

**Annual Parochial Church Meeting**  
**Tring Team Parish**  
**Meeting at Tring Church 10<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

**The meeting opened in prayer with Revd. Michelle Grace**

**Vestry Meeting**

The following nominations for church wardens were received and were unanimously accepted.

**All Saints** – Judith Weatherill

**St Cross** - No warden (one of the others will act if needed for something official)

**St John<sup>the</sup> Baptist** –Jane Brown

**St Peter & Paul** – Roy Hargreaves

**St Mary** - Christine Rutter

**AGM**

**Apologies-** Huw Bellis, Jane Banister, Carole and Martin Wells, Roy Hargreaves, Pam and Clive Russell, Linzi James and Betty Aston.

**Present** – John Whiteman, (Chairman), Janet Goodyer (Secretary), Revd Michelle Grace, Jon and Annette Reynolds, Ted and Margaret Oram, Ian Munro, Beryl Poll, Mike Watkin, Elizabeth Stephenson, Barbara and Barry Anscombe, Neil Capp, Celestria Bell, Gill Kinsey, Tim James, Kate Stratford, Judith Weatherill, Alison Cockerill, Christine Rutter, Jane Brown, Pippa Wright, Maria Lashley, Peter Williams, Vivianne Child and Chris Townsend. 27 people in attendance

**Minutes of last year's AGM** were accepted unanimously.

**Elections and appointments**

**Parish Coordinators** Roy Hargreaves and Vivianne Child

**Parish advisor on mission** John Whiteman

**PCC Members.** The following were nominated to be the PCC representatives: Kate Stratford (P&P) Janet Goodyer (P&P) Gill Kinsey (P&P) and Beryl Poll (P&P) and Elizabeth Stephenson (P&P) Ian Munro (JtB), Celestria Bell (StM), and Vivianne Child, Maria Lashley (parish), Pippa Wright (parish) and Ted Oram (parish) were all elected for one year. There is one place for parish members and one for Aldbury and one for Wilstone and one for Long Marston still vacant. Unanimously accepted.

**Deanery Synod** Mike Watkin and Tim James were elected for three years. There are three places vacant. The deanery synod is a useful link between parish and diocese. Deanery Synod get to vote for people to stand for Diocesan Synod.

**PCC Officers** The following were affirmed in their roles:

**PCC Secretary** Janet Goodyer,

**PCC Treasurer** Peter Williams assisted by the finance team:

**Safeguarding Officer** John Reynolds

**GDPR officer** – Trish Dowden

**Thanks** to all who served our parish and are no longer serving, in particular Betty Aston from PCC and Ted Oram from Deanery Synod.

**Electoral Roll.** This year the combined total for the parish is 352, that is down from last year by 18.

We have lost a number of members from our church rolls and community. **Wilstone** Roy Tomlin, **Aldbury** George Bateson, Yvonne Hithersay, Barbara Chapman, Carol Livingston, Andrew Yeomans, **Puttenham**, Pat Jackson **Tring** Ted Tapson, Helena Cuthbert, Moira Hargreaves, Phil Lawrence, Jocelyn Pearce, Mike Stratford  
Moved away – we wish them well in their new homes, Alison Bickerton, Pat Tapson and Mavis Pouncett

**Deanery Synod** Report received in advance and accepted.

**Fabric Report.** Copies of the fabric reports were received from each District and accepted.

**District Churches.** Reports circulated in advance and accepted.

**Finance report and accounts.** Circulated in advance.

Last year we received £291k income. Special thanks go to Tring brewery who gave us £6000 pounds from the Blues bar concerts and coronation party. We aim to break even in 2020 through we tried in 2022 but didn't make it. The report was approved by the PCC in March. It was adopted by the annual meeting. Proposed by Ian Munro seconded Barbara Anscombe. Thanks to the finance team for all they do.

**Safeguarding** Jon Reynolds submitted a report in advance, accepted. We are not up to date on training. The PCC will all have to do their training which is two on-line training courses, basic and foundation courses. Jon will send out a link in the next couple of weeks. If DBS needs to be updated or applied for, Jon will advise.

