

St Peter's Church, Great Asby
Annual Meetings
Sunday 26th March 2023 : 4.15pm in St Peter's Church

Present

John Bevan Pat Bevan (PB)
Helen Cooper Pam Cowey
Karen Royle Peter Miller
Susan Walker Fran Parkinson

Apologies

Joan Nettleton Denise Frisby
Liz Hughes Wendy Fairey
Sue Savage Carole Cozens
Andrew Savage

PM welcomed everyone to the meetings, especially Fran Parkinson who will become our new Priest in Charge as from 1st May.

ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING

1. **Minutes of the last annual meeting, held 20th March 2022**, were accepted and signed, having been previously approved by the PCC.
2. **Matters Arising** : None. All matters have been dealt with during the year.
3. **Election of Wardens** : There have been no nominations for this post and so the post remains vacant.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

1. **Minutes of the meeting held on 20th March 2022** were accepted and signed, having been previously approved by the PCC, along with the minutes of the Annual Vestry Meeting.
2. **Matters Arising** : None. All matters have been dealt with during the year.
3. **Annual Report** : The following reports were given of summaries from the Annual Report, following which Peter Miller moved that the Annual Report be adopted; Helen Cooper proposed this and Pat Bevan seconded. Peter Miller duly signed the report off at the end of the meeting.

3.1 Laychair : Peter Miller gave a summary of the year, as Laychair. He told the meeting, there is a lot that goes on at St Peters, we are an active church and we are very grateful for all the help that many people give, in many different forms. He added, there are a lot more people involved in the life of the church than the numbers who attend on a Sunday. Peter expressed a special thank you to Pat and John Bevan for all they do. He also added a suggestion that people might like to take a look at the visitors book, to see the many lovely comments that visitors to the church make about their visit, many commenting on an enjoyment of the peacefulness of the place.

3.2 Electoral Roll : Pat Bevan informed the meeting that at the end of December 2022 there were 25 names on the electoral roll. This is one more than last year, due to Sheila Braithwaite joining the list. There are two people on the electoral roll who live outside the Parish

3.3 Treasurer : John Bevan presented the financial statements for the year ending December 2022. For the record, he explained the accounts were signed off by Sue Savage on 22nd February 2023. John expressed a formal thank you to Sue for auditing the accounts. He also explained that the financial statement show two restricted funds which have not yet been used. We are still awaiting invoices to pay for the renovations to the Lychgate and so the final balance on the accounts could be slightly misleading; we hope to get the bills for this work in the very near future. We don't know the final figure as yet and we appreciate Stuart is spending his time doing his wonderful craftsmanship, rather than spending time preparing invoices. There have been no other major expenses this year and nothing needed spending on the Organ. John also highlighted the best part of £1000 which has come through the church records, as donations to charities (and so never at part of St Peters funds). John concluded by stating that St Peters is a £10,000 per annum turnover operation, so we need to ensure we have this amount each year, in order to stay afloat. Peter Miller thanked John Bevan for being our treasurer, adding that it is a big commitment and we're very grateful to John for the dedication, time and effort he puts into keeping all our finances organised.

3.4 Ways & Means : Peter Miller reported on the fabric of the building. The major work of the year has been the renovations to the Lychgate. This work is now almost complete, with just the gates and the crosses on the top of the roof to be re-attached. Stuart Marston, who has been doing the work, has said the last stages in preparation for this to happen have now been completed in his workshop, and he hopes to be able to fit them back in their rightful place on the Lychgate, in the next few weeks so they're there for our Gateway to Spring even at the end of April. We appreciate all the time and personal dedication to this work that Stuart has applied, we are very fortunate to have him as our local cabinet maker. We know he has said how much he has enjoyed doing this work and his perfectionist approach will be appreciated by parishioners for many years to come. Once the work is all completed, we hope to have Bishop Rob come to bless the gate as a public thank you for all that has gone into doing the work. Peter also explained to the meeting, that it is 5 years since our last Quinquennial report and it is now time for us to re-commission this once again. Once the Lychgate is completed, there are no major works to be done. We are aware that there are a few minor repairs that need doing (eg. a loose tile and some leadwork to correct a leak by the porch door).

3.5 Safeguarding & Health and Safety : Peter Miller reported, as our Safeguarding Officer for the Parish. He said the job is made easier by the commitment of the PCC to be part of the process; safeguarding is on all PCC agendas and Peter highlighted it was our shared responsibility to keep our eyes open and watch for any safeguarding concerns in the village. All the PCC members have recently renewed their necessary qualifications and Peter is due to attend a leadership qualification course in the near future, a course which others on the PCC (John & Pat Bevan) have also recently completed. The PCC have also recently been asked to consider the topic of Domestic Abuse. Fran Parkinson

added to this, that she will cover this topic as part of a forthcoming service. In terms of Health & Safety, Peter confirmed we have a health and safety book in which we can record any accidents that might happen.

