

**Minutes of the Vestry Meeting of All Saints' Highbrook.
16th April 2023.**

Chairman: Roger Cobden-Ramsay. Present: Names of others present redacted.

Roger opened the meeting by welcoming those present. The sole business of the meeting is to elect the churchwardens for the forthcoming year. Two nominations have been received.

Adam Hackett, proposed by Tony Osborn and seconded by Roger Cobden-Ramsay.

Tony Osborn, proposed by Sophie Hill and seconded by Heather Chapman.

Both nominations were approved unanimously by all those present.

Tony indicated that he would like to retire or take a sabbatical at the end of the following year or when a new incumbent is in place. This was noted. Roger thanked Adam and Tony for their hard work over the previous year and their continued service to All Saints and Highbrook.

The meeting concluded.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting followed.

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting of All Saints, Highbrook.

Present. See above. Meeting chaired by Adam Hackett (Lay Vice-Chairman).

- 1 Apologies. None had been received.
- 2 Minutes of the last meeting. The minutes of the last APCM were approved and signed. Proposer Rosemary King, seconded by Heather Chapman.
- 3 Matters arising. There were none.
- 4 Reports.

a) Electoral Roll.

Sophie reported that the numbers on the Electoral Roll had risen from 43 in April 2022 to 52 in at the date of revision in April 2023. Subsequent to the revision date a further two people have joined giving a total on 16th of April of 54, with one more applicant due to turn 16 next month.

b) Financial report.

The accounts were attached to the Annual Report. Simon thanked all those who give and support All Saints. The overwhelming point made by the accounts is that All Saints is more than solvent, in a sound position which now needs reinforcement and strengthening. Adam thanked Simon for his hard work on the church accounts and funds.

c) Annual Report.

Adam drew attention to the section showing what had been achieved in the previous year, especially the large number of people who have attended services, 1,070. Tony added that we are wonderfully served by visiting priests who speak with great eloquence and scholarship delivering services of great relevance. This has continued to build on the strong foundations left by Mother Nicol who left us in October 2022. Robin congratulated the church for bucking the national trend of decline in attendance. Adam said the raft of momentum is created by the wonderful music led by Tony and

Claire, saying that without that high quality of music we would not have achieved this, All Saints is well known beyond the village. He thanked Tony for his outstanding stewardship of music.

Tony paid tribute to Robin's work in keeping the building straight and in good order. He also commented that the report should be taken in context as it only covers the first four months of interregnum. The PCC works well together, with good teamwork and all individuals having discrete roles which they fulfil independently. He thanked the PCC for their work as an extremely effective team.

The Annual Report and accounts will be posted on the church website.

d) Deanery Synod Report. All Saints has no representation at the Deanery Synod. Two positions are available. Tony urged those who may be interested to consider taking up this vacancy which would involve us in the wider life of the Church of England and allow our voice to be heard. In the meantime, Karen Blackman, Deanery Synod representative for St. Margaret's, has kindly shared her report with us. This will also be posted on the church website.

5 Elections and appointments.

a) Elections of the Laity to the Parochial Church Council.

Nominations.	Proposer.	Seconder
Heather Chapman	Rosemary King	Sophie Hill
Roger Cobden-Ramsay	Simon Witheridge	Heather Chapman
Rosemary King.	Sophie Hill	Simon Witheridge
Sophie Hill.	Simon Witheridge.	Rosemary King
Simon Witheridge.	Rosemary King.	Sophie Hill

All were elected unanimously.

b) Appointment of Independent Examiner.

Richard Laing was thanked for his work over the previous year. He indicated he was willing to stand again and was duly reappointed. Richard reiterated that the accounts were straightforward and in good order.

c) Electoral Roll Officer.

Sophie agreed to stand again and was duly reappointed. Proposer Heather Chapman, seconder Roger Cobden-Ramsay.

d) Election of Safeguarding Officer.

Despina Edge was thanked for her work in attending courses and fulfilling this essential role. She was duly re-elected. Proposer Sophie Hill, seconder Adam Hackett.

e) Deanery Synod Representatives. There were no volunteers for this role.

6 Any other business.

Rosie asked for replies to the proposed thank you party on 14th May.

Adam raised a point to be considered at the next PCC meeting - the necessity of reply all emails which create an avalanche of correspondence.

Date of next PCC meeting. 15th May, 6pm, All Saints.

The meeting concluded with the Grace.