

## **DRAFT**

### **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May, St Mary's Church, Stapleford Tawney at 11.45am**

**Present:** Revd John Fry (Chairman)  
Michael and Ann Blagden  
Maggie Dennis  
Peter and Janet Doe  
Colin and Edna Flint  
Debbie Lee  
Martyn and Ann Lockwood  
Anne Padfield  
Cindy Pridmore  
Anne Stewart  
Jack Stewart  
Joan White

**Apologies:** Jo Shephard, Gill Southall, Lorna and Martin Cearns, Bernie Pridmore, Henry Dennis, Christine Gwynn, Revd Carol Newnham

1. Minutes of the 2021 Annual Vestry Meeting had been circulated and it was noticed that the year was not specified. Subject to this amendment, approval was proposed by Maggie Dennis, seconded by Jack Stewart and agreed.
2. Election of churchwardens.  
Maggie Dennis (Tawney) and Jo Shephard (Mount) were elected unopposed.

### **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2022, 12.00, St Mary's Church, Stapleford Tawney**

1. Minutes of the 2021 APCM had been circulated and were approved.
2. Electoral Roll report. There were 43 on the current Electoral Roll, 9 residents and 34 non-residents. Since last year we had sadly lost Graeme Logan, Tina Bellamy, and very recently Maurice Padfield. Hilary Turner had moved away from the parish.
3. a) The PCC report had been circulated, outlining the activities of the year. The contribution Graeme had made was highlighted and gratitude expressed.  
  
b) The Vicar's report had been circulated. John added his thanks for the support he had received from the parish, especially Maggie, Jo, Cindy, Anne Padfield and Martyn Lockwood.
4. Election of lay members of the PCC.

(Churchwardens and Deanery Synod representatives are automatically PCC members, ie Maggie Dennis, Jo Shephard, Martyn Lockwood and Gill Southall)

Nominations had been received from:

Colin Flint  
Edna Flint  
Debbie Lee  
Anne Padfield  
Cindy Pridmore

These five were elected unanimously. There is one vacancy.

5. Presentation of the Independently Examined Financial Statements of the Council for the year ending 31st December 2021

The accounts and the Treasurer's report had been circulated. Cindy added that as a parish, we were 'staying afloat by treading water' but that in view of the difficulties of the last two years, we had managed better than some other small rural parishes.

Our monthly costs were likely to increase in the future.

John Fradd would be asked to send his bill for mowing the churchyards directly to Cindy.

John Fry explained that a new arrangement for Parish Share contributions had been proposed for 2023, with whole Deanery allocations. Cindy commented that there had been several previous change initiatives, but no action.

Proposed by Maggie Dennis, seconded by Jack Stewart and approved unanimously  
Cindy was thanked for her diligent work.

6. Appointment of Independent Examiner for 2022

Mike Coggins was proposed by John Fry, seconded by Peter Doe and approved. He is also the examiner for Theydon Bois and Garnon.

7. Churchwardens' reports

The reports had already been circulated. Maggie (Tawney) wished to add Carol Logan to her list of thanks, and to mention the Lent Groups which had been held in the Parish Room.

It was noted that Quinquennial inspections for both church were due this year.

8. Deanery Synod Report

Martyn and Gill continue as representatives until next year. Martyn reported on the three meetings held during the year.

9. Safeguarding Report

Martyn was standing down from being Safeguarding Officer. John Chaplin from Theydon Garnon was already in training for this post and would take on the role for all three parishes. Proposed by John Fry and seconded by Cindy Pridmore.

The notice relating to Safeguarding at Tawney would be refreshed and moved to a more appropriate position.

10. Questions relating to the reports or other areas of church life

a) Christmas services.

The Carol service at Tawney had been well-attended, including some non-regulars, perhaps helped by the carol singing evening at the Moletrap.

Christmas Eve at Mount was attended by only 7 people, including vicar and organist, admittedly in bad weather.

Christmas Day – Maurice was the only member of the congregation!

The other churches in the benefice also had low attendances at certain Christmas services, but not in the same pattern. It was agreed to share more of the services across the benefice.

Arrangements for Christmas 2022 proposed:

Christmas Eve – Theydon Garnon, 10pm

Christmas Day – Tawney, 9.15-ish (tbc) and Theydon Bois, 10.30am

Tawney would have regular more inclusive informal services to try to attract non-regulars.

February Christingle

July Pets

October Harvest

December Toy Sunday

Theydon Mount church is under-used compared with others – to be thought about.

Cindy encouraged more sharing with the other churches, especially Theydon Garnon, with which we have more similarities, whereas Theydon Bois is more self-sufficient.

Events meetings should be separate from PCC meetings and held more regularly to encourage post-Covid activity and fundraising.

The meeting ended in prayer.

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After the APCM, a short meeting was held to appoint Anne Padfield as Secretary and Cindy Pridmore as PCC Treasurer.

The date of the next ordinary PCC meeting was set at **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July 7pm in the Parish Room.**