



# Annual Parochial Church Meetings 2019

Tuesday 23rd April 2019 at 7.30 pm

Oak House Nursery School

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## **AGENDA for Annual Parochial Church Meetings 2019**

### **Vestry Meeting - Agenda**

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of last Vestry Meeting
3. Matters arising
4. Churchwardens' Reports
5. Election of Churchwardens

### **Annual Parochial Church Meeting - Agenda**

1. Minutes of previous APCM
2. Electoral Roll Report
3. Churchwardens Report
4. Financial Report
5. Deanery Synod Report
6. Election of PCC
7. Appointment of Auditor
8. Election of Deanery Synod Representatives
9. Election of Sidespersons
10. Incumbents Report
11. Dates of Future Meetings

### **Meeting of the Parochial Church Council - Agenda**

1. Election of Vice Chair
2. Election of Secretary
3. Election of Treasurer
4. Apologies
5. Minutes Of PCC Meeting 8th March 2018
6. Matters arising
7. Parish Giving Scheme

8. Outreach Planning
9. Dates of PCC meetings 2018/19
10. Dates of Churchyard Tidy Days
11. Auction of Promises 7.7.2018
12. Update on wall repair
13. Updates on Memorial repairs
14. Safeguarding & Health & Safety
15. A.O.B.

## **Minutes of the Annual Meeting 2018 19th April 2018, 7.30pm at Oak House Nursery School**

### **VESTRY MEETING:**

**PRESENT:** Rev'd Sarah Jones (in the Chair), Rosemary Knapp , Ray Wallace, David Hughes, Anne Hughes, Len Nuttall, Diana Nuttall, Sue Marshall, Elaine Leney

The Meeting opened with welcome, thanks to Sue Marshall for her hospitality and prayers

**APOLOGIES:** Matthew Osbeldiston-Hawkes, Jane Osbeldiston-Hawkes, Caroline Pascoe, Pauline Wallace, Rev'd Simon Tarlton, Rev'd Canon Marvin Bamforth

### **MINUTES OF THE LAST VESTRY MEETING:**

The minutes of the Vestry Meeting 23.3.17 were approved and signed.

Proposed: Len Nuttall

Seconded: David Hughes

All in favour

### **MATTERS ARISING:**

None

### **ELECTION OF CHURCHWARDENS:**

Rev'd Sarah Jones declared that Rosemary Knapp and Len Nuttall were re-elected.

## **ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING:**

### **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS APCM:**

The minutes of the APCM held on 23.3.17 were signed as a true and accurate record.

Proposed: Ray Wallace

Seconded: Len Nuttall

All in favour

### **ELECTORAL ROLL REPORT:**

The Roll stands at 30

### **CHURCHWARDENS REPORT:**

Rosemary Knapp submitted the following:

The Probationary Service continued to cut the grass on a monthly basis from March to October. Two Churchyard Tidy Days were organised in June and October. The faculty to repair the Celtic Cross had been extended until October 2018 for the renovation to take place in the summer months. A resolution was passed in May that as from 1st June all new internments would have a standard sized tablet. David Hughes completed the restoration of the notice board in June. We were delighted to welcome the Rev'd

Canon Marvin Bamforth and his wife Sue in July with a wonderful Licensing Service in a packed Village Hall. Carol singing around the village just before Christmas had again been a great success.

The Rev'd Sarah Jones expressed her thanks to Rosemary Knapp and Len Nuttall for their work over the past year.

#### **FINANCIAL REPORT:**

Ray Wallace submitted the following:

**Overall:** During this year the PCC has achieved an excess of income over expenditure of £2,324, due mainly to the increase of Stewardship. At the end of 2017 the funds stand at £15,671.62, comprising of £13,055.10 in the Treasurer's Account and £2,445.99 in investment accounts with the Central Board of Finance.

**Income:** The income from service collections has increased slightly but is similar to that in 2016. Stewardship income currently comprises a regular monthly income of £102 with extra intermittent payments of approximately £300 during the year. There was a collection of £203 at the Licensing Service, this being donated to the Bishop's Discretionary Fund.

Income of fees payable for such things as burials and cremations was significantly less than during 2016 and, of course, because the church is closed, there is no income from weddings.

The Parish Council donates £200 annually towards Churchyard maintenance. As this was not shown in the 2016 accounts, a double amount is shown in this year's accounts.

