

“Seven whole days not one in seven”
Inspiring people through worship and word to live out God’s love in their daily lives

The Parochial Church Council of Horne, St Mary the Virgin



**Annual Meeting of the Parishioners
and Annual Parochial Church Meeting**
to be held on Sunday 11th May 2025 at 11.15am in the church

The Chair, Rev Alan Bayes (Alan) thanked all present for attending and opened the meeting with our Prayer for the Benefice.

Annual Meeting of Parishioners (AMoP) 2025

1. Alan asked that the AMoP Minutes for 2024 be approved. David Spruce proposed that the Minutes be approved as a true record of the meeting, Lauma Kazuša seconded the proposal and those present agreed unanimously.
2. Election of Churchwarden(s) – Rev Alan Bayes thanked Sue Wates for her hard work as both Church Warden and secretary. There being no other candidates, Lauma Kazuša proposed that Andrew Goudie be elected as churchwarden and this proposal was seconded by David Spruce. Those present agreed unanimously. There is a vacancy for another church warden.

This concluded the Annual Meeting of Parishioners (AMoP) 2025.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) 2025

Rev Alan Bayes chaired the meeting and 17 church members attended.

1. **Apologies for Absence** were received from Sue Wates and Steve Robinson.
2. **The Minutes of the last meeting.** Alan asked that the APCM Minutes for 2024 be approved. Sara Gough proposed that the Minutes be approved as a true record of the meeting, Lauma Kazuša seconded the proposal and those present agreed unanimously. Chair Rev Alan Bayes signed the Minutes as an accurate record of the meeting.
3. **Matters arising from the APCM Minutes for 2024** Ginette Nye noted that Bob Bond had asked if the newsletter could be sent out by email. It hadn't been possible at the time due to interregnum, however was it possible now? **ACTION all:** Rev Alan Bayes stated if everyone who wishes to receive the newsletter this way, sends an email to himself stating their email address can be included in the newsletter send out, then it would be possible.
4. **Election of members for a three year term to the Parochial Church Council (PCC)**
Currently there is provision for nine elected PCC members plus the churchwarden(s) and deanery synod representative(s) who are ex officio members of the PCC. Alan 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, David Spruce, Steve Robinson and Barbara Verco. Per the nomination forms completed, Andrew Goudie has proposed that these eight be elected, Susan Wates has seconded the proposals. There being nine nominated candidates for nine seats, no election contest is required and all nominees were welcomed as members of the PCC.
Rev Alan Bayes stated the need for new PCC members, which would mean co-opting members or having an election. There is also a vacancy for a PCC secretary.

The Annual Reports for 2025

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 51 currently on the Electoral Roll. David Spruce stated that due to Church of England rules, the electoral role had to close on 26th April, but that more people had requested to add their names since then.

2. Secretary's Annual Report

Rev. Alan Bayes thanked Sue Wates for preparing a thorough and detailed secretary's annual report concerning what the PCC has done over the past year and the activities of the Parish generally, such as ECO church

3. Treasurer's Report – The treasurer's report and accounts as at the year ending December 31st 2024 had been circulated before the APCM. Lauma Kazuša thanked everyone who gave under the regular giving scheme and those who signed up to the Parish Giving Scheme. She stated that whilst funds are healthy, people have not increased their giving in line with inflation. Therefore, in real terms, funds are going down. Fundraising has been successful, such as the selling of St Mary's Godæppel gin.

. The Vision Day on 7th June will highlight issues which need spending on, such as the church tower. We can apply for some grants, e.g. from Cornerstone, but with more community use from our buildings, there are additional grants available. Two examples of projects are:

- planning for a lavatory away from other buildings and with disabled access, in the lower end of the churchyard, using waterless technology
- a kitchenette area at the back of the church

Rev. Alan Bayes stated that community engagement was extremely important and something he is passionate about. Ginette Nye stated that we should also play our part with Charitable Giving. Alan agreed that this should be done jointly across the three churches.

4. Independent Examiner for 2024

The independent examiner of accounts, Linda Whitley, was thanked by Andrew. In the absence of secretary to the PCC, **ACTION: Andrew** will send a letter of thanks to Linda.

5. Churchwardens' Report

The report had been circulated before the APCM. Andrew thanked Sue for writing the report and said he was indebted to her in so many ways. He thanked Charles and Steve for their work during the interregnum. Alan was recruited on 6.10.24. Andrew gave thanks to the many groups of people who make our church work and those who support our church. "If you want to travel fast, travel alone. If you want to travel far, travel with others." Andrew commented on the teams of people who work behind the scenes and stated that together we help the church community grow.

There continues to be work done to the school; a new fuse box, a new cooker and associated wiring. It is vital to keep the school safe for the children as well as it being a good source of income.

Peter Nye thanked the church wardens.

6. Deanery Synod Report

Sara Gough reported that this year there has been 2 face to face meetings and 1 Zoom meeting, looking at ideas how to increase the number of people coming to church and churches hosting community occasions. David stood down as Deanery Synod representative and Alan thanked David for his contribution. We have 1 representative from Burstow and 1 from Horne. **ACTION: Alan** to look at appointing Deanery Synod representative at Outwood.

7. Safeguarding Report

The report had been circulated before the APCM. In the report is a link to the diocesan website training. **ACTION: Helen-** Alan asked that we check all posters have up to date information on them with his details. There is to be in person Safeguarding training for any member of the Windmill Benefice PCCs on 28th June.

8. Benefice Music Report

The report had been circulated before the APCM. Alan thanked Ginette for her work and the joy that music provision across the 3 churches brings to us all. Michael Harvey particularly thanked Peter and Ginette's contribution towards enhancing outreach work and taking our ministry out into the community.

9. Café Church Report

This comprehensive report by Liz Copeland had been circulated before the APCM. Café church involves all members of the community including some young families on the fringes of coming to church. Several members of the band support Cafe Church and it is an opportunity for all ages of our community to come together. Ginette asked everyone to try to turn up and support, even if just once a year, to meet other members of the community.

10. Rector's Report

Alan thanked everyone on behalf of himself and Rachel, for their kind welcome and hospitality. He would like to invite everyone at a future date to their garden to enjoy their hospitality. Alan is grateful for the organisation and work everyone does for the church and community. This year is the 10th anniversary of the Windmill United Benefice and we are celebrating this with a lovely occasion, with special visitors, including past incumbents. On 7th June, 10am-1pm, we are holding a Vision Day in Smallfield Church hall when we shall be planning our future. Everyone is welcome.

11. Any other Business

Jenny Mackay asked if Steve Bishop and Charles Sargent had been officially thanked for their work this year. Alan replied that this was a work in progress and a date would be fixed. **(ACTION Alan)**

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