

## **Annual Parochial Church Meeting of Christ Church Barnet Held on March 28<sup>th</sup> 2023 at the Church building.**

**Present** Rev Andy Rimmer and 59 other people. Apologies received from 18.

Andy welcomed everyone and opened in prayer. We then sang a hymn and worship song. He reminded us that worship is all of our lives not just the songs that we sing.

### **7.45 Annual Parishioner's meeting – Vestry meeting – Secretary Kristan Payne elected**

1. The minutes of the Annual Vesty Meeting held on Tuesday March 29<sup>th</sup> 2022 were confirmed.
2. Election of Wardens  
Ken Morton (KM) was proposed by Graham Paddon and seconded by Stella Chan  
Tanuja Nicholls (TN) was proposed by Jo Penn and seconded by Pat Blyth

No other nominations were received and they were declared elected. Andy thanked them for their willingness to continue serving the church in this way.

KM said that the last year had been an exciting one in the life of the Church. He has seen a move of the Spirit and we have been brave and are in a good place. He said New Wine had been excellent and a great way to get to know others. There is a lot coming up this year and we will need to continue to be brave and not just go with the flow.

TN said she has seen dreams and visions coming to fruition especially in great worship. There have been more Baptisms and the establishment of the Iranian Fellowship has been very exciting. She would not want to be anywhere else. For the next year she hopes for more of the same and a growing closer to God. Also for an increase in the Children's work. This concluded the meeting.

### **8.00 pm Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)**

1. **Apologies** – Gilly Bean, Pat Barnham, Margaret Batchelor, Linda Carrington, Lesley Causton, Jean Corney, Margaret Dixon, Heather Keep, John and Monica Linton, Jane Norton, Ruth and David Shillitoe, Graham and Hilary Thomas, Roger Seaton, John and Anne Coles, Mel Goodwin.
2. **Minutes and matters arising from meeting held on Tuesday March 29<sup>th</sup> 2022.** The minutes were confirmed and no matters were arising
3. **Presentation of Electoral Role** This now stands at 297. 89 live in the parish and 208 out of parish. This is an increase from 288 last year. We would have had more but they were not baptised (yet!).
4. **Election of PCC members** The numbers of the PCC having been reduced at the last APCM required only 2 nominations. These were Katriya Ross Proposed by Mary Rimmer and seconded by Julian Desborough and Joshua Hill Proposed by Simon Coles and seconded by Jo Penn. **For the Deanery Synod** - Graham Thomas proposed by Gilly Bean and seconded by Jean Corney, Anthony Mak-Fan proposed by Pat Blyth and seconded by Jo Penn, Stephen Bull proposed by Carlos Rodrequez seconded by Jean Corney, Julian Desborough proposed by Ken Morton seconded by Ges Molina.

**All duly elected.**

### **5. Reports of the work of Christ Church including Christ Church CE Primary school**

The reports were circulated in advance. Andy made a few comments.

**Buildings-** We are very thankful for our buildings team led by Graham Paddon. Our buildings are very well maintained so we are fortunate not to have major works needed. Ian Gray has stepped down from his post and Soorena Saharnaz has just begun as the new premises manager.

**Worship** – Our worship is excellent and with good variety. Andy thanked all the teams for their excellent leading and the sound desk team which is so vital. Anthony and Lewis also for the Live stream which has been a great blessing to many.

**Prayer ministry and prophesy** – Carol and the team perform a vital work week to week.

**Connect Groups** – Andy thanked all the leaders for their pastoral care and discipling of their group.

**Children’s and Youth work** – A wonderful work but more helpers needed. Our Children’s work is vital for the ongoing life of the Church.

**Thursday Fellowship** – Judith and the team do a wonderful work that is greatly appreciated by many. There is always an ongoing need for help with transport.

**Alpha** – We have had great courses this year with several coming to faith.

**Compassion Ministries** – CAP, Renew, Open Door, Foodbank, Winter Shelter – all serve the community in a wonderful way.

