

St Mary's Church Stretton with Claymills

Vestry Meeting

Sunday 27th April 2025

11.15am in St Mary's Church

Present: Sally Alderson, Val Bestall, Chris Budworth, Louise Burke, Norman Carpenter, Judith Haines, Ruth James, Janet Jarvis, Mary Jones, Pauline MacDonald, Andrew Maguire, Fiona Maguire, Ray Mills, Charles Pidsley (chair), Angela Rawlings, Janet Royall, Mark Siner, Mel Siner, Paul Spencer, Laura Spencer (sec), Sue Stokes, Paul Ward, Susan Ward, Lynette Yates

1. Opening Prayer

Charles opened in prayer

2. Apologies

Cheryl Broom, June Kirkland, Sue Jones, Roy Jones, Bill Parr, Chris Rimmer

3. Appointment of Churchwardens

One nomination form had been received from Janet Royall, who was proposed by Charles Pidsley and seconded by Andrew Maguire. Janet was duly elected for her second year as Warden. Charles encouraged everyone to pray for a second Warden and to speak to him if they felt called to fill this vacancy.

St Mary's Church, Stretton with Claymills
Annual Parochial Church Meeting
Sunday 27th April 2025
11.20am in St Mary's Church

1. **Opening Prayer** – Janet Royall opened in prayer.
2. **Apologies** – As per the Vestry Meeting.
3. **Minutes of the 2024 APCM** – these were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.
4. **Matters Arising** – none

5. **Electoral Roll** - Charles reported that we currently have 53 people on the Electoral Roll, 32 less than last year and this will result in a decrease in our Parish Share. It reflects a more accurate position after the complete revision. A fall in numbers is also expected during vacancy.

6. **Receiving the Reports – questions from the floor are welcome –**

The Annual Report was issued prior to the meeting. There were no questions from the floor. In addition to the event listed in the Social Report, we also held a Burton Big Band Concert in the Church Hall in June. Ruth James encouraged everyone to read the latest newsletter from Jason and Tracey Day at CMS.

7. **Finance Presentation** – dealt with under item 9

8. **Election of 5 PCC Members**

Nominations had been received from Paul Spencer and Paul Ward prior to the meeting. As there were no other nominations, they were both duly elected.

9. **Appointment of Independent Examiner**

The Diocesan Finance Department have asked for considerable additional information which has caused a delay in our accounts being examined. Charles feels the process will be less problematic next year and so is happy to continue with them. No alterations are expected to the accounts but if there are any, Charles will inform the PCC.

Finance Presentation – no written questions were submitted. Charles reported that we currently have £53,389 of which £6,200 is free reserves, £36,985 is designated, and £10,183 is restricted. It is an increase of approximately £5,000 on 2023, however it does include a legacy of £25,000. Our expenditure has included contributions of £11,000 to the Church Hall car park, £3,000 to roof repairs, £33,852 on our Parish Share, £13,934 in salaries, £8000 for our tithe, £14,774 on running the Church, and £3931 on utilities. The Church Hall brings in a profit of £10,000. We are in a stable position largely due to the efficient management of our heating and Kas' diligent work as Hall Manager.

In conclusion we are in a healthy position with £50,000 as a base for significant projects. The possibilities include restarting the 'back of Church' (kitchen, toilet, children's area) project and investigating a 10 year heating plan. Charles encouraged us all to –

- 1) Pray about our giving and how we can draw in more people to the Church.
- 2) Pray for the effective functioning of the Church Hall and how we can encourage others to use it.
- 3) Pray for wisdom and vision to use God's provision in the best way.

Norman Carpenter asked if there would be any major work needed on the Hall. Charles stated that the stage area is in need of upgrading but a grant application to the National Lottery has been rejected. Norman also asked if we had any financial commitment to St Chads to which Charles responded that although he felt the Archdeacon had originally inferred we should, a subsequent meeting with another Diocesan representative suggested that they were reconsidering their position on the matter and there was currently no intention within the PCC that we should support St Chads financially.

13. Answers to written questions – none were submitted.

14. Closing Remarks – Mary Jones asked for an update on the vacancy. Charles explained that we have a considerable way to go although the PCC are now in the process of producing the Parish Profile which will go to any potential candidate. Charles felt the Church is working well together in vacancy and Mary thanked everyone on the PCC for all their efforts.

Janet Royall thanked everyone for their prayers, love, and support.

The meeting closed at 11.50am.