



MINUTES

Meeting:	Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2024
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Date, time and venue:	28 April 2024 at 15.10 hrs in the Octagon, St Peter's Church
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Present:	M. Dearnley, Vicar, and 28 parishioners and members of the Ministry Team (list available).
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Apologies:	C. Alexander, E. Coley, L. Coley, C. Goddard, E. Guest, P. Seabright, S. Sollis, E. Tinsley, M. Tinsley, L. Williams.
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Chair:	M. Dearnley, Vicar.
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Secretary:	L. Cherrill-Teesdale
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Our values:

- Everyone is included
- Loving and generous service is celebrated
- Faith is nurtured and developed
- Everyone is inspired to reach their God-given potential.



Item	
a.	<p>To receive the Church Electoral Role: Rev M. Dearnley, Vicar, reported that the electoral role stood at 165. There will be a major revision in 2025.</p>
b.	<p>Elections to the PCC: For the period 2024-2027</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• P. Court, S. Fisher, D. Harrison. <p>All elected unopposed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• There is a vacancy for a Synod Representative.
c.	<p>Appointment of welcomers and sidesmen for 2024 -2025:</p> <p>Welcomers/Sidesmen for 2024-2025: Proposer: S. Bryant Seconder: H Harrison</p> <p>Carried unanimously.</p> <p>List of those appointed welcomers/sidesmen is available on the church website.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Suzanne Bryant thanked everyone for their work and support.• She thanked Marlborough Road Methodist Church (MRMC) for their warm welcome over the past nine months.• If anyone is interested in joining the Welcomers and the Sunday Tea and Coffees team please speak to her on a member of the Ministry Team.
d.	<p>The Secretary's report on the PCC:</p> <p>The PCC Secretary's report was received (see Year Book).</p>
e.	<p>Annual Reports:</p> <p>The annual reports for year ending the 31st December 2023 can be found in St Peter's Yearbook. The Year Book can be found on the church website from the 29th April 2023.</p>



Item	
f.	<p>Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's report and accounts were received and a copy of each can be found on the church website.</p> <p>Motion: that the accounts be approved and adopted. Proposed: R. Coady Seconded: S. Bryant Agreed unanimously</p> <p>Appointment of Independent Examiner of Church Finances: Motion: that Wyatt & Co to be appointed Independent Examiner. Proposed: R. Coady Seconded: S. Fisher Agreed unanimously.</p> <p>Rebecca Coady, Treasurer, gave a short summary of St Peter's Financial position.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• All budget obligations have been met.• Donations have increased but most of the funding of the SPRING project has come from Reserves.• Investment income has increased, but some shares have been sold.• The income from the Church Lands trust has increased.• For 2024-2025:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Need to build Reserves.○ Need to increase rental income. <p>The Treasurer thanked D. Butler, Finance Officer, C. Alexander, Office Manager, P. Court, Stewardship Officer, and the PCC for their help and support over the past year.</p>
g.	<p>Safeguarding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults is everyone's responsibility.• Safeguarding is always a PCC agenda item and is therefore under constant scrutiny.• Review of such things as risk assessments required as we return to St Peter's to ensure they are fit for purpose. <p>The PCC has complied with its duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops Guidance on Safeguarding.</p>



Item	
h.	<p>Churchwarden's report on Fabric, Goods and Ornaments:</p> <p>M. Waller, Church Warden, delivered the Fabric, Goods and Ornaments report.</p> <p>Key points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We continue to work cost effectively. • The synthetic VAT system has helped reduce costs. <p>Church Maintenance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The new roof cameras seem to be working well • the Lightning conductors and fire equipment have been inspected. • Smiths of Derby (the original manufacturers) continue to service the Tower clock. • Some roofing repairs have been carried out to the Octagon, above the Kitchen. <p>Churchyard</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Margaret Wainwright and her team have continued to maintain the Old Crem. Garden and other areas. • Our external contractors also continue to perform maintaining the churchyard. although we are now hoping to form a volunteer base to reduce some of the costs we incur. <p>78 St Peters Street</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (Verger's House) Minimal repairs this year. <p>The Old Church Hall at 11 Hatfield Road</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Filling and Painting windows does and will continue forever as need and weather permits. Ditto Roofing repairs. • General 'common area' improvements and maintenance are continuing to progress well, with support from the tenants. <p>Fabric general aspirations 2024-2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing to keep all the properties Wind and Watertight. • Keeping other costs as low as good quality work allows. • Starting the minor quinquennial report repairs once funds become available. <p>Mark Waller thanked Carolyn Alexander, Deborah Butler, Gill Taylor and Rebecca Coady for their support. He also thanked Reg Bristow, Peter Court and Richard Sales for their help, loyalty and commitment in keeping an eye on the fabric of the building.</p> <p>In questions the issue of the damaged churchyard wall on St Peter's Street was raised. The wall is listed and repair work has not yet begun.</p>
i.	<p>SPRING project update.</p> <p>Den Parker gave an update on the SPRING project building works. He reminded everyone that project began in 2010 with plans to expand the Octagon and in 2016 changed to development of the church building. Work on the church building is part of Phase 1. Phase 2 exists and is aspirational, the redevelopment on the Octagon.</p> <p>The major works (the floor) are almost complete. The church will be ready for use on the 5th May 2024.</p> <p>There is a fundraising gap of £150,000 and there are still a lot of things we would like to do e.g. glaze the South Door, install a kitchenette in the Nave.</p>



Item	
j.	<p>Mission Action Plan (MAP) update:</p> <p>The Map is on the church website and is going to be reviewed this year.</p>
k.	<p>Vicar's remarks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Vicar thanked Marlborough Road Methodist Church for the welcome St Peter's congregation had received.• The rededication service for St Peter's will take place on the 5th May 2024 at 10 a.m. The service will be led by the Bishop of Hertford.• Anne and Steve Hollinghurst have will be attending the rededication service.• In 2024 hope to reinvigorate the Friends of St Peter's.• The Vicar then thanked the congregation for their support and contribution to the life of St Peter's.
l.	<p>Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The minutes were agreed.• There were no matters arising.
m.	<p>A.O.B:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• None
	<p>The grace was said and the meeting closed at 16.15 hrs</p>