**Church of St Nicholas Remenham**

 **Minutes of the Parochial Church Council Meeting**

**Wednesday 29th March 2023 at 8pm**

Present

Father Jeremy Tayler (Chair)

Charlotte Every, Churchwarden

John Laing, Churchwarden

Anthony West

Sarah West

Nigel Gray

Sue Laing

Paul Sermon

Mandy Sermon, Secretary

**Prayers**

1. **Apologies:** Hugh Whitfield
2. **Minutes of meeting held on November 3rd 2022** John Laing proposed that the minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting, Nigel Gray seconded. All agreed. Father Jeremy signed the minutes.
3. **Matters Arising**

 The Present for Mike Dowsett. Sue Laing offered to purchase the book about Henley**.**

1. **Financial Matters**

The Treasurer had received the financial report which was summarised and discussed.

Approval of the accounts was proposed by John Laing and seconded by Paul Sermon. All agreed. Nigel Gray was thanked for his work on the accounts. A summary of the report is below.

The Treasurer asked the PCC whether with costs increasing consideration should be given to a specific contribution to the maintenance of the hall. This would include occasions when the hall is let to Charities. There was general agreement.

1. **APCM Sunday 30th April.** The Rector explained that he was going to do the APCM at both Remenham and St Marys on the same day this year and that the retired rector from Mapledurham will take the service at Remenham.

The APCM approves the recommendation of five members of the Parish Hall Committee who represent the Parish Hall on the PCC.

The Meeting of Parishioners also appoints the Churchwardens. Charlotte Every is ceasing to be a Churchwarden and a deputy Churchwarden is to be appointed. A vote of thanks to Charlotte was proposed by Anthony West and seconded by Nigel Gray for her many years of service in that role. All agreed.

It was noted that there are 44 on the electoral roll.

1. **Dates for PCC meetings**

PCC meeting Wednesday 7th June 7.30 (J & S Laing’s House)

PCC meeting Thursday 7th September 7.30 (Parish Hall)

PCC meeting Thursday 9th November 7.30 (Parish Hall)

1. **Future dates**

Easter Sunday April 9th

APCM Sunday 30th April 10am

No service on 2nd July (Henley Regatta)

1. **Any other business**

**Easter Sunday** As both Churchwardens are away, Anthony West agreed to do the serving on that day.

**Coronation Sunday May 7th** Matins service. John Laing will ask if some of the singers who make up a choir at Christmas would like to sing on that day. John will talk to Sebastian as there are some special coronation songs that have been written.

The Parish Council have contributed to the Coronation mugs that will be on sale at the lunch that follows the service.

**Collections and donations** John Laing is proposing to provide another card reader more obviously placed for visitor donation.

The meeting concluded with Father Jeremy saying the Grace.

**REMENHAM PCC**

**Treasurer’s Report 2022**

Total PCC income for the year 2022 was £86,850, representing a slight decrease from Prior Year. Expenses in the same period were £73,136, up 20% on Prior Year. These figures are somewhat distorted by the fact that expenses relating to Weddings during 2022( primarily Organist and Verger Fees) were accounted for, whereas fee income from several weddings was not fully recovered by year end. These overdue payments have now been made.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, Net Income for the year 2022 was a reasonably healthy £13,353.

Total funds under management at year end totalled £119,037 , 13% above the 2021 figure.

The year end values of the individual funds were:-

General £61,643 (Prior Year £26525)

Hall £25,000 (Prior Year £46,814)

Fabric £24,143 (no change)

Strange £7256 (no change)

Jubilee £875 (no change)

Friends £100 ( no change)

The significant changes in value of the General and Hall Funds respectively result from the transfer of £35,000 from Hall to General towards year end in accordance with the Constitution of the Parish Hall. (See note in Para. 3 of Financial Review on page 3 of the Accounts.

GENERAL FUND receipts from Gift Aid and Sundry Donations were considerably lower than Prior Year (£45719 compared to £62,617). This reduction in income was primarily due to the special fund raising exercise in 2021 following the 2020 “lockdown year”. Fee income increased by 54%, boosted by a significant number of weddings – even though receipts of some wedding fees were delayed, as noted above. In terms of expenses, our Parish Share of £28,370 was paid in full and the other major contributing factors to expenses were works on the Church Wall (£5k) and expenses relating to weddings etc, as noted above. Electricity costs are rising rapidly, with a rise of 150% year on year.

Parish Hall Income of £25,193 showed a growth of 55% in 2022 with increased lettings. Expenses of £11,666 – more than double Prior Year, were impacted by painting work on all exterior and some interior windows (£4200).

In summary, thanks to a reasonably good year in 2022, the PCC finances are in good shape. We anticipate that we shall be able to fulfil our commitment to paying our full Parish Share in 2023.

Nigel Gray, Treasurer