The carol singing raised £119, compared to £105 in 2016. As is the usual practise, this will be donated to the Children's Society. A Harvest Lunch took place in 2017 and raised £190.25 for the PCC. Thanks are due to all who organised this event and helped on the day.

The investment income has increased slightly.

**Expenses:** During the year it was necessary to perform tree surgery costing £348. In addition, £180 was paid for the inspection of the monuments and the cross. It is anticipated that expenditure will be needed in the coming year to perform the required works. However, grants have been obtained to cover part of the cost.

It was necessary to replace the lock on the Vestry door at a cost of £68. As the PCC is responsible for the churchyard only and not the church building, it is to be investigated whether this amount should be payable by the Diocese.

As usual the cost of insurance has risen by approximately 20%.

**Auditor:** Thanks are due to Mrs Iris Price who inspected the accounts. Unfortunately, she has indicated that she no longer wishes to perform this task so another person will need to be found in the future. A small donation has been made to her in appreciation of her work.

Rosemary Knapp queried the fact that no payments had been made to the Village Hall for the past year's services. It appeared that no invoice had been raised.

Rev'd Sarah Jones expressed her thanks to the Treasurer for all his hard work

**DEANERY SYNOD REPORT:**

No report was given as there are no representatives.

**ELECTION OF PCC:**

The Rev'd Sarah Jones explained that the number of people on the PCC is governed by the number of people on the Electoral Roll. As our Electoral Roll is less than 50 people, 6 PCC members are allowed without counting the Churchwardens and Deanery Synod representatives.

Nominations had been received for the following PCC members: Elaine Leney, Matthew Osbeldiston-Hawkes, Jane Osbeldiston-Hawkes, David Hughes, Sue Marshall. All were duly re-elected.

**APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR:**

As the current Auditor no longer wishes to continue, the PCC would appoint a new one at the next meeting.

**ELECTION OF DEANERY SYNOD REPRESENTATIVES:**

The Rev'd Sarah Jones asked if anyone would be willing to serve but no-one came forward. She explained that if anyone wished, they could attend a meeting out of interest.

**ELECTION OF SIDESPERSONS:**

Diana Nuttall and Anne Hughes put their names forward.

Proposed by Rev'd Sarah Jones

All in favour

**INCUMBENT'S REPORT:**

The Rev'd Sarah Jones submitted the following:

I am delighted to minister in Brampton Abbots and to help lead and grow the church community there.

During the past year we have maintained our pattern of services in Brampton Abbots School on the first Sunday of each month and at Brampton Abbots Village Hall on the third Sunday of each month. The school service has an average attendance of around 10 people whilst the service in the Village Hall averages around 22 people. It continues to be important for us to see both services as important for the parish and to encourage people at the heart of the village to attend the service in the school.

During the year we have conducted two services at the Forest of Dean Crematorium. In addition a funeral was held at St. Mary's Church in Ross for Ray Bilby.

Hereford Diocese has made progress with its application for a grant to repair the structure of St. Michael's Church. We are hoping that the funds will be awarded in 2018. Brampton Abbots Community Regeneration Group (BACRG) are seeking to develop the inside of St. Michael's Church as a Community orientated business. I have agreed to be the link between the PCC and BACRG and I have attended a number of meetings with BACRG.

Rosemary Knapp and Len Nuttall have done an excellent job this year as churchwardens and our thanks are due to them. Our thanks are also due to Matthew Osbeldiston-Hawkes who has served as Stewardship Officer. Our planned giving has increased greatly and this will be very important to us in the years ahead.

The Rev'd Canon Marvin Bamforth joined us as our House for Duty colleague in July and has contributed much to our pastoral care of the parishioners and has complimented the excellent care already given by the church community.

We have much to do in 2018 and I look forward to us doing that together and I feel privileged to the Rector of this fine parish at this time.

### **CANON MARVIN'S REPORT:**

As you read this it will be just over 9 months since Sue and I arrived to live in the Rectory – we have settled in well and the Rectory has become a lovely home – helped by the warm welcome of friendly neighbours, church members in Brampton Abbots, staff at Brampton Abbots Primary School, our Rector Sarah, Ministry Team members, and church folk within the wider Ross Benefice – to whom we are very grateful.

