

PARISH OF ALL SAINTS, BOYNE HILL, MAIDENHEAD

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING MONDAY 24 APRIL 2023 at 7.10pm

BOYNE HILL CRICKET CLUB, HIGHWAY ROAD, MAIDENHEAD SL6 5AE Final

Present; Fr Jeremy (Chair) + 31 Parishioners + 1 Guest Speaker, + 1 Guest
+ 25 Iranian Guests for Care4Calais talk only

Introduction, Opening Prayers and Welcome

Some 60 people gathered for the APCM at Boyne Hill Cricket Club. The evening began with a welcome for 25 of our friends from Iran. Together we shared fish and chips and a drink from the bar. Fr Jeremy shared a reading from the Bible to open the APCM.

1. **Apologies** Rhona Latham, Jeanette Lock, Sue Nordberg, Jeremy Nordberg
2. **Care4Calais** - Guest speaker Sam Jonkers. Regional Lead, Thames Valley - Care4Calais,

We listened to an excellent talk given by Sam Jonkers, the regional lead for Thames Valley Care4Calais, an organisation that supports Asylum Seekers in this country and indeed in Calais. Sam gave the background to the charity and to her motivation to support people trying to seek the opportunity to live and work in this country having escaped challenging situations in, for example, Afghanistan, Syria, Iraq, or Iran.

For anyone desiring to see a copy of the slides that made up the talk from Sam please let either David Morgan or Fr Jeremy know, and we will send them.

Some of the key challenges for us as a community are to provide some meals to supplement the poor-quality offering at the hotel and to support Care4Calais with providing toiletries. The items they are requesting are: Deodorants, moisturising cream, shampoo, conditioner, shaving foam, toothpaste.

We discovered some of the amazing work that has been taking place. A wonderful example is that of Sue Wright who following a meeting with Fr Jeremy and Ken Smith, joined Care4Calais and has since accessed education for 100 young people in local schools and colleges.

3. Approval of Minutes of Meeting held on 25 April 2022

The Minutes of the APCM held 25 April 2022 were accepted and signed as a true record, proposed by Stella Harding, seconded by John Bolodeoku. All in favour

3.1 Matters arising - None

4. Election of:

4.1 3 Deanery Synod Lay Representatives to serve for 3 years

Ken Smith Proposed by Marian Duncombe, seconded by Jean Balchin. All in favour

Rod Broad Proposed by Sue Stannett seconded by David Morgan. All in favour.

John Bolodeoku Proposed by Sue Stannett, seconded by Ken Smith. All in favour.

4.2 6 members of the PCC to serve for 3 years.

Marellie Akousy, Proposed by Paul Lion, seconded by Sue Nordberg. All in favour
Brian Graves Proposed by Sue Stannett, seconded by David Morgan. All in favour
Steve Foley Proposed by Stella Harding, seconded by Jo McMullen. All in favour
David Morgan Proposed by Sue Stannett, seconded by Jo McMullen. All in favour

Laura Nunu and Cameron Sharkey were proposed and seconded as candidates for election to the PCC. However, neither was eligible to stand for election to the PCC as they had not been registered for sufficient time on the Electoral Roll.

Fr Jeremy commented that we do not want to turn away volunteers. He asked that when the PCC meets immediately after this APCM, it gives consideration to co-opting Laura and Cameron onto the PCC.

Three members stood down from the PCC: Nick Kirk stood down in October 2022. Fr Jeremy thanked Nick for his contribution to the PCC and to the life of the church over many years. Nick served as Churchwarden under Fr Norman. Dianne Farmiloe and Sue Stannett stood down from the PCC at the APCM. In addition, Sue stood down as Assistant Treasurer. Fr Jeremy thanked Dianne and Sue for their contribution to the PCC and to the life of the Church. He thanked Sue for her valuable work as Assistant Treasurer over a considerable period of time.

Louise O'Dwyer Barnard had stepped down from her role as Joint Safeguarding Officer earlier in the year. Fr Jeremy thanked Louise for her safeguarding work.

5 Presentation of Electoral Roll - Electoral Roll Officer – Sue Stannett

The required notice for the revision of the church electoral roll has been on display in the north porch, it reads: *'The Church Electoral Roll of the parish of All Saints Boyne Hill will be revised by the Parochial Church Council, beginning on Monday the 27th day of March 2023, and ending on Sunday the 9th day of April 2023'*

We have been very fortunate over the last year to have received lots of lovely new people to our congregation. So I have added 14 new names to the Electoral Roll. At the same time several people have moved out of the area, one went as far as Tasmania, so in all 10 people have been removed from the roll. Sadly three of these people died. So, last year we had 146 on the Church Electoral Roll and this year we now have 150.

