

# **St Michael's Church**

## **Chesterton**



## **Annual Report**

**2019**

**Agenda for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2020 @ 10am**

**Annual Parish Meeting**

- Election of the Churchwarden(s).

#### **Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)**

- Apologies for Absence
- Minutes of the 2018 meeting
- Matters Arising
- The Annual Reports
  1. The Rector's Report.
  2. Report on the Electoral Roll
  3. Financial Statement for the year ending 31.12.2019
  4. A report on the fabric of the church
  5. The Deanery Synod Report.
  6. Report on the church's activities.

#### **Elections and Appointments**

- PCC committee members.
- Sidemen
- The Independent Examiner
- Deanery Synod Member

#### **Parochial Church Council Meeting**

#### **Appointments**

1. PCC Secretary
2. Treasurer
3. Electoral Roll Officer

#### **AOB**

#### **ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH, CHESTERTON**

#### **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 11 APRIL 2019 AT 10.00AM AT ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH**

The Reverend Malcolm Ingham welcomed everyone and opened the meeting with a prayer and a reading.

#### **ELECTION OF CHURCHWARDENS**

The election of Churchwardens commenced. Mr John McKee was proposed by Mr Jim Jones and seconded by Mr Brian Wright.

Mr John McKee was duly elected.

The meeting was then closed.

**ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH, CHESTERTON**

**MINUTES OF THE APCM HELD ON THURSDAY 11 APRIL 2019**  
**AT ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH, CHESTERTON**

**PRESENT**

Chairman: The Reverend Malcolm Ingham

Churchwarden: Mr John McKee

Mrs Jean Hillier, Mrs Audrey Wright, Mr Brian Wright, Mrs Helen McKee,  
Mr Jim Jones, Mrs Marion Marshall, Mr Colin Marshall. Mr Roger Austin

Apologies were received from Mrs Dorothy Kotowska.

**MINUTES**

The Minutes of the 2018 meeting were read and approved, proposed by Mrs Jean Hillier, seconded by Mr Jim Jones, and passed unanimously.

**Rector's Report**

The Reverend M Ingham gave the Annual Report.

**Electoral Roll**

Mrs Dorothy Kotowska reported that there were 33 names on the Electoral Roll.

### **Financial statement**

The Financial Statement for 2018 was given by the Treasurer, Mr J McKee.

### **Fabric and Buildings**

Mr J McKee reported that there are no structural issues with the church building.

### **Deanery Synod**

Mrs J Hillier gave a report on activities at the synod. A copy of the report is contained in the church annual report.

Mrs J Hillier confirmed that the Deanery Pastoral Plan had been passed and accepted. This took account of the request by St Michael's church that we should remain as a member of Churches Together in the Ortons rather than be joined with the Elton, Folksworth and Stilton.

### **Report on the Church's Activities.**

The reports give a breakdown of the activities of the church throughout 2019. Special thanks are given to all those who willingly give their time to help with cleaning, general maintenance and all the other tasks that are required to keep the church alive.

### **ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS**

The following were elected as members of the PCC for the coming year.

Nominee	Proposer	Seconder
Jim Jones	Jean Hillier	Roger Austin
Dorothy Kotowska	Janet Austin	Marion Marshall
Helen McKee	Jim Jones	John McKee
Brian Wright	Helen McKee	Jim Jones
Audrey Wright	Roger Austin	Janet Austin

Mr Richard Hillier and Mr Roger Austin agreed to continue as Sidemen.

The Independent Examiner continues to be Mr Michael Cox, proposed by Mr J McKee and seconded by Mr B Wright.

The Deanery Synod representative continues to be Mrs J Hillier, proposed by Mr R Austin and seconded by Mr J Jones and passed unanimously.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed.

## **ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH, CHESTERTON**

### **Minutes of the PCC Meeting held on 11 April 2019**

#### **Present**

Chairman: The Reverend Malcolm Ingham

Churchwarden: Mr J McKee

Mrs D Kotowska, Mr J Jones, Mrs J Hillier, Mrs A Wright, Mr B Wright, Mrs H McKee.

#### **Election of Committee Officers**

##### 1. PCC Secretary

Mrs J Hillier proposed Mrs H McKee to be secretary, this was seconded by Mrs A Wright and passed unanimously.