If you were at my Licensing Service in a packed Village Hall on July 3rd 2017 you may recall that I have a License from the Bishop of Hereford on what is called 'House for Duty' basis. We live in the Rectory rent and rate free and in return I give 20 hours a week of ministry in the Benefice. I receive no stipend and we just about manage on our pensions! Rev Sarah remains our Rector and I am the resident cleric in the village – on a 'part-time' basis. However, in truth, there is no such things as a 'part-time Christian'. We are either fully committed or not! However, in the interests of being practical the C of E has issued broad guidelines for 'HfD' clergy which says there is an expectation of the priest working 20 hours a week or 2 days plus Sunday. My two days 'on duty' are Thursday, Friday and Sunday with duties shared between Ross and Brampton Abbots. I voluntarily make myself available on Saturdays. Benefice commitments also arise on other days – especially Mondays and Wednesdays. A review of my working pattern has shown that in most weeks I am exceeding 20 hours. In fairness to Sue (who as many local people know has serious health issues) I try to keep a balance. As our friends in Uganda would say: "We do what we can, where we are and with what we have!" And that is a good motto for everyone to try and follow.

Since arriving, approximately 25% of my time has been devoted to visiting – homes, funerals and hospital. By knocking on doors to introduce myself in Brampton Abbots I've found there is much interest in the future of our parish church building. I've had the opportunity to express appreciation for much goodwill but also to have several conversations on various themes eg: "Primarily, the church is the people of God – wherever they happen to meet; ancient buildings are a mixed blessing what with all the maintenance issues being faced by St. Michael's PCC; and that the church existed and grew for many centuries without church buildings as such!"

The church community in Brampton Abbots has developed in recent years in a new and imaginative way – due in large measure to the commitment of our Rector Sarah and Rev Prob Caroline Pascoe, ably assisted by our Churchwardens Rosemary and Len. Numbers in the Village Hall and Primary School vary but 2017 has seen some growth. Outreach is being planned to the Greytrees area of the Parish this Spring-time; and my involvement in the life of Brampton Abbots Primary School (in Ross Parish) should help us build on good foundations as we show the love of our Lord for all people – and especially towards those who do not yet know him. In our task of reaching out in Brampton Abbots Village, to households in the Greytrees area and to Ross parishioners in the area around B.A. School, we will look for the "Prayer Support" of our older members. I was reminded at a 2017 Diocesan gathering "THE CHURCH" is not ours – it is Christ's – and in a nation which is becoming more diverse by the year, the challenge is how to share the GOOD NEWS of Jesus with people of diverse backgrounds. It is now as if the PARABLE OF THE LOST SHEEP (Gospel of Luke chap 15 verse 3-7) HAS BEEN REVERSED – whereby there is one sheep safely in the fold and the other 99 are wandering in the wilderness of a changing and challenging society.

As I look back on 2017 I am so THANKFUL – especially to the Lord I serve. I look forward to 2018 and beyond to sharing more of what Jesus wants us to do for Him and in particular showing his love for all

people so that more local people may come to know a Lord who loves them and that, as a church, we are here for them in pastoral care and prayer.

**DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS:**

The following dates were confirmed:

- Thursday 23rd August – Barcombe Grange
- Thursday 22nd November - 2 Brampton View
- Thursday 31st January 2019 –Townsend Cottage
- (All meetings at 7.30 pm)

There being no further business, the APCM finished with prayers at 9.05 pm

Signed: ..... Date: .....

## Electoral Roll Report

The roll stands at 29.

## Church Wardens' Report

Following the Village Hall closure due to snow damage, the twice monthly services have been held at Brampton Abbots Primary School. This has inevitably meant a loss in attendance. We now average an attendance of 17 adults and 1 child as opposed to 22 adults and 3 children in 2017. During the year, we have deposited a large number of hymn books, bibles and altar linen at Phocle Green in preparation for the church renovations. The Celtic Cross has now been repaired along with a section of churchyard wall which had collapsed. Our Easter service was well attended with an egg hunt for the children in the grounds of the school. We had two Churchyard Tidy days in June and October and the Probationary Service continued to cut the grass on a two weekly cycle from March to October. We said farewell to Canon Marvin and Sue in July and then the Rev'd Sarah at the end of September. Many of us attended Sarah's induction at St. John's in Cardiff in October. In September we celebrated Harvest with a Bring and Share Lunch after our service. We held a Remembrance Service at the Primary School with the standard bearers and members of the British Legion in attendance. A successful evening of carol singing around the village was also well attended, the money raised being equally divided between the church and village hall.

Rosemary Knapp

## Treasurer's Annual Report

The PCC is responsible for the Church yard only, with the Diocese responsible for the Church building.

