at the PCC.
- 11.3 Amanda thanked Kate for her contribution to the PCC secretary role.
