

PARISH OF ALL SAINTS, BOYNE HILL, MAIDENHEAD
MINUTES OF ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING HELD MONDAY 22
APRIL 2024 AT 7.10 pm
BOYNE HILL CRICKET CLUB, HIGHWAY ROAD, MAIDENHEAD SL6 5AE
Fr Jeremy Chair

Introduction Opening Prayers and Welcome - Fr Jeremy

Over 30 people gathered for the APCM at Boyne Hill Cricket Club. The evening began with a welcome and we shared fish and chips and a drink from the bar. Fr Jeremy shared a reading from the Bible to open the APCM.

1 Apologies for Absence Rhona Latham, Jeanette Lock, Brenda Illott, Mei Bolygo, Jo Sheppard, Ken Smith, Jenny Wilks

2 Declaration of Conflict of Interest – None

3 Guest speaker Rev Jo Ellington Chaplain of Altwood School

Rev Jo Ellington introduced herself as a non-stipendiary Minister having been a curate in Cookham and currently a member of the clergy at St Peters Furze Platt. Rev Jo spoke of the highlights, challenges and learnings as Chaplain of Altwood School, a role she had taken on in September 2021, working one day a week. Altwood is a Church of England State School with about 850 pupils. (A summary of her talk is attached as Annex 1)

4 A Week in the Life of the Vicar – John Bolodeoku

John Bolodeoku talked us through a typical week in the life of Fr Jeremy, using entries in Fr Jeremy's diary as evidence of a busy schedule, across a whole range of different areas of ministry. John's PowerPoint presentation (attached as Annex 2) concluded with: '*10 Things a Vicar Needs to Hear*'

5 Approval of Minutes of APCM held on 24 April 2023

The Minutes of the APCM held 24 April 2023 were accepted and signed as a true record, proposed by Stella Harding seconded by John Bolodeoku. All in favour.

5.1 Matters arising – None

6 Election of:

6.1 1 member of Deanery Synod for 2 years – There were no candidates

6.2 4 members of the PCC to serve for 3 years

Jo Sheppard proposed by Stella Harding, seconded by Ken Smith. All in favour. Henderson Burgess proposed by John Bolodeoku, seconded by Steve Foley. All in favour. Laura Nunu proposed by John Bolodeoku, seconded by Steve Foley. All in favour.

Mei Bolygo was proposed by Tanya Fullerton seconded by Simon Fullerton. However Mei Bolygo was not eligible to stand for election to the PCC as she had not been registered on the electoral roll for sufficient time.

Fr Jeremy pointed out that we do not want to turn away volunteers. He asked that when the PCC met immediately after the APCM, it should consider co-opting Mei onto the PCC.

7 Presentation of Electoral Roll (Electoral Roll Officer)

The required notice for the revision of the church electoral roll has been on display in the north porch, it reads:

'The Church Electoral Roll of the Parish of All Saints Boyne Hill will be revised by the Parochial Church Council, beginning on Monday the 25th day of March 2024, and ending on Sunday the 7th day of April 2024'.*

There have been several changes to the Electoral Roll this year. Sadly four people have died. They are, Stanley Brown, Janet Emerson, Gwen Burkitt and Audrey Burch.

At the same time, we have three new people who have joined our congregation and are now on the Electoral Roll. They are, Varina Bosman, Heather Mann and Karen Harvey. So, last year we had 150 on the Church Electoral Roll and this year we have 149.

For information:

This year we have 48 men and 101 women. (33% Men and 67% Women)

Last year we had 49 men and 101 women. (33% Men and 67% Women)

This year we have 74 who live in the parish and 75 live outside.(50% in and 50 % out)

Last year we had 72 in parish and 78 live outside. (48% in and 52% out).

Next year is an important year and everyone will be asked to complete an application form. This is a procedure requested by the diocese every six years and was last done

in 2019. If there is anyone who would like to be on the church electoral roll this year and

would like the forms, please will they speak to me or contact me on
sastannett@gmail.com.

Sue Stannett
Electoral Roll Officer

8 Report on Church Fabric (*Churchwardens*)

John Bolodeoku reported that the Churchwardens are responsible on behalf of the PCC for the maintenance and repair of the church buildings. Dr. John Bolodeoku and Ken Smith were the churchwardens for the whole of the year, assisted by Mike Watts and Roger Towers, with Fr. Jeremy and Rod Broad. John thanked them for their support, and also Tanya who fields many calls in the office. Our architect, Peter Preston, is consulted on most issues.

All Saints church is grade 1, – of exceptional interest; the parish centre, office and flat above are grade 2*,- of more than special interest; and nos. 3 and 4 Church Close are grade 2. – of special interest. Any listed buildings are the subject of careful scrutiny when any work to them is proposed.

