

**ST MARK'S CHURCH
LEAMINGTON SPA
ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**

MONDAY 19th OCTOBER 2020

1. Marcella King chaired the meeting. She welcomed everyone and explained that due to the Covid-19 virus, this meeting would be brief. Any questions for this meeting were those submitted beforehand. If anyone had any questions, which arose as a result of anything heard, these should be communicated to the office after the meeting so that the appropriate person could answer. No questions could be taken during the meeting. This was to keep everyone safe and avoid any sharing of microphones and further people speaking.

The meeting was video-recorded..

Rev Ruth Smith opened our meeting in prayer.

2. Appointment of a Secretary for the meeting.

Sue Turner was appointed as secretary for the meeting.

3. Attendance and Apologies.

33 people were present. Apologies were received from 8 members of the congregation. Full lists are in the APCM file. Amongst the apologies received were those from Rev Jo Parker who is self -isolating and David Calvert attending a funeral.

VESTRY MEETING

4. Election of Churchwardens.

There were two nominations:

Nominee	Proposed By	Seconded By
David Calvert	Sarah Lee	John Briffitt
Marcella King	Hannah Reese	Ben Taylor

Marcella and David were therefore elected as Churchwardens.

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5. Minutes of 2019 APCM.

The minutes of the meeting held on 29 April 2019 were signed as a true record of the 2019 APCM.

6. Election of Deanery Synod members.

There were 3 vacancies for 3 years

The one nominee was:

Nominee	Proposed By	Seconded By
Jeremy Clack	Andrew McEvoy	Liz McEvoy

It is likely that David Calvert will be co-opted as a further Deanery Synod Rep at next PCC meeting.

Additional note: After the meeting, it became apparent that a nomination form for Sarah Lee for Deanery Synod had also been submitted, but had not been received by the office. The wardens subsequently considered this as a valid nomination form. As such, if accepted, an election would not need to be held, and therefore, Sarah's nomination should be accepted. The following PCC meeting (2 November) confirmed that Sarah Lee be a Deanery Synod member.

7. Election of PCC members.

There were 6 vacancies, 4 for 3 years and 2 for 2 years

Those nominated, all for 3 years, were:

Nominee	Proposed By	Seconded By
Tracy Bevan	Tom di Giovanni	Jo Lockyer
Pam Griffin-Booth	Sue Turner	Amanda Di Giovanni
Rob Lockyer	Marcella King	Tom Di Giovanni
Dan Munday	Nikki Hill	Jo Lockyer

All were elected and thanked for their willingness to serve in this way. Marcella welcomed the newly elected PCC members, thanked PCC members who were standing down and those continuing to serve on PCC

The full list of PCC members is therefore:

Jo Parker
Heather Elson
Ruth Smith
Marie Calvert
David Calvert
Marcella King
Tracy Bevan
Jeremy Clack
Tom di Giovanni
Pam Griffin-Booth
Andrew Lee
Robert Lockyer
Matty McArthur
Liz McEvoy
Dan Munday
Hannah Reese
Alistair Watt

8. Short Update from Reverend Joanna Parker – given by Video due to self -isolating

Jo said:

Good evening everyone, thank you for coming to this APCM in these unusual times. I want to begin by reading out the beginning of my report.

As I write this report the church has been closed and worship suspended, we are facing a complete shutdown as a country and people are living in isolation and fear of a virus that

none of us had heard of a few months ago. These are challenging times and writing a report seems like a really odd thing to be doing whilst outside life is so different. I have just delivered toilet rolls to a family in the parish who are feeling isolated and vulnerable, a promise to keep in touch and pray.

It is not a light thing to be charged with holding the sacred place for a community, to be the place where prayer is said daily for the community and the world. This is what we do together as a church family and it is what we continue to do even though we can't meet together.

I really didn't expect that over 6 months later I would be addressing the APCM via a recording because we are still in the grip of the virus and I would be self isolating.

Yet here we are.

I would like to say a really big thank you to the people who worked so hard to make 2019/2020 a really good year in the church, especially the work on the 5 year plan for which huge thanks go to Matty. The plan is not abandoned, it is waiting for when we can move forward together and was designed to be able to pivot and change depending on the need and the resources.

Thank you to those people who help arrange an excellent church weekend away, especially Amanda, Marcella, Sarah and so many others who helped.

Just to bring us up to date briefly as this is really for next years report!

