**PARISH OF ST NICHOLAS REMENHAM**

**Sunday 18th October 2020**

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF PARISHIONERS & THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**

**Present:**  Father Jeremy

John Laing and Charlotte Every (Churchwardens)

Mike Dowsett, Sue Laing, Anthony West, Paul Sermon, Antony Duckett, Rosemary Duckett, Ann Laing, Pat Sly, Andrew Adams, Suzanne Came, Lene de Wesselow.

Mandy Sermon (Secretary)

**Meeting of Parishioners**

**1. Opening Prayers**

**2. Apologies & notification of any other business:** Apologies fromNigel Gray & Sarah West.

**3. Election of Church Wardens:**

At present Church Wardens are in post for no longer than 6 years.Father Jeremy suggested that a resolution was passed allowing Church Wardens to serve longer than 6 years. Anthony Duckett proposed acceptance of the resolution and this was seconded by Anthony West. All agreed. Anthony Duckett proposed that Charlotte Every and John Laing were both re-elected as Churchwardens for the year. This was seconded by Anthony West. All agreed. Both Church Wardens were thanked for their hard work and support to the Rector during the last eighteen months.

**4. Any other business:** There was no other business.

**Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

1. **Minutes of the APCM on 14th April 2019 & Notification of other business** The minutes were circulated and were accepted as a true record of last year’s meeting. Adoption was proposed by John Laing and seconded by Sue Laing. All agreed. No notification of any other business.
2. **Election of representatives to the Deanery Synod and to the Parochial Church Council**  No new nominations were forthcoming for the Deanery Synod. Charlotte Every agreed to continue as PCC representative of the Deanery Synod. She was thanked for her contribution.

Father Jeremy reported that members of the PCC should be re-elected every three years. He suggested that a motion was passed to allow the PCC members to serve for a further year. This was proposed by Charlotte Every and seconded by Paul Sermon. There were no changes to the existing members of the PCC.

1. **Election of sidesmen:**  There were no changes.
2. **Electoral Roll:**  The Rector reported that the number of persons on the Electoral Roll was 42 and remained the same as last year.
3. **Presentation of Annual Report and Accounts:** The Treasurer, Nigel Gray, had submitted his report:

General Fund:

The total funds under management at year end were £101,828, an increase of ~18% compared to prior year. The Year End values of the individual funds were:- General Fund £7,553 (Prior year: £7,719)

Hall Fund £61,980 (Prior year: 49,445)

Fabric Fund £24,143 (Prior year £21,164)

Strange Fund £7,167 (Prior year: £7,081)

Jubilee Fund £875 (No change)

Friends Fund £100 (No change)

The costs of running St Nicholas Church continues to exceed income by circa £8,800. Income was slightly higher than in prior year but expenses increased by 10%, primarily as a result of increased electricity charges, an increase in Parish Share and a significant growth in Churchyard expenditure. The electricity element is very probably a timing issue related to a switch in supplier and the benefits will be apparent in 2020. In both 2018 and 2019 sums of £7,500 were transferred from the Hall Fund to the General Fund.

Hall Fund:

Parish Hall income exceeded expenditure by £15,000. Income was boosted by a one-

off donation from the Kuipers Estate, a successful Quiz Night and an exceptional Fayre contribution. Expenses were significantly down on prior year due to the absence of any wall work.

Fabric Fund:

The small increase in fund value was attributable to the reclamation of VAT relating to prior year repair works.

General Comment:

As can be seen, the Parish Hall activities continue to provide a lifeline for the Church and it is really important that the Hall should continue to thrive. In this difficult current year, however, our revenue stream is being severely affected and there will inevitably be a ‘knock on’ effect for the Church. During the recent ‘lock down’ period it was encouraging to see some gift aid donations continued to arrive – but more would be enormously welcome!!

Acceptance of the Financial Report was proposed by Sue Laing and seconded by Pat Sly. Nigel Gray was thanked for his hard work with the Church finance. All agreed.

Pat Sly commented that although three wedding receptions had been cancelled during the year two had already been rebooked for next year.

1. **Report on Church Fabric and Churchyards:** John Laing reported that a lot of work had been carried out in the previous year so that there are no visible problems this year. A working party had improved the Churchyard during the year and tree surgeons were due imminently. It was noted that the upper churchyard would need some attention in the future.
2. **Deanery Synod Report** No report this year.
3. **Churchwarden’s Report** Charlotte Every reported that the Church was now open between 9am and 5pm. The visitors’ book had been signed and some donations had been made.

Anthony West thanked the Church Wardens for their hard work within the Church.

1. **Rector’s Report** Fr Jeremy reported that in comparison last year had been a good year for the Church but since March everything had stopped. Weddings and funerals had not been able to take place in the same way. However, there were a number of weddings arranged for 2021.

He expressed his thanks to everyone involved with the running of Remenham Church, the Churchwardens, sidesmen, cleaners, flower arrangers, the carer of the roses, the PC and secretary. He also thanked Pat Sly for her work with the Parish Hall.

John Laing thanked Father Jeremy for his work in Remenham.

1. **Appointment of the Independent Examiner:** It was agreed to continue to use Villiers Hayward as the independent examiner. All agreed.
2. **Any other business:** None
3. **The Blessing**

**The meeting closed at 12.40pm.**