3.6 Asby Churches Together : Pam Cowey reported that the Asby Churches Together group have continued to meet regularly throughout the year. She said there was nothing more to add that was not in the annual report, other than to say the meetings are enjoyed by all who attend and they would very much like more people to join the group, regardless of whatever religion they might be. It is an open meeting for all to reflect and converse.

3.7 Mothers' Union : Pam Cowey confirmed there was nothing more to add about Mothers Union, that was not in the annual report, other than to say, Mothers Union have had some excellent speakers through the year. Pat Bevan added that there is a Lady Day service for Mothers Union in St Peter's tomorrow and everyone is welcome.

3.8 Deanery Synod : John Bevan updated the meeting on Deanery Synod activities. He explained there is a current challenge facing the Deanery Synod in terms of the proper creation of a mission community jointly with our ecumenical partners. He added that the Benefice Council is now back working again and is having some positive consequences. Peter Miller thanked John for serving as our representative for the last few years.

4. Confirmation of Policy Documents : Prior to this annual meeting all church policy documents were presented to a PCC meeting and subsequently updated with Clive Hicks name being removed where applicable. The meeting was therefore able to accept the following policies for the coming year :

- i. Safeguarding
- ii. Data Protection
- iii. Health & Safety, including Fire Safety Protocol

Peter Miller signed each of these documents. Copies will be placed on the notice board. The meeting was consulted about whether it would be agreeable from a data protection point of view, to store all the policies in a central folder where all PCC members could have access to them as and when needed. It was agreed that this would be a suitable course of action to take.

5. Election & Appointments :

5.1 Lay representative of Deanery Synod : An election is to take place every 3 years for this role. As it is 3 years since the last election, the meeting re-appointed John Bevan as St Peter's representative for the next 3 years; Helen Cooper proposed this nomination and Pam Cowey seconded. The appointment of John Bevan as Deanery Synod representative, automatically then makes him a PCC member.

5.2 Election of PCC members : The meeting appointed the following additional people onto roles in the PCC :

- Peter Miller
- Karen Royle
- Helen Cooper
- Pam Cowey
- Susan Walker (temporarily, as she hopes to soon move from the Parish to live near family)
- Pat Bevan

Fran Parkinson asked for a contact list of PCC member to be sent to her and Andrew Burrell's.

Pam Cowey enquired as to whether the meeting also needs to appoint the Quinquennial architect. It was confirmed this will be appointed by the PCC at a forthcoming meeting.

6. Any Other Business :

6.1 **Outreach** : Pat Bevan gave some updated on outreach activities. She explained we've continued to have good links with the school, who have services in church through the year and have asked if they can prepare a window display for Easter. Messy Church is gradually building back it's numbers after a slow start earlier in the year. The reins for this have now been passed onto Carole Cozens, Denise Frisby and Diane Blenkinsop. A big thank you was expressed to Emma Greenshaw and Carol and Charlotte Marston for all they've done with this outreach work over the last few years. Pat also reported that 'Diners' was also growing, with 13 people attending the last one, and half of those who attend are people who don't normally come to church. As the pub has recently had a changeover of landlord, the Diners is currently on hold but hopes to return again very soon as soon as the new people begin serving food once again. Finally, Pat reported on the success of our foodbank collections, with plenty of items being in the box at the back of church every week, when Pat and John Bevan come to take it to the foodbank.

6.2 **Eco Church** : Fran Parkinson enquired as to steps that St Peters have made regarding becoming an Eco Church. It was confirmed, we did look at the eco survey and decided it wasn't as relevant for St Peters as it might be for other, larger churches. Peter Miller described for Fran some of the actions we have taken to consider eco matters, eg. whether to go with a new boiler. Fran encouraged the PCC to take another look at this topic (eg. perhaps considering additional action such as using fairtrade coffee), as there is an aim for churches to become carbon neutral in the not too distant future. It was agreed that the PCC would revisit the survey as this would be a way of letting Fran know what we are doing and would support her in her wider goal of encouraging churches to look at this topic.

6.3 **Village Hall** : Karen Royle gave an update on discussions that have been taking place regarding the church's role on the village hall committee. Peter Miller added to this, that he understands the village hall to be an asset left to the village community and, as such, all village groups ought to be represented on the village hall committee. Pam Cowey also confirmed her view

that the village hall is a community asset. The meeting therefore agreed it would very much like for St Peter's to still be a part of the village hall committee. Pam Cowey has been the St Peters representative on the village hall committee for many years. At the next AGM of the village hall she will step down, Karen Royle will take over as church representative

PCC MEETING

Immediately following the APCM, the PCC held a short meeting to confirm the following positions;

- Laychair – Peter Miller
- Secretary – Karen Royle
- Treasurer - John Bevan
- Electoral Roll Officer – Pat Bevan
- Parish Safeguarding Officer – Peter Miller
- Independent Examiner of Accounts - Sue Savage
- Sidespersons;
 - o John Bevan
 - o Pat Bevan
 - o Susan Walker
 - o Wendy Fairey
 - o Peter Miller
 - o Helen Cooper
 - o Joan Nettleton
 - o Karen Royle
 - o Carole Cozens (as back up)