So much has changed during the last few months. We now have 2 curates, Ruth Smith and Heather Elson who are already bringing so much to our church life. Working with the guidance we are given we have started and stopped several ventures including the fire pit and Picnic Praise. We are planning monthly Messy church leading up to Christmas and Ros, Ruth and Heather have been working on developing resources for families both on line and at home.

As I said at the service yesterday, we are not sure what Christmas is going to look like but what we are sure of is that Jesus is here with us, Emmanuel, God with us in all the changes and challenges of both our own lives and the life of our church community. God is our rock, our strong tower, our mother hen our life and our salvation, our very present help when we need it. So we focus on God who does not change and we keep going, we keep loving and serving and encouraging and visiting and sharing and worshipping. May God bless you.

Reverend Heather Elson and Reverend Ruth Smith, both Curates, gave a short update on their time at St Marks since joining us this year.

Ruth talked about the work they have been doing with our children. Heather reported on the work with our local schools. They valued the Fire Pit evenings in getting to meet our church family.

9. Reports

Electoral Roll (Marcella King)

In 2019 there were 145 names on the electoral roll for St Marks Church. 5 names have been removed and 6 have been added making a total of 146 names for 2020.

PCC Report (David Calvert - Churchwarden)

The PCC report is contained in the Report and Financial Statements which has been available for all for the last 2 weeks. No questions had been submitted on this report and everyone was encouraged to read it.

Accounts (Claire Evans)

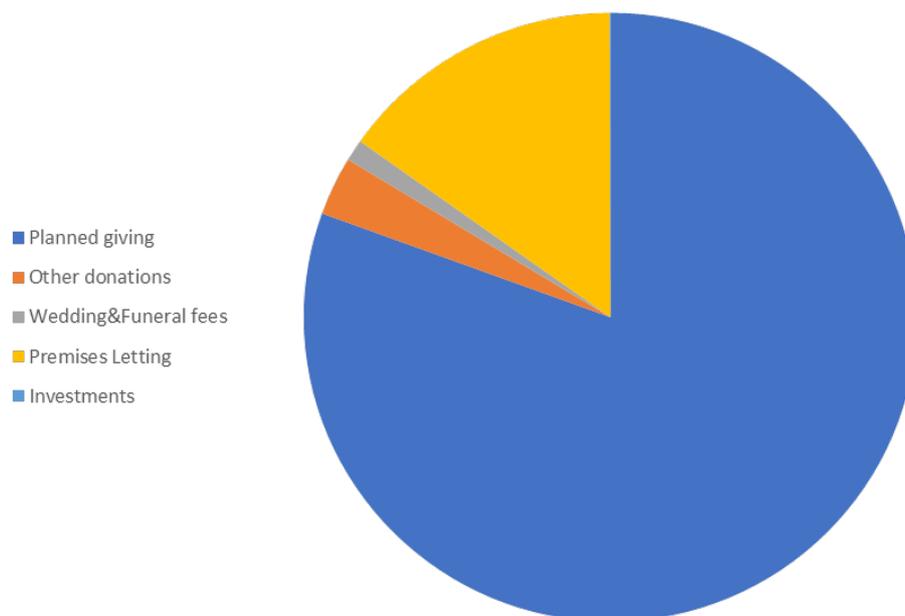
A copy of slides used in this report is in the file.

2019 Financial Summary

- Small surplus of £1.0k on the General Unrestricted funds - better than budget due to increased levels of planned giving
- In restricted funds, expenditure exceeded income by £15.6k due mainly to repairs to the stone floor. This was paid out of monies received in previous years from generous donations
- Still a healthy balance sheet (net assets of £298k)
- Full details in official report

