

MINUTES OF THE STUDLEY WITH MAPPLEBOROUGH GREEN

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM

WEDNESDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER 2020 AT 7.30 PM

Those present: Kate Mier (Chair), Janet Green, Dianne Pannell, Pat Smith, Erica Hayton, Hilary Volrath, Phil and Jane Pattison, Dan Corlett, Glynn Jones, Judy Stote, Alan and Jennie Jarmy, Joyce Duffin, Linda Salisbury, Bob and Caroline Martin, Lynn Gilbert, Mark Herauville, Fred Young, Alan Greathead, Joy and Mike Holland, Alan Tostevin, Lynda Barr, Tony Drake, Charlotte Fitchett, Ann Chance, Kay Middleton, Judith McLelland.

1. The meeting opened with prayer led by Dan.
2. **Appointment of Minute Taker:** Janet Green was appointed.
3. **Apologies:** Roz Eden, Maxine Mould, Helena Mould, Rosemary Tostevin, Kim Harwood.
4. **Minutes of 2019 APCM:** At the first meeting of the PCC after the 2019 APCM members looked at the draft minutes and agreed that they were a true record. These minutes will be posted on the website as others had not seen them due to paper copies normally being available at the meeting.

Proposal – to approve the minutes of 2019 APCM

Proposed by: Alan Greathead Seconded by: Glynn Jones All in favour, none against.

5. **Vestry Meeting:** (Anyone on the church electoral roll could vote.)

Election of Churchwardens as nominated at each ADCM –

Studley **Phil Pattison**

Proposed by: Hilary Volrath Seconded by: Bob Martin All in favour.

Thanks were given to Phil for being willing to continue this year.

Mappleborough Green **Erica Hayton**

Proposed by: John Styler Seconded by: Alan Greathead All in favour.

Thanks to Erica for standing this year.

The above were duly elected.

Phil and Erica will be sworn in via Zoom this year with Archdeacon Sue on 11th November. This will be the Archdeacon's Visitation for the Alcester Deanery.

6. **Electoral Roll Report:** Alan Greathead reported that the opening combined figure for the year was 144. 7 were added to the roll with no deletions during the year, bringing the revised total to 151.

Studley: 91 Mappleborough Green: 60

Alan was thanked for his work as E.R. Officer and at this point Kate offered our prayers and sympathy to Alan on the sad passing of his mother, Mary, the day before.

7. **Election of Deanery Synod members:** There are four vacancies, 2 for each church and we currently have two nominations:

Studley – **Phil Pattison**

Proposed by: Joyce Duffin Seconded by: Lynn Gilbert All in favour.

Mappleborough Green – **Linda Salisbury**

Proposed by: Erica Hayton Seconded by: Alan Greathead All in favour.

The above were duly elected.

Linda will now become a PCC member.

This leaves two vacancies for Deanery Synod.

8. **Election of PCC members:** There are 4 vacancies and 3 nominations:

Studley – **Lynda Barr**

Proposed by: Hilary Volrath Seconded by: Phil Pattison. All in favour.

Kay Middleton

Proposed by: Jane Pattison Seconded by: Tony Drake. All in favour.

Mappleborough Green – **Charlotte Fitchett**

Proposed by: Alan Greathead Seconded by: Diane Pannell All in favour.

The above were duly elected.

PCC has one vacancy for Mappleborough Green which can be filled sometime in the future.

9. Annual Report on the proceedings of the PCC and the activities of the parish: This was prepared and has been on the website for some time as it refers to 2019. The 2019 Safeguarding Report was omitted at the time as it was prepared separately so this will now go on the website. An error occurred with the Deanery Synod Report 2019 as it was not written so this is not on the website as previously thought.

There needs to be an updated report on our churches' fabric, goods, registers, ornaments etc. which are listed in the Terrier and Inventory. This is usually done by the Churchwarden. Phil is updating Studley and Erica, who has only just taken over, is meeting with Alan J. this week as part of the handover process.

The Health and Safety policy for Studley is being updated by Kim Harwood who has produced a list of action points for DCC.

10. Finance Report: This was completed several months ago for 2019 and is on the website. To recap, the finances were in better shape than anticipated at the end of the year, with both churches showing a slight surplus of income over expenditure. M.G. relies heavily on investment income to make up the shortfall and neither church balances their books on giving alone. This is a continuing challenge going forward.

Appointment of Independent Examiner – Alan G. is waiting to hear from Jennifer Bell as to whether she will be available to examine the 2020 Accounts. If not someone else will be appointed who works with Jennifer Bell at Mappleborough School. The PCC accepted that this will happen and a name will be forthcoming.

11. Newly Elected DCCs elect Officers: The meeting broke into separate chat rooms for this item. The following were elected:

Mappleborough Green:

Treasurer – **Erica Hayton** It was noted that Erica will need much support this year as she is also Churchwarden. She agreed to keep her work load under review and ask others for help when needed.

Secretary – **Linda Salsbury**

Lay Chair – **Alan Jarmy** until 2021.

Studley:

Lay Chair – **Hilary Volrath**

Secretary – **Kim Harwood**

Treasurer – **Joyce Duffin**

12. Newly elected PCC elects Officers:

(a) Lay Chair – **Lynda Barr**

Nominated by Phil Pattison Seconded by: Erica Hayton All in favour.

