**PARISH OF ST NICHOLAS REMENHAM**

**Sunday 14th April 2019**

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

**Present:**  Father Jeremy

John Laing and Charlotte Every (Churchwardens)

Mandy Sermon (Secretary)

Mike Dowsett, Sue Laing, Anthony West, Sarah West, Glen Palethorpe, Ruth Palethorpe, Hugh Whitfield, Antony Duckett, Rosemary Duckett.

**Meeting of Parishioners**

**1. Opening Prayers**

**2. Apologies & notification of any other business:** Apologies fromNigel Gray & Paul Sermon.

**3. Election of Church Wardens:**

Charlotte Every and John Laing were both duly re-elected as Churchwardens for the year. They were thanked for their hard work during the last year.

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

**Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

1. **Minutes of the APCM on 15th April 2018 & Notification of other business** The minutes were circulated and with the addition of sidesmen, Anthony & Sarah West and a name correction they were accepted as a true record of last year’s meeting. Adoption was proposed by Charlotte Every and seconded by John 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. There were no changes to the members of the PCC.
3. **Election of sidesmen:**  There were no changes to the existing sidesmen: John Laing, Charlotte Every, Hugh & Penny Whitfield, Anthony & Sarah West, Antony & Rosemary Duckett, Glen & Ruth Palethorpe were re-elected.
4. **Electoral Roll:**  The Rector reported that the number of persons on the Electoral Roll was now 42 but that a decrease in numbers often occurred after the 3 years. He explained that it was his feeling that the electoral roll should be a genuine reflection of the parishioners who regularly attended Church services.
5. **Presentation of Annual Report and Accounts:** The Treasurer, Nigel Gray, had submitted his report:

The total funds under management at year end were £86,384. a decrease of ~17% compared to prior year. The Year End values of the individual funds were:- General Fund £7,719 (Prior year: £7,387)

Hall Fund £49,445 (Prior year: 51,937)

Fabric Fund £21,164 (Prior year £36,638)

Strange Fund £7,081 (Prior year: £7,013)

Jubilee Fund £875 (no change)

Friends Fund £100 (a new fund)

A transfer of £7,500 was made from the Hall Fund to the General Fund to ensure that it remained in credit. The costs of running St Nicholas Church continues to exceed income due to a reduction in Gift Aid giving and sundry donations. The Fabric Fund reduced by ~£15,000 due to the internal and external repairs. The Rector explained that Charlotte Every and Sue Laing were working to establish Friends and Legacy schemes to increase the Church funds. Acceptance of the Financial Report was proposed by Sue Laing and seconded by Anthony West. There was an acknowledgement of Nigel’s hard work with the Church finance. All agreed.

1. **Report on Church Fabric and Churchyards:** John Laing reported that the external work on the guttering and the internal repairs on the damp had taken place. Antony Duckett commented that some rendering was missing from the parapet. A working party had improved the Churchyard and the offcuts had been removed.
2. **Deanery Synod Report** No report this year.
3. **Churchwarden’s Report** Charlotte Every thought that the appointment of Father Jeremy had been very successful and the congregation had increased on average by 2 -3 per week. She also thanked Mike Forsdyke and John Croton for taking the services in the absence of a Rector. Thanks were also expressed to the organist.
4. **Rector’s Report** Fr Jeremy said how much he enjoyed being at Remenham where he found the parishioners happy to be in each other’s company which was reflected in the social life of the parish. He has undertaken a number of baptisms since September and there are a number of weddings planned. He plans to write to those who have had baptisms, weddings and funerals last year to invite them to keep up a connection with the Church. He said he did not wish to make many changes but was thinking about an opportunity to perhaps make Mothering Sunday a more informal service and enlarge the congregation on that day. 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. Anthony West thanked the Rector for everything he had done since his appointment.
5. **Appointment of the Independent Examiner:** It was agreed to continue to use Villiers Hayward as the independent examiner. This was proposed by Anthony West and seconded by John Laing. All agreed.
6. **Any other business:** None
7. **The Blessing**

**The meeting closed at 12.45pm.**