##### 2. Treasurer

Mrs B Wright proposed Mr J McKee to be Treasurer, this was seconded by Mr J Jones and passed unanimously.

##### 3. Electoral Roll Officer

Mrs J Hillier proposed Mrs D Kotowska, this was seconded by Mr John McKee and passed unanimously.

##### 4. Independent Examiner

It was proposed by Mr John McKee and seconded by Mr Brian Wright that Mr Michael Cox continue as the Independent Financial Examiner. This motion was passed unanimously

#### **AOB**

Mr J McKee proposed that due to the small number of church members that if all members of the PCC wished to continue then an annual vote should be taken and that the whole PCC be re-elected.

This was seconded by Mrs Jean Hillier and the motion was passed unanimously.

The meeting then closed with a prayer.

#### **Rectors Report**

Regrets? I have a few, but then again, too few to mention...

Don't worry, I'm not going to burst into song (the line above is from "My way" if you're wracking your brain), but this is my sixteenth and last annual report as Rector of Alwalton, Orton Wistow, Orton Northgate, Orton Southgate and Chesterton.

Admittedly, when I first started writing these reports they were "Team Vicar" reports and I suppose that reflects the changes that have taken place. St. Andrew's and St. Michael's were part of a larger team that was already in the process of disbanding when we arrived, then we joined with three other local churches before eventually going back to being stand-alone parishes. In the most recent months, we have become virtual

churches meeting online through Zoom and YouTube. What an odd, exciting, ever changing church we are part of.

And now another change for you and for us – our family is moving over the border into Peterborough diocese and joining a group of parishes on the other side of Northampton so, in the not too distant future, another name will be added to the lists here of incumbents hanging in both churches – just for the sake of clarity, it's the lists that are hanging in the churches, not the incumbents!

So, the reign of Ingham is coming to an end? Well I hope not, because I hope that it has not been my “reign”, rather I have always sought to be under the authority of Scripture and the sovereignty of God. Over the years it has been a privilege and an honour to serve as the incumbent of both parishes, to know you all and count you as my friends. To be a friend in return and to share our lives with you. To be partners together in the Gospel, serving God, following Christ, keeping instep with the Spirit.

So, do I have regrets? Well, yes, a few, but too few to mention because over the last sixteen years I have tried not to do things my way – I have tried to prayerfully do them God's way. Sometimes I've succeeded and sometimes my own rebellious sinful nature has meant I haven't and those instances have been my regrets, but I hope that in general we have been churches that have been learning about Christ, loving Christ and living for Christ.

There is much still to do here in our communities as well as in our own hearts before Jesus returns, but the good news is that in his strength anything and everything is possible.

So, what will your Rector's report look like next year. Different, but I hope the same. A different name, a different style, but the same because my hope and prayer is that your next Rector will be committed to serving God and these communities, that they will be open to God's Spirit and grounded in their love of God's Word. That they will be passionate about sharing it with you and introducing Jesus to those who do not know him. Prayerfully seek such a person out. But then, how they work all those things out with you in daily terms – well, that is the wonderful and exciting unknown. Enjoy the adventure.

## **Church Activities 2019**

### **1. Coffee Mornings**

Each month between May and October we held a coffee morning on behalf of Peterborough Women's Refuge. We raised £ 636. At the first meeting of the year we had a visit from Carol Empson who is the CEO of the Refuge. She told us about the work of refuges in general and the Peterborough one in particular. Together with Mrs Audrey Wright, I attended the AGM of the refuge and heard a very moving story from a lady who had come to the refuge and her journey to a different life with the help of those who work in the refuge.

Another reason for the Coffee mornings was to give local people somewhere to meet and talk. This seemed to be appreciated. The coffee and cakes were free, and people donated on the way out. Our numbers were high for the first meeting but fell away later, although those who attended were most appreciative.

### **2. Harvest Supper**

After the Harvest Festival Service, we had a Bring and Share supper. The supper seemed to be enjoyed by all.

### **3. Churches Together in the Ortons**

The year began with the week of prayer for Christian Unity and a service was held at Orton Waterville Methodist Church.

