

Annual General Meeting of St Thomas and St Bede the Venerable

The Presbytery, Weobley

Monday 10th June 2024

Minutes

Present: PAC: Fr. Simon, Tricia Carter, Joanna Helme, Frank McNally, Karen Lampitt.
Hon. Secretary: Kerry Poole. **Parishioners:** Pam Sheers, Joan McNally, Pat Roberts, Andy Palfreman, Patricia Stuart, Virginia Bird, Julie Gander, Camilla Bengough.

Apologies: Charles de Rohan, Sarah Nichols, Peter and Sophie Plunkett, Peter Hereford, Pat Baggott, Virginia Taylor.

The following is a brief summary of the reports presented to the meeting. The reports can be found on our Parish website by following this link:

<https://thomasandbede.com/minutes/>

1. Fr. Simon opened the meeting with a prayer.
2. The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and read out the apologies.
3. Karen Lampitt, who has now served two terms of office as PAC member and is therefore standing down, was thanked for her work and contribution. Joanna Helme, who has also served two terms, was co-opted back onto the PAC in her role as chair of the Finance Committee.
4. The chair announced the results of the election held to appoint two new members onto the PAC. There were three nominations and the voting had been very close. Patricia Stuart and Julie Gander were the successful candidates and were welcomed onto the Parish Advisory Council.
5. **Parish Priest's Report** Fr. Simon gave a summary of the events in the parish over the last year.
6. **Annual Finance Committee Report (JH)** Joanna gave a detailed report on the finances of the parish over the last year. She also distributed copies of a Statement of Financial activities for the year to 30th June 2023.
7. **Annual Social Committee Report (JM)** Joan McNally described the variety of activities which had taken place in the parish over the last year, including a well-attended St. Patrick's Day lunch and the ever-popular Strawberry Tea and Parish BBQ. She also expressed her gratitude to all those who had helped to make these events possible and to the ladies who provide tea and coffee and biscuits after mass on Sunday.
8. **Refurbishment and Re-decoration Programme (FM)** Frank gave a summary of the progress of the application which has been made to HCC for permission to redecorate and refurbish St. Thomas' church.

9. **Churches Together (Kington) (PR)** Pat Roberts gave an account of the variety of activities and work undertaken by Kington Churches Together over the last year. The work of the Kington Food Bank was of particular interest to the meeting and Pat was able to enlarge on the current position regarding the use of the Bank and how it worked.

Churches Together (Weobley) (PS) Patricia Stuart told the meeting about the variety of activities and work undertaken by Weobley Churches Together. She spoke particularly about the value of spiritual meetings, where parishioners of different religions were able to discuss their faith and beliefs with each other. This was proving to be a very enriching experience.

10. **CAFOD Annual Report (JH)** Joanna gave an account of the money raised by the parish for this organisation and described the work it did.

11. **Safeguarding Report (JH)** Joanna described her responsibilities as the safeguarding representative and which parishioners are affected by its requirements. The parish's safeguarding policy and a list of those who have been checked are displayed on the noticeboard in the sacristy.

12. **Missio (Red boxes) (AP)** Andy informed the meeting of the amount raised by the red mission boxes. However, the use of these boxes is dwindling because fewer people are using cash.

13. **General Maintenance (AP)** Andy went through the various works of maintenance he had carried out in both churches over the last year. He expressed concern that the problem with the parquet flooring in St. Bede's was still not fully resolved. Tricia said that it would be put on the agenda of the next PAC meeting.

14. **Deanery Matters (PR)** The Deanery Advisory Committee has been re-introduced following a three year gap during Covid. The new Dean is Fr. Brendan.

15. **The date of the next PAC meeting will be Monday 2nd September, 7pm in the parish meeting room.**

16. Tricia thanked those present for their attendance and Fr. Simon closed the meeting with a prayer.