



Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting & Annual Parochial Church Meeting *Sunday 28th April 2024 – 12.15pm*

Annual Parish Meeting

1. Revd Graham Hunter (GH) explained difference between the Annual Parish Meeting and the Annual Parochial Meeting,

Election of Churchwardens

2. GH thanked Larre Olajide for five years of service as Churchwarden. He acknowledge that Larre had been practical, prayerful and pastoral in all his service.
3. “We have two nominations for the positions of Churchwardens, namely, Ann-Marie Nye and Stephen Millar. I propose that they be duly appointed by our consent through show of hands”
4. The two candidates were unanimously elected by show of hands. (Proposed & seconded by Daniel Pratt and Anita Masih.)
5. The meeting closed.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Minutes of Last Meeting

1. Minutes of last meeting were approved & signed.

Vicar's Introduction

2. “the vision awaits its appointed time... If it seems slow, wait for it.” Habakkuk 2:3
 - a. GH reminded the meeting of some features of our church's vision: pursuing growth as a hyper-local, multi-generational, multi-ethnic, multi-cultural church. He reminded the meeting of the vision for a building reordering project. He explained that sometimes we have seasons where the vision is slow to be realised – and that the Lord may develop in us both patience and perseverance.
 - b. GH explained briefly some of the context of 2023 – including the challenges and changes we faced.

Celebration

3. The Annual Report & Financial Statements had been circulated digitally, along with other papers for the meeting.
 - a. Doreen Tang gave a brief update on Safeguarding – and explained the renewed Single Central Record.
 - b. GH thanked Maria Demetriou for her work on the Electoral Roll. The roll was revised during March and April 2023, and had increased to 157 members.
 - c. GH encouraged people to read the Vicar's Introduction for brief highlights of the report.
 - d. GH invited questions and comments on the Annual Report and Financial Statements. None were asked during the meeting, but GH explained that members could also ask questions via email afterwards.



4. A Church of England resource video was played to encourage people to serve on kids and youth teams. Many members of SJH featured on the video.
5. GH then asked everyone who served on teams during the year to stand, and we collectively thanked all the staff and volunteers who had served over the past year.

Listening

6. There was a brief time for 121s and testimony. Some of the testimonies shared included the following:
 - a. Appreciation for the dynamic worship services at SJH.
 - b. Thanks for the Sunday night football project reaching asylum seekers and local young men.
 - c. Appreciation for the amazing impact of the Wednesday Warm Welcome project – including people who have begun to attend church.
7. Those gathered were then invited to have short 121s to discuss what they appreciated about church, and also to share their dreams for the coming year. They then wrote these down on post-it notes and stuck them to a flipchart. Some of the themes expressed included:
 - a. Appreciated: being welcomed as a new member; warmth of the welcome from the welcome team, and how they care for newcomers; the way youth are taken seriously and given opportunities they might not get in other churches; how Connect Groups support growth; for the worship and family feel; for the caring staff.
 - b. Hopes for 2024-25: develop prayer life of the church; more time for prayer ministry and intercession; making sure it's a safe space to bring problems and stresses; develop creche facilities; develop midweek kids and youth work; don't rush the peace; launch a new evening service in the autumn; more social events and young adults ministry; to see miracles; more prayer services; altar calls for new commitments to Christ; more engagement with local community; build up worship team and train musicians; balance home life / church life expectations.

Action

8. Pyramid Giving
 - a. GH explained again the Pyramid Giving campaign. Daniel Pratt and Doreen Tang both spoke about the importance of our giving.
 - b. Response cards were distributed again.
9. Deanery Synod Appointments
 - a. Stephen Millar & Daniel Pratt continue as Deanery Synod representatives.
10. The list of nominees for appointment to serve as elected members of the PCC were as follows: Anita Masih, Richard Neasham, Fiona Hollow, Sarah Joshi and Jare Olajide. These were duly appointed by show of hands. (Proposed & seconded by Daniel Pratt & Stephen Millar.)
11. Our Independent Examiner, Chris Goodhead FCS of KnightGoodhead Accountants was re-appointed.
12. GH announced that Revd Andrew Large would be finishing his time at SJH as Curate on 30th June – on the same day that Bosede Owa would begin her Curacy. Andrew will be sent out to serve the Deanery more widely, particularly focusing on supporting mission in Anglo-Catholic settings.

Close

13. GH closed the meeting in prayer.

