

## PARISH OF UPPER RICCARTON YALDHURST

### Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Held in St Peter's Church at 11.15 am on Sunday 25 April 2021

(Apologies for the late start)

**PRESENT:** Priest in Charge - (Chair) Ken Light; Deacon Assistant - Margaret Neate; Gin McKenzie - (Minute Taker); Lynn Shearing - (Treasurer); Corin Murfitt - Vicar's Warden; Jo Winfield - People's Warden; Heather Caspersen, Matt Melchert, Sue Chappell, Sue Robb and 32 parishioners.

**APOLOGIES:** Barbara Clark, Bobby Murfitt, Diane Rait, Edwin Boyce, Fiona Gilmore, Haydn Hill, Leah Craythorne.

Apologies were not read out - a clip - board was circulated and attendees asked to record names of those known to them who had asked their apologies to be recorded.

**CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:** Minutes of the meeting held on 30 August 2020 were read, as they had not been circulated. There were no matters arising, or changes.

*The minutes of the 2020 Annual General Meeting were agreed true & accurate.*

**MOVED** - Gin McKenzie

**SECONDED** - Margaret Mahon

**CARRIED**

### REPORTS:

Attendees who had submitted reports were invited to add comments or further details as we went through the list. Generally, reports were taken as read. Reports are in the AGM 20/21 reports booklet, which is available in hard copy from the back of the Church and the office, and on the Church website. The report was also emailed to those who normally get correspondence by email.

- **St Luke's:** Sue Chappell advised she was stepping down from Vestry & had tried to find somebody from St Luke's to step up, join Vestry and take on the role she was vacating. She voiced her disappointment that there was nobody from St Luke's at the AGM.
- **English Class:** Fay Mangos added that they would welcome some new helpers, even though numbers are down because of COVID-19 travel restrictions.

- **Rest home & home communion:** Sue Rob also asked for helpers to assist in rest-home services.

Pam Hunt, who lives in 'The Oaks' as do many older parishioners, stated that services at 'The Oaks' were a blessing, and very much looked forward to and enjoyed by residents.

Graeme Reid who lives at St Allisa's Rest-home, stated that he thought his facility could use more support from the Church.

- **Restoration Fundraising:** David Winfield was excited to share that several events are being planned for the near future. With the amazing acoustics and latest technology our Church will be a sought-after venue for musical events, such as the wonderful recital given by Martin Setchell a couple of weeks ago. This brought in much needed revenue & the recital was thoroughly enjoyed by all in attendance.

Next up is a quiz night, & hopefully a candlelit musical event later in the year.

- **Worship:** Kathy Doughty, who spends hours preparing our services stated that, with all the changes involved in moving back into the Church after being in the hall for 10 years - updates, new technology, health & safety, limited space, finding best way to serve & receive communion, challenges with a much smaller kitchen & fewer volunteers etc, staff, vestry & parishioners are also finding 2021 challenging, as was 2020 when we were unable to worship together. Kathy reminded us to be patient, to allow things to settle as all these challenges will be resolved in due course.

## **FINANCE & BUDGET:**

- Lynn Shearing spoke to her report.

Lynn provided a full annual report and a 4-page summary. Copies of these were handed out at the meeting & copies are available from the office.

Lynn spoke about selected highlights of her year as treasurer. She acknowledged the huge input of Bruce Williams, who held the role for several years before her, & whose expertise she admired as he assisted her getting to grips with the complicated way stakeholders, such as Church Property Trustees & The Charities Commission required reporting be done.

Lynn said she'd found it difficult creating reports for each of the parties involved in management of our Church properties.

Lynn's Highlights were:

- Giving being more than previous year - a total of \$127,000.
- Fundraising was down due to cancellation of garage sale. A huge achievement regardless. \$97,000 was raised.

- Staff able to be paid COVID-19 subsidy over lockdown period.
- Pre School now paying rent.
- Installation of the sound system was an additional cost - benefits already being enjoyed.

Lynn thanked those helping with collection of funds & acknowledged the financial & other support given to our community over the last year or so.

- Sue Rob asked about music costs with 4 people now, instead of one as previously. It was confirmed that there are no additional costs involved.
- Graeme Reid added that we needed to market Church activities to get more younger people involved in Church life.

Whilst in agreement with Graeme, Ken stated that attracting young people and new families was difficult. In all Churches numbers have dropped off. Society is busy with so many activities and stretched resources. We do our best and hope families enrolled in the preschool might join our Church over time.

**MOVED** *that reports be received* - Ken Light

**SECONDED**- Corin Murfitt

**CARRIED**

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS:** Nominees as follows

Vicar's Warden - Corin Murfitt

Parishioner's Warden - Jo Winfield

Synod Representatives- Sue Robb & Alice Bates

Financial Treasurer - Lynn Shearing

Vestry Members:

- Fiona Gilmore
- Gin McKenzie
- Heather Caspersen
- Keith Spragg
- Renju Koshy Puthenveeti
- Sheldine Pennington

The Chair (Ken) **MOVED** *that nominated persons be elected to Vestry.*

**CARRIED**

- Matt Melchert who was stepping down from a year on Vestry, asked if we would still have a quorum?
- We number 13 with Vicar & Deacon Assistant - same as last year.

Two stepped down and two stepped up.

### **GENERAL BUSINESS:**

- Margaret Bourne asked who the people elected to Vestry were, & why they weren't at the meeting? Those in attendance introduced themselves & it was explained that some were working on Sundays or may have attended the earlier service.
- Dennys Guild talked about his proposal of holding Church 'open days' for the public. He approached Vestry about this last month & Vestry thought it a great idea. He is happy to handle all the bits n bobs & is busy collating historical information, reducing it to a 1-page info sheet for volunteers to share with visitors. Open days would be held a couple of days a week, in 2-hourly slots. Dennys thought a Koha would be requested of visitors, & he is currently looking into security side of this function. There is a book on history of St Peter's Church & this is being re-edited, for sale. Open Days would need to be publicised & boards & flags could be used. There was discussion on days, times, security, notice boards etc. Those present were enthusiastic about this idea. A few tours have been taken already for those who have worshipped in our Church previously, and this has created some renewed interest. Some suggested a Sunday afternoon would be a good time to hold open days.

No further business meeting closed at 12.30 pm

Ken read a closing prayer from his book of 'prayers for special occasions'.

This was a prayer for the end of an Annual General Meeting.

We said Grace together.

Thank you.