Due to repair to the Celtic cross our expenditure over our income was £2,825.33

During 2018 there were no funerals or ashes. Income has been received from faculty for the Celtic cross of £2,500.00,

Donations £446.48.

Other fundraising of £1,028.13 from the [ Auction sale]

Collections have been received from the services held each month, including one for Remembrance Day £437.36 in 2018. In 2017 it was £568.41 The reason for the drop is we have had to move out off the village.

The interest on investment with CBF was £156.66. Stewardship increased from £1,528.00 in 2017 to £2019.00 in 2018

Total income for 2018 excluding the Faculty of £ 2,500.00 was £3,484.49 up from £2,698.64 in 2017.

Carol singing round the village collected £140.00 which £70.00 was donated to the village hall and the bal of £70.00 will show in 2019 accounts.

## Expenses

The expenses of £9,313.96 was much higher for 2018 This was due to £ 7,347.60 for Church yard repairs £1,500.00 Diocesan common share, which we had not paid for before. Also two years insurance paid due to 2017 insurance not being paid until Jan 2018.

**Auditor:** The PCC is grateful to David Bennett who has audited the accounts this year

Len Knuttall

## **Deanery Synod Report**

No report

## **Brampton Abbots Primary School 2018**

The Church of England School in Ross

Some random statistics

- Approximately 1 million children attend Church of England schools.
- About 15 million people alive today went to a C of E school.
- A quarter of all primary schools in England are C of E schools.
- There are 74 C of E Primary schools in the Diocese of Hereford and 35 of the 79 Primary schools in Herefordshire are C of E schools.
- Locally around 750 children with HR9 postcodes attend C of E Schools equivalent to about 45% of the total Primary School aged population.

Church schools are encouraged “to maintain and develop an active and affirming relationship with a parish church”. Most church Primary schools are situated not too many yards from the parish church, but this is not the case with Brampton Abbots and this presents us with a challenge, especially when none of the staff have a connection with St Mary’s.

Simon Tarlton and Christine Cattanach now take it in turns to lead the Thursday morning acts of worship and, once a month, an ‘Open the Book’ team visits school, this has been well received by both staff and children. Christine has also started a ‘Sox-Puppets’ after-school club with Year 5/6 children aimed at enabling them to lead acts of worship using the puppets to create both dance and drama.

As has been the practice for a number of years, some of our church members are regularly going in to school as volunteers to listen to children read or assist in some other way. I think that it’s probably true to say that hardly a day will go by without someone from St Mary’s being in school for a time. Unfortunately, it is very rare that anyone from the school staff, parents or children come to the monthly Café church which continues to be supported by an enthusiastic group of church members from Brampton Abbots and St Mary’s.

With thanks to the PCC we have continued the practice of presenting (The Lion) Children’s Bible to each child when they enter Key Stage 2. They are then 7 years old and have acquired reading skills that are at a very exploratory stage. It is to be hoped that they will enjoy reading “the world’s greatest story retold for every child” and sharing it with other family members.

Marvin Bamforth and Sarah Jones retired as Foundation Governors when they moved away, and we welcomed Simon Tarlton and Roger Hanson in their places. The others who served as Foundation Governors in 2018 were Peter Jenkins, Paul Mason and Keith Richards. The continued good health of the school is due in no small part to the work of the Governing Body.

Brampton Abbots has been oversubscribed in each of the last three years and continues to perform well in the various national tests and on the games field. In 2018 the school was one of only six schools in Herefordshire to achieve at least a 90% 'pass rate' in the English, Maths and Writing Key Stage 2 SATs tests. (Four of those six schools were church schools.) The federation with Bridstow School is now in its third year and staff and children increasingly benefit from the two schools working together.

Ofsted came visiting in 2018, 5 years after its last visit, and once again judged the school to be "Good". Part of the Ofsted report read as follows: "The school has a strong Christian ethos, underpinned by Christian values. Leaders ensure that these values are promoted in daily worship and in classrooms. Pupils are able to discuss their feelings and behaviour in relation to those values. As a result, pupils thrive in a safe environment that supports them well, both academically and pastorally."

Thank you one and all for the many and varied bits of help from church members and especially for your prayers for our own church school. More information about the school can be found on the display boards in church (first window ledge on North wall) and on the school's website [www.bramptonabbots.org](http://www.bramptonabbots.org).

Paul Mason

### **Incumbent's Report**

No report