(b) Secretary – **Janet Green**

Nominated by: Lynda Barr Seconded by: Linda Salsbury All in favour.

(c) Treasurer – **Pat Smith**

Proposal: To co-opt Pat Smith onto PCC as Treasurer

Proposed by: Lynda Barr Seconded by: Mark Herauville All in favour.

Alan Greathead will support Pat in the coming months as he takes over as Treasurer.

A huge vote of thanks was given to Alan for his sterling work as PCC Treasurer for more than 15 years.

(d) Standing Committee – This is made up traditionally of the Vicar and Churchwardens by default. The PCC agreed that the PCC Secretary and Treasurer should be the two other representatives.

(e) Electoral Roll Officer – Alan G. would like to stand down so we need to appoint a new ER Officer. Kate will put something in the News Sheet to see if anyone would like to take this on. Appointment deferred.

13. Looking to the future:

(a) Update on work to church buildings – **Studley Church Tower** – Phil Pattison

“I reported at the June meeting that the DCC had appointed a Structural Engineer to inspect the tower parapet. The result being that at least one of the merlons is leaning and other merlons on the east and west elevations need of repairing. We have been given a ballpark figure from a stonemason of £60k to carry out a full repair. The Structural Engineer suggested that another option would be to have the work completed by Steeplejacks whereby they erect scaffolding around the top of the tower which reduces the cost of scaffolding considerably. We have received a favourable quote from Ecclesiastical Steeplejacks to take down the merlons at a cost of either £9k or £12k depending whether they can be stored on the tower roof or have to be lowered to the ground. We are in the process of appointing an architect. We plan to replace the merlons as soon as it is practicable.”

Alan J. reported for M.G. Church that a faculty had been obtained for installation of a disabled toilet in the Vestry and installation of a sink and mobile servery where the sound cabinet was located. Various quotes were obtained with costs between £60,000 and £90,000. After negotiation and slight changes to the design, the costs are now between £50,000 and £60,000. Meetings with the Architect are ongoing and the contractors have made a start this week. There have been two working parties to clear the Vestry and then to re-organise the church so that a funeral can take place. Erica thanked those who had helped with this.

(b) Developing our care for the environment – Dan reported that everyone had been invited to join an Eco Group for our churches. We have been registered for the national Eco Church programme which the Diocese is heavily involved with. The Church of England nationally has committed to becoming carbon neutral by 2030, and we will need to play our part. M.G. DCC have agreed to set aside part of the churchyard to create a wildflower mini-meadow to increase biodiversity. Erica is leading this. Jane O’Dell is advising following the success of managing Oldberrow Churchyard. Studley members are using the opportunity to make their churchyard a better space for wildlife and reducing its environmental impact. Studley in Bloom have installed a large water tank at the Parish Centre to use rainwater running off the building for watering. The projects could also be a means of outreach by connecting with people who do not go to church.

(c) Discussion of our pattern of worship in church buildings this autumn – This is still a work in progress while Kate and Dan work out how to do things. Kate invited comments from the members. Some Holy Communion services have already taken place in the churches. There will be some 10.00 am Sunday services in the next month, restrictions providing, in Studley and Mappleborough Green. This will be an opportunity for those who cannot Zoom to go along. As yet we do not know whether this is something people will want going forward.

Comments were mixed:

- Hilary is not keen on attending church with restrictions, i.e. wearing a mask, not able to sing etc., others do not like or are unable to join zoom services.
- Joy enjoyed a couple of outdoor services she had attended as the risk was minimal. A vote of thanks was offered to Kate and others for all that had been done during this time of Covid restrictions and all the opportunities they are trying to offer to keep us connected.
- Linda said she had enjoyed other churches’ video services on You Tube and asked whether we could do something similar in our churches.
- Kay suggested that from a Health and Safety point of view and if infections continue to rise locally, it might be the wrong time for us to be going back to church.
- Mark said we need to be very careful about why we need to go back physically to church. It is important that Kate continues to ask people what they want. We should be utilising the media as much as we can so that nobody feels the need to rush back to the church building. We also need to support those who do not want to go back yet.
- Kate said she cannot plan more than one month ahead at the moment so what we are doing is the right thing in terms of what can be offered.

14. Open Forum:

- Kate told us that on Thursday 8th October a new series called Life Shapes will be available on Zoom at 8.00 pm for an hour. Dan has some knowledge of this course and will be leading the five sessions. It involves a way of thinking about the discipleship principles of Jesus that is easy to understand. How do we shape our lives in a way that is deeply Christian? Each shape represents a particular part of our individual and whole-church walk with God. Information will go on the News Sheet this week. PCC and DCC members were encouraged to take part and encourage others to join.
- Phil offered a vote of thanks to Kate and Dan for leading us through a traumatic period throughout the year. And thanked Alan T, Alan G and Judy who with Kate and Dan have helped lead Morning and Evening Prayer live on Facebook each day. Everyone joined in thanking them and we will continue to pray for God to lead them as they lead us.
- Kay asked if we could help those who do not zoom by producing a newspaper or booklet with a sermon and possibly an activity from the zoom service and something for children so that they feel a part of our community and not excluded.

15. Closing Prayers led by Dan.

**Next meetings: Mappleborough Green DCC – Monday 23rd November 2020
Studley DCC – Wednesday 25th November 2020.**

Signed:

Date: