

ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING – ST JAMES & ST PETERS

Minutes of the meeting held on Sunday 11th May 2025

- 1. Opening Prayer** – Rev'd Sarah Sanderson thanked God for the last year and then gave the opening prayer.
- 2. Apologies** – Apologies were received from Caroline Turner, Margaret Smith, Ruth Kirkham, Lawrence Bignell and Malcolm Iremonger.
- 3. Minutes of the meeting held on the 21st April 2024** – The minutes of the meeting were accepted as a true record of the meeting and were proposed for adoption by Caren Eaton and seconded by Ian Holloway.
- 4. Election of Churchwardens** – Melodie Andrews and Ivor Jones were both duly nominated and seconded as Churchwardens for another term of Office at St James. No nominations were received for Churchwardens a.t St Peters

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Minutes of the Meeting held on Sunday 11th May 2025

- 1. Minutes of the meeting held on 21st April 2024** – The minutes of the above meeting were approved as a true record of the meeting and were proposed for adoption by Brian Lane and seconded by Mark Felstead.
- 2. Presentation of Electoral Roll** – Chris Harris presented the electoral roll which was taken between the 9th March and 13th April 2025 and published on the 20th April 2025. There were 102 names of which 71 are members of this parish. Chris Harris is standing down this year and Ivor Jones is taking over the electoral roll. Thanks were given to Chris Harris for his work over the years. St Peters has 34 members. Margaret Hamilton at St Peters is also standing down this year and Oyinda is taking over. She proceeded to present the electoral roll to the meeting. Thanks were given to Margaret Hamilton for all her hard work over the years.

- 3. Presentation of Log Books and Inventories** – Log Books and Inventories presented to the meeting. Replacement of broken tile on the roof at St Peters.
St James nothing added to the Inventory, couple of things broke hoover and boiler but mended or replaced.
- 4. Election of Members to the PCC (3 vacancies for St James)** – St Peters has the correct number of members. St James – David Newton was proposed and seconded and duly elected to St James' PCC. Ian Holloway and Graeme Matthews have both stood down from their roles as Health and Safety Officers and also stood down from the PCC. Rev'd David Keen is looking at alternative ways of dealing with Health and Safety issues.
- 5. Election of Deanery Synod representatives (3 vacancies – St James)** – As St James' shows over 100 people on the electoral roll, St James' is entitled to 3 representatives on the Deanery Synod. Caryl Plewes is stepping down as she is being ordained on the 29th June. Becky Keen was proposed and seconded as Deanery Synod representative for St James and duly elected. No other members came forward so there are still 2 vacancies for St James.
- 6. Vote for Mission Partners (2 votes per person)** – Everybody was given a voting paper and the votes would be counted after the meeting and the results announced later. The results of the voting for the Mission Partners was that the Lords Larder and Open Doors were chosen for the next 4 years as our Mission Partners.
- 7. Annual Report of the proceedings of the Church Council** - The Accounts are to go to the Charity Commissioners together with a summary of Parish Life and a summary of safeguarding in the two Churches as a whole. The Fabric report together with a little booklet of the things that take place in the Churches and the Community Centre.
- 8. Finance**
 - **Annual report of the Financial Affairs of the Church** - The Treasurer of Preston Plucknett Parish Frances Croxford stated that with the Community Centre we had receipts of £313000 and monies going out of £300000, which was a lot of money

coming in and going out for a Parish of this size. St James had income coming in at £92000 and expenditure of £100000 and St Peters had income coming in of £29000 and expenditure of £30000.

- Frances Croxford then went through a detailed explanation of the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024 for the two churches. The Community centre has a lot of monies coming in and what that money is spent on which gives an overview of the activities carried on in the Community centre. The Accounts to the 31st December 2024 were approved and proposed for adoption by Graham Hardacre and seconded by Sue McFadden and carried unanimously by the members present.
- **The Appointment of the Independent Examiner** – The independent examiner Simon Bachrach from Chalmers & Co was willing to continue as the Independent Examiner for the Accounts. He was proposed by Frances Croxford and seconded by Sandy Wood and accepted unanimously by the members present.

9. Vicar's Remarks – Rev'd David Keen thanked everybody at St Peters and St James who gives time and gifts and energy to the life and mission of the church. This covers more things than it is possible to mention: from running cell groups and various other groups; volunteering at Community Centre to connect the church with the community; helping with our youth work which has contributed to 2/3rds drop in anti-social behaviour on Westfield area; or being part of the new St James' bereavement café, which started this year and has been a tremendous help to people coping with grief.

I highlighted that the parish is growing in complexity, 20 years ago we had St James, plus a small congregation at St Peters. There are now 2 thriving congregations, a community centre, outreach on Augusta Park and the additional challenge of the growing

Brimsmore estate and Lufton and Thorne Coffin joining the parish in the near future.

The Parish will, in the future be expanding from 15000 to 20000 and the Parish Share will go up to £150000 in 2029.

The Parish is looking to send a team in to other parts of the Parish.

There is a quiet revival in Christianity in younger people according to the Bible Society.

The meeting was drawn to a close with everybody saying the Grace together.

Meeting closed at 2.45pm.

Meeting after the Parish Annual General Meeting of the New PCC.

Frances Croxford was appointed as PCC Treasurer.

Jackie Parsons was appointed as Secretary of the PCC

Joanna Newton was appointed to the PCC.

The Health and Safety Role was left vacant for the time being.

The next PCC meeting is the 10th July 2025.