



St Mary the Virgin, Horne

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners 2024 and Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2024

held on Sunday 21st April 2024 at 11:15am in the Church of St Mary the Virgin, Horne

The Chair, Andrew Goudie (Andrew) thanked all present for attending and opened the meeting with our Prayer for the Benefice.

Annual Meeting of Parishioners (AMoP) 2024

1. Andrew asked that the AMoP Minutes for 2023 be approved. Barbara Verco proposed that the Minutes be approved as a true record of the meeting, Lauma Kazuša seconded the proposal and those present agreed unanimously.
2. In accordance with the Minutes of the PCC meeting held on March 12th 2024, see Item 6a, the PCC secretary introduced a resolution to nominate Susan Wates for a further year beyond the usual six-year term. David Spruce proposed the resolution, Sara Gough seconded and those present agreed unanimously.
There being no other candidates, Michael Harvey proposed that Andrew Goudie and Susan Wates be elected as churchwardens and these proposals were seconded by Helen Goudie. It was unanimously agreed that Andrew and Susan be elected as churchwardens.

This concluded the Annual Meeting of Parishioners (AMoP) 2024.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) 2024

Andrew Goudie chaired the meeting and 17 church members attended.

1. **Apologies for Absence** were received from Jenny Mackay, Jo-Ann Harvey and Phyllida Dallman.
2. **The Minutes of the last meeting.** Andrew asked that the APCM Minutes for 2023 be approved. Sara Gough proposed that the Minutes be approved as a true record of the meeting, Liam Harvey seconded the proposal and those present agreed unanimously. Chair Andrew Goudie signed the Minutes as an accurate record of the meeting.
3. **Matters arising from the APCM Minutes for 2023.** There were no matters arising from the Minutes for 2023.
4. **Election of members to the Parochial Church Council (PCC)**
In accordance with the Minutes of the PCC meeting held on March 12th 2024, see Item 6a, the PCC secretary introduced a resolution to move from a one-year to a three-year term of office for PCC members. Peter Nye proposed the resolution, Rosemary Spruce seconded and those present agreed unanimously. In accordance with Church Representation Rules, M16, PCC members elected in 2024 will serve a one-year term and PCC members elected at the next APCM in 2025, and in subsequent years, will have a three-year term of office.
Currently there is provision for eight elected PCC members plus the churchwardens and deanery synod representatives who are ex officio members of the PCC. Andrew read out the names of those for whom a Nomination Form had been completed and received: Liam Harvey, Michael Harvey, Peter Hill, Veronica Hill, Lauma Kazuša, Jenny Mackay, Steve Robinson and Barbara Verco. Andrew Goudie proposed that these eight be elected, Susan Wates seconded the proposals. There being eight nominated candidates for eight seats, no election contest is required and all nominees were welcomed as members of the PCC.

The Annual Reports for 2024

Note: Statutory and non-statutory annual reports were posted electronically on the Windmill United Benefice website and available in paper form in St Mary's Church during the two weeks prior to the meeting. Additional paper copies were made available at the APCM. These reports are referred to below as having been "circulated before the APCM". Paper copies of all reports will be filed with the Minutes of this APCM and are also available in church..

1. Electoral Roll Report

The Electoral Roll report circulated before the APCM states that following the annual revision there are 64 currently on the Electoral Roll. Andrew Goudie proposed that we accept the Electoral Roll report, Susan Wates seconded the proposal and it was agreed unanimously.

2. Annual Report

The secretary's annual report concerning what the PCC has done over the past year and the activities of the Parish generally had been circulated before the APCM. Michael Harvey proposed that we accept this report, Sara Gough seconded the proposal and it was agreed unanimously.

3. Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report and accounts as at the year ending December 31st 2023 had been circulated before the APCM. The treasurer reported that the accounts have been examined by Linda Whitley, independent examiner to the PCC. The Treasurer told us that this year we again had greater payments over receipts, the vast majority of this was due to school refurbishment costs. Liam Harvey proposed that we accept the accounts presented, Lauma Kazuša seconded this proposal and it was agreed unanimously.