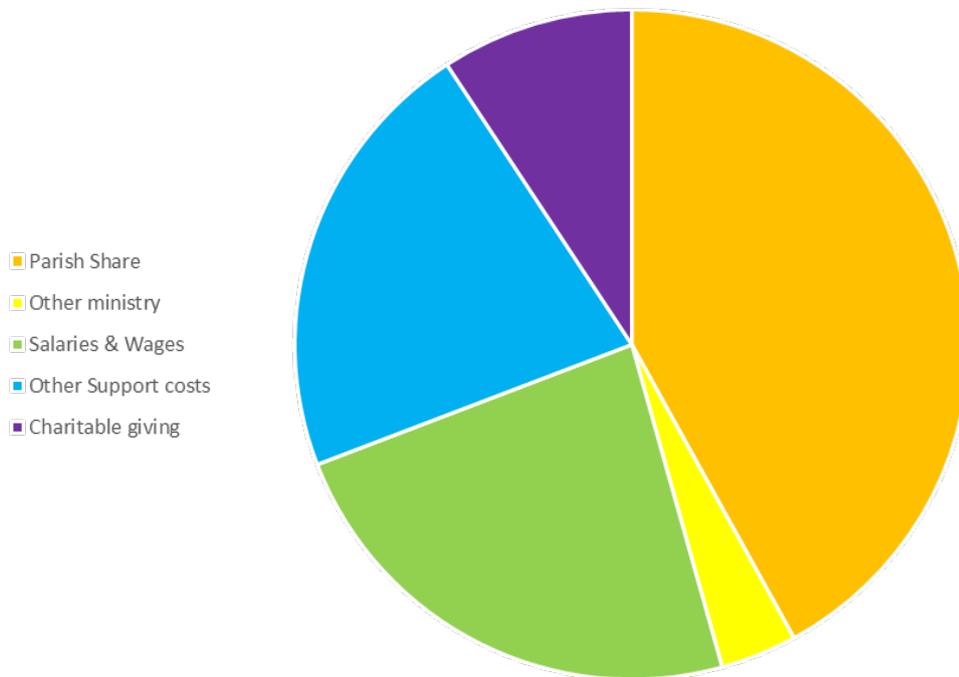
Income (Unrestricted):

- 80% from planned giving -£131k (2018:111k)
- Other donations incl legacies 3% - £5.0k (2018:£21.5k)
- Premises income 15% - £24.7k (2018:£27.6k)
- All other 1.2% - £1.9k (2018:£0.8k)



Expenditure (Unrestricted):

- Parish share 42% - £68k (2018:£68k)
- Wages costs 23% - £38k (2018:£38k)
- Other support costs 22% - £35k (2018:£34k)
- Tithe 9% - £15k (2018:£13k)
- Other ministry 4% - £6k (2018:£5k)



Amanda di Giovanni gave an Update on 2020:

- Original 2020 'budget' was £(11)k deficit in unrestricted funds
- Received legacies of £7k
- Govt furlough scheme £11.5k
- Hall fees down by £8k
- Planned giving down by £5.5k against the budget and nearly £13k on figure for this time last year
- Current forecast for 2020 is a £(6.8)k deficit but this doesn't include the bills we are expecting of around £5k for roof repairs

Amanda thanked:

Claire Evans – our Treasurer in 2019

Tony Parsons – deals with gift aid forms and prepared the 2019 accounts

Ian Salvin – independent examiner

Caroline Watts– payroll

All those who help count and bank money and everyone for contributing financially to the running of our Church

Everyone was asked to consider if they could do the Treasurer role for our Church. Having help from others helps the Treasurer job be more manageable.

Marcella thanked Amanda for carrying out a book-keeping role and covering some of the Treasurer roles.

Appointment of Independent Examiner

This approval of this appointment, for 2020, was delegated to the PCC to finalise during the year.

Fabric Report (David Calvert - Churchwarden)

This was a written report which was circulated via email on the 14th October 2020. No comments or questions on this report have been received.

Safeguarding (Laura Ward)

Marcella read out the following statement from Laura Ward, Safeguarding Officer.

The Church of England's safeguarding policy statement, Promoting a Safer Church, says: "All Church bodies should ensure that they have a 'Promoting a Safer Church' action plan in place that sets out, in line with national and local priorities, how the policy is being put into action and is reviewed regularly."

We do this at St Marks by working through the Parish Dashboard checklists and giving the PCC and everyone at St Mark's an up to date picture of how we are keeping our congregation safe. We have completed all the sections of Level 1 (Safer Foundations) and review these areas 3 times a year to ensure we continue to meet them. We have been working through Level 2 (Safer Activities) and we will meet all of these aspects by the end of October 2020. The report and action plan are available from the Church Office. We would like to make it clear that our procedures have been updated in the light of the use of Zoom and other electronic platforms.

10. Response to Comments Submitted Earlier

No comments or questions had been submitted prior to the meeting.

Marcella encouraged everyone to keep in touch with the Church family at this time, by reading the weekly news sheet, and come along to the Zoom chat after the morning service each Sunday.

On behalf of the staff team, Marcella thanked everyone who has served St Marks in both old and new ways to enable our worshipping life to continue during this challenging time. The challenges posed by the Covid-19 pandemic are not over, and there are still many changes from our normal church life on their way. Marcella said her prayer is that through this time we may be witnesses to the unchanging hope for tomorrow found in the good news of Jesus Christ.

11. Closing Prayer

Rev Heather Elson ended the meeting in prayer.

Meeting closed at 8pm.