

**DIOCESE OF ST. ALBANS
PARISH OF ST. ANDREW, BIGGLESWADE**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF PARISHIONERS
HELD IN ST ANDREW'S CHURCH ON
SUNDAY 23RD APRIL 2023**

Rev'd Liz Oglesby-Elong chaired the meeting.

50 parishioners were recorded as having attended the meeting, 7 of these via Zoom.

1. Prayers

Rev'd Liz opened the meeting with prayers.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Judith Wakeling, Rob Lackey, John Dilley, Lucy Dilley, Oliver Dilley, Angela Dilley, George Dilley, Nicola Woodward, Vivienne Gayfer, Judith Thatcher, Rosemary Bentley.

3. Approval of the minutes of the 2022 Meeting of Parishioners

The minutes were proposed as a true record of the meeting: **Proposed: Paul Daniels; seconded; Hilary Johnson. All approved.**

4. Matters arising from the previous minutes

There were no matters arising.

5. Election of Churchwardens

Rev'd Liz noted to the meeting that Rosemary Bentley had decided not to stand for election as Churchwarden for a fourth year. Whilst Rosemary was not at the meeting, Rev'd Liz wished to express some words of thanks to her for all that she had held together in the last three years, for her commitment and faithful service and for all those qualities that she had shown to such a high standard and for which we were all hugely grateful. As a small token of our love and thanks, a gift of a book token and a card had been purchased and would be given to Rosemary at a later date. Rob echoed Rev'd Liz's sentiments. The meeting applauded.

Turning to the nomination for 2023, two had been received:-

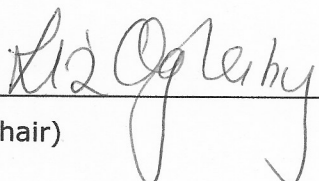
Rob Butcher: **Proposed: Brenda Thorpe; Seconded: Robin Jopson. All approved.**

Chris Parker: **Proposed Emma Pallett; Seconded Carolyn Marron. All approved.**

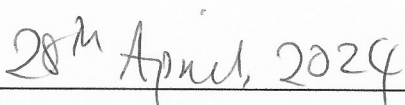
There being no other nominations, Revd. Liz declared Rob and Chris as duly elected and congratulated them on their election. She noted to the meeting that following a conversation with Rob, he had informed her that he only wished to serve for one more year as Churchwarden. Rev'd Liz added that both Churchwardens are already extremely busy and involved in many other aspects of life at St Andrew's and she therefore planned to meet with Chris, Rob and Rosemary on 2nd May to begin the process of looking at the year ahead and thinking seriously about how Rob and Chris's roles could be shared throughout the church. She looked forward to it, noting that it would be challenging.

Vaughan Johnson spoke about the importance of considering the prospect of succession planning and the post of assistant churchwarden. Philip Rutt said he was in agreement with that idea but that any assistant churchwarden should not be appointed by the PCC as that takes away from the role the congregation has to elect the next churchwarden. Rev'd Liz said she would take the comment back and work on things further.

There being no other business, Rev'd Liz closed the meeting.



(Chair)



(Date)