In many churches the group that looks after the buildings is known as the Fabric Committee or Buildings Committee. At All Saints we prefer to call it the Resources Mission Group because the bricks and mortar were designed and built to the glory of God and as a RESOURCE for the Mission of the Church. Although there is always work outstanding, due to the age and complexity of the buildings and the limitations of available finance, the complex is managed carefully and in accordance with statutory requirements.

Future

We are in discussion with our architect on issues to be tackled next but the crumbling chimney and stained glass windows are high on the list. Unforeseen work will continue to arise and repeat maintenance will be undertaken.

John Bolodeoku concluded by referring to the comprehensive Churchwardens Fabric Report Year Ending 31.12.2023, as a source of further information. This report was circulated before the meeting as part of the Community Annual Report 2023 and describes the work done in the church and the parish centre during 2023.

9.1 Annual Report and Accounts including Presentation – Rod Broad Treasurer

The Treasurer, Rod Broad reported that The Annual Report and Accounts 2023 was approved at the PCC meeting held 14 April 2024 and had been examined satisfactorily by the Independent Examiner, Feltons Chartered Accountants. The Treasurer gave a presentation on the Accounts.

Fr Jeremy welcomed the good news shown as part of the Treasurer's presentation that there had been a 25% increase in planned giving during the year, arising from generous new givers along with many givers, making donations via the Parish Giving Scheme, having agreed to increase their giving automatically by the rate of inflation, which was very high at the start of the year.

Fr Jeremy asked all present to bear in mind that we are still challenged by the need to maintain George Street's wonderful grade 1 building and at the same time fund ministry within the parish and the upturn in giving is heartening. If anyone would like to help build the mission at Boyne Hill perhaps the best way of giving is through the Parish Giving Scheme.

9.2 Approval of Independent Examiner of Accounts (Treasurer)

It was proposed by Rod Broad seconded by Ken Smith that Feltons, Chartered Accountants should continue as Independent Examiner of the Accounts of All Saints Church Boyne Hill Maidenhead. All in favour

10 Safeguarding – Stella Harding (Parish Safeguarding Officer)

The congregation of All Saints Boyne Hill are committed to the safeguarding, care and nurture of children, young people and vulnerable adults, and to providing and promoting a safe environment and culture for people of all ages in our church community. Accordingly, the church complies with the Church of England “Safeguarding Policy and Practice”, “Safer Recruitment and People Management Guidance” and “Safeguarding Learning Pathways”.

As the main decision-maker of the parish, the Parochial Church Council (the “PCC”) has a duty of care to ensure the protection of the vulnerable in the church community. Safeguarding is a standing agenda item at PCC meetings. Following the April 2023 APCM a meeting was held with the Church Wardens to review their responsibilities in relation to safeguarding, and the document setting out the role of PCC members was also updated, to reflect the members’ position with respect to safeguarding, and issued to them.

The All Saints’ Safeguarding Policy “Promoting a Safer Church” was reviewed and agreed at the PCC meeting held on 18th July 2023. In November 2023 All Saints held a successful “Safeguarding Sunday Service”; the resources provided by the Church of England proved very helpful in allowing us to share key safeguarding messages with the congregation.

Safeguarding Roles

In early 2023 Louise O’Dwyer Barnard, who had been sharing the Parish Safeguarding Officer role with Stella Harding, decided to step down and Stella accepted responsibility for the full role, including DBS administration and verification.

Compliance

The bespoke, All Saints' database of volunteers was updated, maintained and regularly reviewed by the PSO over the year to help ensure compliance with all DBS and Safeguarding Training requirements.

Group Leaders were reminded to ensure the PSO was notified of any potential new volunteers, to ensure that Safer Recruitment practices could be adhered to where required, and DBS checks and safeguarding training carried out as appropriate.

1. Disclosure and Barring Service Checks (“DBS”)

In accordance with the House of Bishop's Guidance, all necessary DBS checks were repeated at the end of their 3 year period during 2023. In addition, all new PCC members and new volunteers in roles requiring one, provided a satisfactory DBS check.

2. Safeguarding Learning Pathways

In accordance with “Safeguarding Learning Pathways” safeguarding training was repeated after 3 years. In addition, all new PCC members and new volunteers in roles where it is required undertook the necessary safeguarding training.

3. Safer Recruitment

In accordance with “Safer Recruitment” practices, all new volunteers working with children and vulnerable adults completed Application Forms and provided satisfactory references. Confidential Declaration Forms were also completed where the role required an Enhanced DBS Certificate.