**Christ Church School** – We are thankful for the ongoing work of the school and we are looking forward to their visit to church for an Easter Experience.

**Safeguarding** – This is a vital work and we are very grateful to Anna and Jo for all their important work.

**Garden Team** – Every Friday the team come to keep the grounds looking wonderful for us.

## 6. Presentation of Annual Accounts

Ges our treasurer presented the accounts for 2022. In summary we had an income of £416K and an expenditure of £339K and a surplus of £77K (the large part of which was due to some significant donations to the building development plans for the church sanctuary). The actual 2022 surplus was a lot lower than £77K... more like £26K which was re-allocated to mission and ongoing building maintenance)

We ended the year with a balance of £95K general reserve, £44K designated funds, £70K restricted funds.

He quoted 2 Cor9 v12 – God loves cheerful and generous giving.

He thanked all the finance team. Jo Penn, Sheila Ladd, Stella Chan and Roger Seaton. Our planned giving has risen steadily and the Gift Aid is a great help. There is less cash giving these days but more online gifts.

Andy thanked Ges for his 18 plus years of voluntary service. He is a great asset to us. 7.

**Appointment of Independent Examiner** – Mr David Smith of David Smith & Co was appointed again as our Independent Examiner.

8. **A.O.B.** None

We then had a break, watched a funny out-takes video made by Anthony and had a quiz about CCB and Open Door.

**The Andy’s Awards - The Good Egg Award** to Margaret Dixon for her many areas of selfless service.

**The Unsung Hero Award** to Paul and Sue Jackson for their nearly 30 years here and there quiet work behind the scenes.

**The Team Award** to the Prayer Garden Team. Mary Rimmer, Caroline Dixon and Roland Nutter were especially mentioned along with Luke Wickens for his work on the path. We watched a video of the garden as it took shape and it will be a great asset to us. We are grateful to the generous donation that enabled us to start the project.

**Individual Award** – Carin Maidment in the Open Door Kitchen for her unflappable and loving service in the Open Door.

## 9. Focus on Vision- Vicar’s Report

Andy began his report by telling us about a Russian pastor who was imprisoned for his faith for 17 years. He was despised and set upon by the other inmates but every day he sang God’s

praises and prayed out loud. Eventually, when told that they had killed his family he was about to give in but the Holy Spirit revealed to him that this was a lie. When the authorities realised they decided he must be executed. As he was being led out the other prisoners began to sing the hymn he had sung every day. They were so terrified by this that they let him go and he later became the prison chaplain.

This reminded us of our need to persevere and to realise we only have one life so must always make the most of it.

He then spoke from Romans 12 v 1,2

### **Countercultural**

We must be counter cultural and be prepared to be different and distinctive. We must be the most loving and accepting and inclusive without going against biblical principles. The C of E is in a difficult season with the recent vote to allow the blessings of same sex unions in church. We, as a PCC, have written to voice our concerns to the bishop.

### **Transformed**

In Christ all the riches of heaven are ours. We must grow and become disciples. James is going to look after this area especially. Small groups including Connect groups are vital for personal growth and to give our full attention to Jesus so that all the resources of heaven become ours to use. Like the caterpillar we change from one degree of glory to the next.

....Discipleship - This must be the focus of all our life. We all need to be part of a small group as well as one to one prayer etc. It is not so much about more in all the time but about more out so we play an active part.

... The Open Door is becoming more connected to the Church. Andy Wright has been the chair of trustees for 2 years. He was invited up to share. He said he had been surprised how much he enjoyed volunteering and getting to know people. The Aim of Open Door is the same as the Church. To win people for Christ one at a time.

Aims for this year include a kitchen extension to help Karen but also to use more for outreach and to work with the Foodbank in simple cookery lessons etc.

We need more volunteers. We need to engage more at PCC and trustee level too.

### **Surrendered**

Like an athlete we must sacrifice all of ourselves – time, possessions etc. and step out in faith. Will we take a risk and step out in HOPE in Jesus.

### **Nothing is too hard for God**

**We ended the meeting with a worship song – The Goodness of God is running after us.**