

Minutes of Steep Church Annual Parochial Church meeting held on 26.3 2023

1. Apologies: Christopher and Rachel Reed, David Erskine Hill, Hew Granlund, Judy and Michael Thompson, Richard and Caroline Welch, Geoffrey Dale, Anthony Littlejohn, Fran Box
2. Bubbles read out the Electoral Roll Officer's Report. The number on the roll had increased from 105 to 134.
3. Financial Report. Hew had prepared the accounts and had passed them to the independent examiner. The investment committee had made sound decisions, a commendable result said Brian.
4. Helen gave the Fabric and Finance report. Quotes had been received to repair the roof and the work will start in a couple of months. A small group had been set up to progress the improvement of the kitchen. The Archdeacon's visit had gone well and his report was awaited. 10 metres of the church wall had collapsed. David Cain was coming to look at the collapse. The Diocese was working to establish the ownership of the wall.
5. Election of the laity to the PCC. The list of names was read out and proposed by Heather and seconded by George Tullis. Elected unanimously.
6. The names of the sidesmen were read out. Brian Keys proposed and Caroline Hilton seconded. Elected unanimously.
7. David Storey had stepped down as Deanery Synod Representative. Amanda Greenlee was elected.
8. Election of the Churchwardens. David Dobson proposed and Caroline Hilton seconded Bubbles Silk as Churchwarden. Brian Keys proposed and David Kidd seconded Jonathan Selby as Churchwarden. Both were elected unanimously.
9. Jonathan as churchwarden read the Churchwarden's Report. He was commended for a concise and readable report.
10. Ian Hughes was appointed as the independent examiner.
11. AOB Bubbles was asked about appointing a new vicar. She said we had to be realistic and we were unlikely to get a full stipendiary post, but needed a stipendiary post as there were 6 schools in the Benefice. Susie spoke on the Deanery roles that will be provided by the priests in Sheet and Liss. Bubbles assured us that the correct procedure will be followed, either to advertise or to ask the bishop to make a recommendation. Currently the Bishop is the patron. Bubbles is working with the

churchwardens of Froxfield for a joint appointment. Bubbles and Richard Welch are the representatives for Steep. Sue Jones, who chairs the Diocesan Finance committee told us the Bishop is keen to delegate responsibility to the Deanery to appoint priests according to the Deanery Action Plan. Bubbles announced that the Benefice had appointed Gerald as our organist.