HOLY TRINITY, COLEMANS HATCH

Minutes of the

ANNUAL PARISH CHURCH MEETING 2020

Held in Holy Trinity Church, Coleman’s Hatch

28th September 2020

Present Revd. Julie Sear CJ Payne Donald Clarke

Paul Double Angela Ogle John Van Maurik

Sheila Van Maurik Barry Tilston Caroline Daszewska

Tony Daszewska Donna Dewar Liza Jones

Pauline Maynard Rosemary Hammond Karena Meyer

Robin Meyer

Apologies Jonathan Bruce Keith Luckhoo Jane Luckhoo

Penny Dickens Barry Dickens Mike Jones

Welcome The Chairman, Revd. Julie, welcomed all those attending.

A. VESTRY MEETING

Paul Double l was elected unanimously. He addressed those present and thanked John for his contribution and his serving as Churchwarden over the years.

The vestry meeting was then closed.

The Chairman, Revd. Julie, opened the meeting with prayer.

B. ANNUAL MEETING

16 Church Members were in attendance with 6 apologies prior to the meeting.

1. **Minutes of the 2019 APCM** had been circulated prior to the meeting on the church website – [www.colemanshaatchchurch.org](http://www.colemanshaatchchurch.org) and were taken as read and acceptance proposed by Sheila Van Maurik and seconded by John Van Maurik as a correct record. They were unanimously approved.
2. **Matters Arising from the Minutes** – none were noted.
3. **The Trustees Annual Report** had also been circulated before the meeting.

Donald addressed the APCM.

The Financial Report was presented by the Treasurer, Donald Clarke with Accounts for 2019.

The Receipts and Payments account for 2019 shows a small surplus of £1,700 but Donald pointed out that this was achieved only with the help of a £12,000 bequest. Our normal income did not keep pace with our costs, of which by far the largest element is the Parish Share - our annual payment to the Diocese: last year it was nearly £35,000 out of total income of £62,000. Without the bequest we should have had to draw on reserves, and this year, for obvious reasons, we shall definitely have to do so.

As a result, all the year’s exceptional expenditure - on church, churchyard and hall - had to be paid for by sales of investments. That drain on reserves has continued this year and he is expecting a fall to rather over £200,000 by the end of the year.

We are clearly not in any danger, short of a catastrophic fall in the stock market, which has not happened so far, and we should be able to see out the pandemic. The PCC has therefore committed to meet the whole of this year’s Parish Share - £35,000 - and next year’s, which will be £36,000.

We are indeed fortunate in having such strong reserves and I am grateful that the fall in reserves has been to some extent mitigated, first by the efforts of the café team before lockdown and second by those members of the congregation who have increased their committed giving.

Liza Jones asked why we have to give so much to the Diocese. Many voiced their view that the Dioceses should be doing more to reduce their spending rather than asking the parishes to contribute more. The PCC felt we should pay our Parish Share going forward but the Deanery Synod reps will be bringing this up at the next meeting in November and will share the concerns of the PCC and those at Holy Trinity.

Julie thanked Donald for being Treasurer and appreciated that it can be stressful especially during the current coronavirus environment.

Donald told those present that our Examiner, Robert Jackson, who is stepping down after 19 or so years. We need to find another Examiner for the coming year.

Liza Jones proposed and Donna Dewar seconded its approval of the accounts and the Trustees annual Report.

1. **Karena Meyer reported on the Holy Trinity Electoral Roll** – September 6th 2020.

There are 82 on the Church Electoral Roll – this is at closure 6th September 2020 and is down one from last year.

Since our last review, 2 members (Jill Parsons and Veronica Dadds) have moved away and 2 have died. (Ray Parsons and Peter Dewar). One member has been added having been on the Roll some years ago and now expressed the wish to be reinstated (Guy Timpson) and 2 members have been added – (Andy and Cherry Kent.) 2 members have moved within the Parish (the Laings).

Of these 82 – 26 are from the Parish of Coleman’s Hatch, 15 from the Joint Benefice and 41 from outside these Parishes.

1. **Warden’s Report**

Paul addressed those present on the contents of Trustees Annual Report and reflected upon the period in question. Resumption of services in the church has been a great benefit to everyone. A young church bell ringer from Horsted Keynes had come to Holy Trinity and are looking forward to further developments in the future.

1. **Safeguarding Report - To receive and adopt the Safeguarding Report**

Revd. Julie thanked Andrea McGlew (not present) as she does a wonderful job in helping to keep our church safe. Andrea is continuing as our Safeguarding officer for another year for both Churches and is stepping up to be Revd. Julie’s Churchwarden at St Mary’s. Julie.