This year we were not involved in providing a Lent Lunch. However, we helped with the Christian Aid lunch on July 12<sup>th</sup>. We provided some of the food and helped to serve.

There was an Advent Carol Service at St Andrew's and carol singing outside QD at Ortongate in December. Christian Presence had a Christmas Entertainment on December 8<sup>th</sup> at 3pm in the afternoon.

### **Yaxley Deanery Synod Report 2019**

The first meeting of the year on February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019 was at St. Andrew's Church, Alwalton. It began with ALM licensing. Sophia Tennant and Suzanne Delegate were licensed as Youth Ministers for work at St. Peter's Yaxley. Jake Ellard was licensed to the Orton Benefice as a Worship Leader.

It was acknowledged that with the retirement of Anne Shorter from Stanground the Deanery now had three posts vacant.

The Pastoral plan put before the Synod was agreed upon.

The Synod was informed that Rev. Sarah Gower would be inducted as Yaxley Rural Dean on 12<sup>th</sup> February.

The second meeting was on the 10<sup>th</sup> June at St. Michael's Church, Chesterton.

There was a presentation by Geoffrey Hunter, Church Buildings Consultant. Apparently, there is a new project "Re-imagining Churches as Community Assets for the Common Good". REACH. The people involved intend to visit various Churches where Community use is happening, and get good ideas, which can then be made available to all. It is a way of getting local people interested in the Church and a way of gaining additional income. The project will last three years.

The pastoral plan had been sent to the Archdeacon.

The Rev. Sarah Hare from the Hereford Diocese was to be licensed to Yaxley on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2019.

The Rev. Rebecca Dyball from Ramsey was to be licensed to Sawtry, Glatton and Holme.

Barry Swingler, already a licensed Lay Minister was to be ordained as a Deacon as a Local Contextual Ordained Minister in September and Mark Pybus had been approved for a curacy and would be ordained at the same time and would be appointed to Elton.

The third meeting was at St. Mary's Church Haddon on October 14th. There was no talk but a welcome to new Ministers. The Rev. Andrew Avery had been appointed to Stanground with his wife, Carol Avery as a Pioneer/ Associate Minister. Rev Sarah Hare from Yaxley was also introduced. The Ministers all gave their testimonies and were prayed for by the Synod as they began their work in the Deanery. Rev. Rebecca Dyball was unable to be present, as was Rev. Mark Pybus.

There was a discussion about the parish share. Chris Milton gave a slide presentation to outline how parish share is worked out. There is to be an increase in parish share so that, eventually, Yaxley Deanery will pay for its own clergy.

Card readers were now available so that people could give their church collection via debit card.

There was to be a confirmation service for the Deanery at CSK Hampton on 17<sup>th</sup> November.

### **Electoral Roll Report 2019, Mrs Dorothy Kotowska**

There are 34 names on the Electoral Roll.

This is one less than last year due to the death of Mr Jeffrey King.

We have other people at our services who do not want to be on our Electoral Roll.

### **Church Finances by the treasurer, Mr John McKee.**

The church accounts have been passed by the Independent Examiner. The accounts show that the church is in a reasonable financial position. A copy is available from the treasurer.

2019 was a year where there were no major expenses. The overall position was similar to 2018 but going forward the monitoring of income and expenditure by the PCC would be important.

Taking this into account the church is still in a strong financial position.

### **Charitable Giving**

Over 10% of our income is used for Charitable purposes. During 2019 St. Michael's Church supported the following charities:

- The Mothers Union
- The Women's Refuges in Peterborough.
- The Sue Ryder hospice received all fresh food from the Harvest Festival.
- Time Stop received all tinned and boxed food from the Harvest Festival.
- The Children's Society. Donations are made through the collecting box which is always at the rear of the church

In addition to the above we continued to support the Peterborough Food Bank. During 2019 St Michael's Church donated over 150 kilograms of food.

### **Report on the Fabric and Buildings by the Churchwarden, Mr John McKee**

During 2019 there has been no major works carried out on the fabric of the church. The church is in good repair and all areas of the church are monitored to ensure that there is no deterioration that would affect the use of the building.

The electrics are sound, and a new certificate has been issued.

The problems that were evident in the alarm system have now been resolved and there have been no recent spurious callouts to reset the alarms.