Parish Dashboard & Safeguarding Hub

We continued to update as necessary the All Saints information on the Parish Dashboard; the Dashboard provides a way for churches to assess their progress against a range of safeguarding practices

We will also be signing up to the new Safeguarding Hub in 2024; the Hub, which can only be accessed by the Incumbent and the PSO due to the personal nature of the information it contains, consists of three tools or stages: the first enables us to keep track of DBS checks and safeguarding training, the second to create role descriptions and person specifications, and the third to track safer recruitment of new volunteers.

Note: Once the Safeguarding Hub has been set up for All Saints, we believe we may find it no longer necessary to maintain our own database.

Concerns Raised

An historical safeguarding allegation was raised with Fr Jeremy by a past member of the All Saints' church community. In accordance with the procedure for dealing with such matters, the matter was discussed locally with the PSO and a Church Warden.

The decision was then taken to escalate the matter to the Diocese Safeguarding team and Fr Jeremy attended an initial on-line meeting with members of that team and Archdeacon Stephen. A Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor took responsibility for dealing with the matter, and relieved Fr Jeremy of the need to take any further action.

Focus for 2024

Looking forward, the PCC will continue to work with the PSO to ensure that all those working with children, young people and vulnerable adults are safely recruited, all church officers are aware of the church's safeguarding policy and are appropriately trained, and the agreed procedure is followed for dealing promptly with safeguarding allegations or suspicions of abuse.

Annual reviews will be carried out of all current All Saints' recruitment, people management and training policies and practices to ensure they remain fully compliant with the House of Bishops' Guidance.

Stella Harding
Parish Safeguarding Officer

Safeguarding in the All Saints Boyne Hill community, providing a safe, supportive and encouraging environment in which young people and vulnerable adults can flourish and achieve their potential

11 Deanery Synod Report – David Morgan

David Morgan referred to the comprehensive Deanery Synod report which had been circulated before the meeting as part of the Community Annual Report.

12 Community Annual Report & Vision - Fr Jeremy

Fr Jeremy introduced the Community Annual Report 2023 and gave an overview of the year. All Saints Church Community Annual Report outlines the work carried out, during the past year, by our various church groups and organisations connected to All Saints Church. At the same time, it helps to highlight the role played by volunteers in the life of the church and in the local community.

Overview of the Year

In 1984 The Anglican Consultative Council produced the five Marks of Mission for the Church of England and the wider Anglican communion. They are

1. Proclaim the Good News.
2. To teach, baptise and nurture new believers.
3. To respect human need by loving service.
4. To seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and to pursue peace and reconciliation.
5. To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth

The Oxford Diocese has the following Mission Statement. We desire a 'More Christ-Like Church by being 'Contemplative, Compassionate and Courageous.'

The mission actions are.

1. Environmental action.
2. Christian formation and discipleship.
3. Growing new congregations.
4. Schools, children and young people.
5. Addressing poverty and inequality.

I could now look back over 2023 highlight where I believe the congregation of All Saints, Boyne Hill has attempted to meet the mission of the wider church. The communion model of the church that I have shared with you has the understanding that the church or the Body of Christ is both local, on a deanery level, Diocesan level, across the country and on a worldwide level. That is why it is important we look at our mission through those lenses.

I could at this point use my format for previous Annual reports and fill in the gaps by writing where we have tried to meet the challenges set. Some of these goals from 1984 were made before I was ordained and please note the need to 'safeguard the integrity of creation ...'

In terms of the Diocesan challenges these have been set in more recent times but are equally of great importance. Rather than offer you the suggested answers to our missional goals I challenge the reader of the following reports to try to note where we might be 'Loving God with all our heart, and all our strength and all our mind and our neighbours as ourselves.' Where are we meeting the challenges set in 1984 and indeed more recently those set by the Diocese of Oxford. I do not think we can claim that we have succeeded in all areas (Growing new congregations is a challenge I suspect beyond us at this time) but you may as you read the reports from our community find one or two areas we have tried to play our part in God's plan.

I commend to you Rod Broad's comprehensive Annual Report written on behalf of the PCC / Trustees to the Charities Commission. This is part of the Annual Report and Accounts of the Parochial Church Council for the year ending 31 December 2023.

I would like to thank Fr John Ainslie for his ministry with us as Assistant Priest and all of the Body of Christ that you represent who offer wonderful support. It is a privilege to serve in a parish where so many people are willing to give their time, energy, and talents to help make All Saints a place of sacramental worship, outward mission and welcome.

I pray we will all continue to feel inspired by God's Holy Spirit and each one of us discern where we can play a part within the community as baptised members of the Body of Christ. Recalling those promises we will go forth into 2024 seeking to channel God's love, by going into the world to walk in God's light, rejoicing in God's love and reflecting God's glory. Let us all ripple out more of God's love to the world.

With my love and prayers,
Fr Jeremy

13 Any other notified business - None

Close of APCM