Ginette Nye enquired where in the accounts the Young Choristers Fund is recorded and would like to know the current balance. The treasurer explained that the Fund is included under the Music heading and is not shown separately on the end-of-year accounts as Southwark do not require that level of detail. However, the treasurer is happy to respond with the detail requested. David Spruce and Ginette Nye requested that an analysis of Music funds to show the amount in the Young Choristers Fund is presented at the next PCC meeting.

Andrew added that anyone requiring specific further financial analysis may request this from the treasurer. Andrew thanked Barbara Verco for her work as Treasurer.

4. Independent Examiner for 2024

Treasurer, Barbara Verco reported that Linda Whitley is happy to continue as the independent examiner to the PCC for 2024 and proposed that Linda Whitley should be appointed. Helen Goudie seconded the proposal and it was agreed unanimously. The Secretary to the PCC will send a letter of thanks to Linda Whitley.

5. Churchwardens' Report

The report had been circulated before the APCM. Barbara Verco proposed that the report be accepted, this was seconded by David Spruce and agreed unanimously.

6. Deanery Synod Report

The report had been circulated before the APCM. Lauma Kazuša proposed that the report be accepted, Barbara Verco seconded this and it was agreed unanimously. Sue thanked David Spruce and Sara Gough, St Mary's deanery synod representatives for the current triennium, for their comprehensive and interesting report.

7. Safeguarding Report

The report had been circulated before the APCM. Andrew explained that Rosie Yeldham, Parish Safeguarding Officer at St John, Outwood, is planning to hold a group Benefice basic safeguarding training day but this remains in the planning stage. Ginette Nye commented on the good quality of Southwark's online safeguarding training and recommended it to all who are required to undertake safeguarding training due to their role in church. Sara Gough proposed that we accept the report, this was seconded by Peter Nye and agreed unanimously.

8. Benefice Music Report

Ginette Nye, Director of Music in the Windmill United Benefice reported on activities and achievements within the Benefice and the wider community. The report had been circulated before the APCM. Sara Gough remarked on the great value of the Windmill Choir singing at recent events at East Surrey Hospital, extending our music ministry into the wider community. Those present enthusiastically thanked Ginette for her work and the joy that music brings to us all. Andrew Goudie particularly thanked Ginette for making it fun! Ginette responded by thanking all for their support and their contribution towards enhancing our worship and taking our ministry out into the community.

9. Café Church Report

The report by Liz Copeland had been circulated before the APCM. The report told us about the continuing success of Café Church that is a well-supported all-age informal church gathering in a café style setting held in the Church Hall, Smallfield. Anyone can come along to enjoy refreshments, company, activities and Christian worship together at 3pm every second Sunday in the month, excluding August and the second Sunday in December when the Hall is the venue for Smallfield carol service.

10. Any other Business

Bob Bond asked why weekly Notices are not sent to individuals by email with a link each week. Lauma Kazuša and John Jaekel explained that communicating in this way is regulated by General Data Protection Regulation and currently the PCC does not have the required infrastructure to implement and manage what he is suggesting in a compliant way.

Ginette Nye suggested asking for volunteers, for example at the end of services, to help with publicity such as putting out flyers, notices and suggested we would benefit from reviewing what and how we publicise events to maximise profitability.

Lauma Kazuša commented that, at a recent meeting, she had been asked why giving per St Mary's Electoral Roll member is so low.

In response, Peter Nye posed a rhetorical question, asking why more of St Mary's Electoral Roll members aren't present in church today for the APCM?

And asked whether the PCC needs to reach out to them to encourage financial and in person engagement with St Mary the Virgin.

There being no other business, Andrew closed the meeting by leading us in saying the Grace.

Footnote: A PCC secretary, a treasurer, an electoral roll officer, parish safeguarding officers and sides people for the coming year will be appointed at the first meeting of the Parochial Church Council of 2024-2025, to be held on Tuesday June 11th 2024. The PCC secretary will send details to PCC members next week.