Caroline Daszewska proposed and Angela Ogle seconded its approval and adoption of the Safeguarding report.

1. **Elections and Appointments**

**The PCC** - The Rector, Paul Double, CJ Payne, Donald Clarke, Robin Meyer, Keith Luckhoo, John v Maurik, Sheila v Maurik, Angela Ogle and Jonathan Bruce were re-elected. Unanimously approved.

**Sides persons** – Revd. Julie thanked all those involved in sharing the welcoming on the door and all the sides persons. She also thanked Caroline for organising the cleaning team that had been coming into the church to clean up until March 2020.

Paul Double, Frances Stuttaford, Sheila and John v Maurik, Maggie Higton, Rosemary Hammond, Caroline Daszewska, Liza and Mike Jones, Keith and Jane Luckhoo were re-elected. Unanimously approved.

Hon. Secretary - CJ Payne was re-elected.

Hon. Treasurer - Donald Clarke was re-elected.

Assistant Treasurers – Rosalind Cowsill re-elected.

Giving Officer - Donald Clarke was re-elected.

Electoral Roll Officer - Karena Meyer was re-elected.

Choir Director - Angela Ogle was re-elected.

Deputy Warden – Angela Ogle was elected.

ix) Safeguarding Officer - Andrea McGlew was re-elected.

x) Independent Examiner – Position is now OPEN.

xi) Other offices – Julie thanked Liza Jones (flowers), Anne Hodge (flowers), Rosalind and Roger Cowsill (bell captain), Penny and Barry Dickens (Trinity Hall) were confirmed.

Sheila thanked Barry Tilston and Revd. Julie said he would be mentioned later.

1. **Rector's Report**

**Our Vision Statement** – recognising the importance of our role as the Parish Church. Holy Trinity seeks to be at the heart of the community by being a welcoming and inclusive presence through which the love of Christ is shared and celebrated through worship, teaching, care, service and social activities. Thank you to all of you who support this community.

We want to continue growing. Although we have not had the reports, the church has still been continuing. She thanked John for his time as churchwarden. Although not warden in name, she thanked him for all his work with the church, his time at the café etc. Revd. Julie presented John with a bottle of Bowmore 12 year whisky. She also thanked Sheila for all that she does as well as they worked as a team.

Angela has stepped up as deputy churchwarden and Revd. Julie thanked her for everything that she has done for the Church. Revd. Julie thanked the Choir for all their singing earlier in the year. She thanked Pauline as well for her contribution to the Choir and singing in the church along with Liza.

Revd. Julie went on to thank Barry Tilston and it is good to have him back and we all really appreciate the playing at our Sunday services.

Julie thanked Donna for her contribution to the life of the church. Sunday Praise photos on the website look lovely and we hope that we will one day be able to resume the services. Everyone appreciates having her here and all the work that she has done.

Donald, Keith and Robin – Julie thanked them all and recognised that it has been a challenging year. Julie is very grateful for all Donald’s help in helping getting through the difficult times.

Rosalind and Roger were also thanked for all of their contributions to Holy Trinity.

Julie thanked CJ for her help with the projects during the year. Liza has had curtains made for the hall and once they are hung in the hall we will be able to show the Hall.

She went on to thank Donald, Rosemary, Sheila, Caroline and John and their working parties in the ground. She thanked Mike and his bonfires. Thank you to everyone. Rosemary and all her help in the churchyard grounds projects which will be reviewed in the New Year.

Thanked the PCC – meetings have been prayerful and decisions have been made to keep up the maintenance of the fabric of the building and grounds. The PCC have been good stewards of the church.

The Kent family say hello to everyone and they want to wait until everything gets back to normal. We all miss them and they send their love to everyone.

Julie has a thank you card for the café team – for the defibrillator that is now on the outside of Trinity Hall.

Grateful to Max the gardener and we need to keep the Rectors field down.

Julie thanked Trevor for all his help during this time and his support in putting together the online services that are being watched far and wide.

We should be holding the church in our prayers and we will get through this time of stress and with God all things are possible. Be kind to yourselves to your own physical and mental wellbeing. The Remembrance Service will be outside this year. We are working on Advent and Christmas and will happen in some shape or form. We need to live out our Vision Statement during this time. Julie thanked Toni and Misti on Sundays. Robin was also thanked for his role on the Deanery Synod and his role in taking our case about the Parish Share.

Caroline thanked Julie for all her work in keeping us all together during this time for her support and keeping the church together and everyone clapped resoundingly!

Pauline asked those present not to forget the charities.

Rosemary asked who gave the legacy of £12,000 and Revd. Julie said it was Tommy Mitchell.

John said that although he was standing down as warden he was still as committed to the church as ever going forward.

Julie closed the meeting at 8pm