**GDPR** a report was submitted in advance, accepted.

**Health and Safety** A report was received in advance. accepted

**Chaplaincy** Revd Michelle filed a report. Accepted.

**An Eco-church report was received and accepted.**

## **Faculties**

### **The Allsworth legacy**

On the 30th of April the Aldbury DCC approved the plans for a Welcoming area, storage space, safety rails and notice boards to be paid for by the Allsworth legacy. All were in favour by members of the PCC total 18. It was proposed by Maria Lashley and seconded by Tim James.

**Long Marston tower.** The family of John Noakes would like to inter his ashes and later Margaret's ashes into the churchyard of the old tower at Long Marston. There are three gravestones already there, the plot will be to the right hand side in the row against the church wall, The churchyard was closed in 1866 outline permission has been given Ted Oram proposed applying for a faculty, Elizabeth Stephenson seconded, 18 members of the PCC were in favour

**St Cross Wilstone.** An archdeacon's letter is needed for a garden of remembrance at Wilstone church. This area is at the East end of the church and is laid out on plans. Gill Kinsey proposed, John Reynolds seconded, 18 members of the PCC are in favour There are strict limits on how many ashes can be buried there. There is a request from the family that Roger and Audrey Bennett's ashes are buried there.

**Review of the year.** Revd Michelle showed a slideshow of the past year. This showed just a few of the things we did as a parish or individually.

Looking back over the year and looking forward there are signs of God working and challenges ahead.

We said goodbye to Sarah who was made team vicar of Shenley by the Archbishop of Bedford. We give thanks for her time with us as many appreciated her ministry here. It is good to be used as a clergy training parish.

We followed the course tenants of the king and as a result of that we have an echo church group set up to take things further. We have two bronze wall awards so far St Peter and St Paul and St John the Baptist Aldbury. Andrew Kinsey was responsible for the Tring submission and Jane Brown for Aldbury. We are working on the other three villages. We have to do our very best for our future

Tim reported on pastoral care training. Lindsay and Tim are leading 2 morning sessions in Aldbury, likely to be in July. It is more than just visiting, it can be about chatting in a pew. By doing the course it enables you to be part of the pastoral team for the community. We want a wide range of people coming. It is an exciting time to take this on so is God calling you in the very widest form?

Last year we said we were doing an enquirers course. This happened in February and March with 3 participants and two have joined the congregations. We plan further courses and we need to ask others to engage with this and encourage us all to invite others. It gives space to think about things

Living in love and faith. We have invested a lot of time and faith into it and run the course and follow up session. We gave feedback as a parish and individuals. The General Synod met and voted in February they have agreed that same sex couples can come to church for a blessing following a civil partnership service. Clergy can choose whether they

want to take part in this. The Archbishop of York says we need to live together. Many find it painful at the progress whether to quick or too slow. Ian Munro reported we have lost people in our congregations and asked if there is anything we can do to help the situation? In the parish we have had two couples left on opposite sides of the argument we have to make sure that the relationship with those people affected continues Michelle spoke about and gave thanks for the collaboration between the Parish and Tring Brewery and Tring Together with Vivian and Trish. She thanked Trish in her role as parish administrator. She thanked Mike Jon and Graham, Ian Ogilvie and David Holloway supporting the clergy. She thanked John for leading the PCC. She thanked Janet as PCC secretary and for doing lots of other stuff and thanked parish coordinators Vivian John and Roy. She thanked FOTCH and all other Friends organisations throughout our parish for sustaining these buildings.

#### **AOB**

Maria asked whether we could start a car scheme for transport for services as there were a number of people that wanted to come to our church for services. Celestia thanked all the ministry team Huw, Jane Michelle and lay readers and wardens and office bearers. John thanked her

A reminder we have the new digital organ on a trial basis for three Sundays there will be a demonstration at 6:00 PM on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May and will be demonstrated on Friends day and the three following Sundays. Feedback is welcomed.

We need to review our working practises during this year which is how we operate as a PCC  
We are experiencing how much we miss Huw and Jane at present and thanks to everyone.

**John closed with prayer.**

**Date of next Annual meeting 15/05/24**

#### **PCC meetings**

12th July 2023, 13th September 2023, 8th November 2023, 17th January 2024, 13th March 2024  
Probably Tring.