



**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners
Sunday April 26, 2015**

Fr Philip Chester welcomed 35 members of the congregation to the meeting.

1 Apologies.

Apologies were received from Jonathan & Elizabeth Aitken, Mary Brown, Susan Lowson and Margaret Withers.

2 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on April 27, 2014, were proposed by Rachel Whittaker, seconded by Maria Gayle-Rogers and agreed and signed as a true record.

3 Election of Churchwardens.

Two nominations had been received for churchwardens:

Grace Hoskin, proposed by Simon Lello and seconded by Jane Kennedy.

Simon Lello proposed by Grace Hoskin and seconded by Jane Kennedy.

The nominations were accepted and the nominees were elected unanimously.



**Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting
Sunday April 26, 2015**

1. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on April 27, 2014, were proposed by Maria Gayle-Rogers, seconded by Grace Hoskin, agreed and signed as a true record.

2. Presentation of the Annual Report of the PCC

Fr Philip Chester presented the report of the PCC for 2014. He thanked all those who had compiled the annual report with such diligence and was very grateful to all who contributed to the life of St Matthew's. Fr Philip thanked the commitment of the clergy who sustained the liturgical life through each week – Fr Peter Hanaway, Fr Michael Skinner and Bishop Graeme Knowles. He was also very grateful to Claire Pinney the new church administrator and Rachel Jewitt, headteacher at St Matthew's C of E Primary School.

Hilary Rowland and Grace Hoskin, the churchwardens, were thanked for their contribution to the life of St Matthew's. Fr Philip presented a small gift and card to Hilary as a token of his thanks for her help at critical points over many years and for her skilled leadership as churchwarden. In reply, Hilary said that it had been a great pleasure to be at St Matthew's, and reminded the congregation to continue to extend a warm welcome to newcomers.

Fr Philip also thanked Andrew Sampson and Maria Gayle-Rogers for their contribution to the music over the previous year and paid a warm vote of thanks to Cameron Abernethy, who was an excellent pastoral assistant. The full report about the school, as part of the annual report, compiled by Liz Lyle and Rachel Jewitt for the first time in 2015, was well received.

In December 2104, Fr Philip became the Priest-in-Charge of St Mary le Strand and he reported that he hoped that the church would be open each day and receptions would be held there in the summer. A new pattern of church would be developed there and he hoped that the congregation of St Matthew's would experience the partnership.

It was noted that Katie Hasler's name was missing from the report of the concert in the garden for the Just Festival. The annual report was nevertheless proposed by Rachel Whittaker, seconded by Simon Lello and passed unanimously.



3. Presentation of the Financial Statements

Toby York, PCC Treasurer, reported that financial improvement had continued in 2014. St Matthew's was in its strongest financial position that it had been in for many years, largely due to the generosity of the late Marguerite Greatorex, whose flat had been sold and the proceeds had been invested by the church. The conference centre net income was over £60,000, which was the highest ever. Toby was very grateful to Enver Sengul who ran the conference centre with great diligence and commitment.

The Clergy House, thanks to the work of the administrator and the pastoral assistants, had recorded nearly 1,300 nights of stay. Income from the congregation was a very significant contribution and indicated theological commitment. As a result of the improved financial position, Toby reported that the PCC is minded to recommend that the Common Fund be paid in full in 2016 (likely to be in the region of £65,000).

There had been some capital expenditure in the conference centre including new network infrastructure, audio-visual and IT equipment, which were important to secure income streams, which were always at risk.

The Clergy House also had to be maintained to a reasonable standard to secure income.

Expenditure is required on the lighting in the church and a project to start this later in the year has been commissioned.

A report was given regarding the significant contribution made by members of the congregation through 55 regular standing orders (average amount £50 per month) and the weekly envelopes (average £5 per week). Four standing orders had been cancelled in 2014 due to people leaving.

Gift Aid provided important additional income.

A new legacy is due to be received from the Estate of Tudor Roberts, whose wife had died in 2014. The value of the estate was £600,000 and income is expected to be received from 2016, once the Estate has been settled.

The Financial Statements were proposed by Grace Hoskin, seconded by Simon Lello and passed unanimously.



4. Churchwarden's report

Grace Hoskin, Churchwarden, reported that the terrier and inventory for the church were in good order and that in the future, there would be capital expenditure on the building. Claire Pinney, church administrator, had helped in the procurement of contractors for roof repairs and clearing gutters. All the vestments had been reviewed and repaired where appropriate in conjunction with the new sacristan. Grace thanked the welcomers for their important work, Hilary Rowland for her friendly support and knowledge, Toby York for his massive contribution to the accounts, all the volunteers and finally the 'unsung heroes' – Louisa Pau, Sylvia Lello and John Hoskin. It was a privilege to work with Fr Philip & Fr Peter. Fr Philip was very grateful for the work of the churchwardens.

5. Deanery Synod report

Jane Kennedy, Deanery Synod representative, reported on the work of the Synod. Three meetings had been held which covered deanery finance followed by a garden party in the Master's Garden of the Temple, Diocesan governance and a meeting before the election at St Saviour's, Pimlico, where the Revd Lord Griffiths of Burry Port spoke on the subject of *Keeping faith in politics*. On Shrove Tuesday, members of Synod had been present for the farewell service of the Venerable William Jacob, Archdeacon of Charing Cross. Elections for General Synod would be held in September 2015. Fr Philip thanked both Jane Kennedy and Alastair Callcutt for their work on Deanery Synod.

6. Election of representatives to the PCC

The following people, having been duly nominated and seconded, were elected unanimously to the PCC as follows: Jonathan Aitken, Melanie de Blank, Mary Brown, Maria Gayle-Rogers, Tamara Katzenbach, Lee Lieske, Susan Lowson, Liz Lyle, Eithne Risner, Rachel Whittaker, Steve Willis, Margaret Withers and Toby York.

7. Election of representatives for Churches Together in Westminster

Tamara Katzenbach and Jane Kennedy were proposed by Lee Lieske, seconded by Maria Gayle-Rogers and elected unanimously as representatives to Churches Together in Westminster.



8. Appointment of the Independent Examiner for 2015-16.

Jo Abdul-Rahim, ACA, was proposed by Alastair Callcutt, seconded by Hilary Rowland and appointed as Independent Examiner for 2015-16.

9. Presentation of the Electoral Roll

Wendy Cranfield, Electoral Roll Officer, presented the electoral roll. There were currently 122 on the electoral roll following the recent revision.

10. Election of Sidesmen

The following people were elected en bloc unanimously as Sidesmen (welcomers):

Maria Gayle-Rogers
Margaret Robinson
Rachel Whittaker
Melanie de Blank
Eithne Risner
Marie Winckler
Miriam Cook
Alastair Callcutt
Nadine de Keyser
Jane Kennedy
Steve Willis
Wendy Cranfield
Julie Ronald
Andrew McMinn

11. Just Festival Westminster

Jane Kennedy, a member of the Just Festival Westminster Committee, presented a summary of the type of events which would be included in the second *Just Festival Westminster* from 10 – 22 June 2015.

The Annual Meeting concluded with The Grace.