For information:

This year we have 49 men and 101 women. (33% Men and 67% Women). Last year we had 47 men and 99 women. (32% Men and 68% Women). This year we have 72 who live in the parish and 78 live outside. (48% in and 52 % out). Last year we had 69 in parish and 77 live outside. (47% in and 53% out)

If there is anyone who would like to be on the church electoral roll and would like the forms, please will they speak to me or contact me on sastannett@gmail.com

6 Report on Church Fabric – Ken Smith Churchwarden

The Churchwardens are responsible on behalf of the PCC for the maintenance and repair of the church buildings.

Ann Rawlings and Ken Smith were the churchwardens until the APCM in April 2022 and Dr John Bolodeoku and Ken Smith were the churchwardens for the remainder of the year. They were assisted by Mike Watts and Roger Towers, with Fr.Jeremy and Rod Broad. Our architect is consulted on most issues. We thank them for their support.

The most significant, and tragic, event during the year regarding the building was the sudden and unexpected death of our architect, Roderick MacLennan in July. Roderick had served us diligently and well for over sixteen years, including the repair of the tower and spire, installation of the heating system, the recent floor restoration, and many other works.

His loss brought a temporary halt to much work in progress and much of the second half of the year was spent in selecting a replacement. We selected Peter Preston of Eynsham, near Oxford, as our new Architect, eminently qualified and a technical member of the Diocesan Buildings Committee. His selection was too late in the year for him to do any work in 2022. In particular, we were unable to progress the crumbling boiler chimney or repairs to the stained-glass windows and the insertion of glass windows in the south porch. These will be addressed in 2023.

Ken Smith referred to the comprehensive Churchwardens Fabric Report Year Ending 31.12.2022, as a source of further information. This report had been circulated before the meeting as part of the Community Annual Report.

7.1 Annual Report and Accounts including Presentation – Rod Broad Treasurer

The Annual Report and Accounts 2022 was approved at the PCC meeting held 21 March 2023 and had been examined satisfactorily by the Independent Examiner, Feltons Chartered Accountants. Rod Broad gave a presentation on the Accounts (attached).

Fr Jeremy welcomed the good news shown as part of the Treasurer's presentation that there had been a 9% increase in planned giving during the year. We are still challenged by the need to maintain George Street's wonderful grade one building and at the same time fund ministry within the parish, but the upturn in giving is heartening. If anyone would like to help build the mission at Boyne Hill perhaps the best way of giving is through the Parish Giving Scheme.

7.2 Approval of Feltons, Chartered Accountants as Independent Examiners of Accounts - RB

It was proposed by Rod Broad seconded by Ken Smith that Feltons, Chartered Accountants should continue as Independent Examiner of the Accounts of All Saints Church Boyne Hill Maidenhead. All in favour

8 Deanery Synod Report – David Morgan

David referred to the comprehensive Deanery Synod report which had been circulated before the meeting as part of the Community Annual Report.

9 Safeguarding – Stella Harding - Safeguarding Officer

You will find a piece on Safeguarding activity at All Saints Boyne Hill in 2022 in the Annual Community Report. This evening at the APCM, I would like to say a few words about Safeguarding in general and what it means to all of us at All Saints. Put simply, safeguarding is the important need to keep children, young people and vulnerable adults safe – this involves care for their physical, emotional and mental health. As such, it is part of our core faith and key to Christian life in parish churches.

At individual church level, the PCC has the overall duty of care as far as safeguarding is concerned. I hold the post of Parish Safeguarding Officer and my purpose is to support Fr Jeremy who has the key role for ensuring that we provide a safe, caring and nurturing environment for all All Saints' children, young people and vulnerable adults.

We are helped to do this and to meet our responsibilities by the safeguarding framework provided by the Church of England; this includes a requirement for each church to have a Safeguarding Policy; you may have seen ours in the entrance to the church or in the Parish Centre, or on the All Saints website. The Policy is reviewed every year to make sure it is kept up to date and amended as necessary.

A few years ago the Church of England introduced safer recruitment guidelines which we follow in order to ensure that anyone taking on a role with the church completes an application form; if their role involves direct and regular contact with children, young people or vulnerable adults, they will also be required to provide a clean criminal record check, or a DBS as it is known.

The Church of England also provides, through the Diocese, safeguarding training for anyone whose role involves safeguarding responsibilities for children, young people or vulnerable adults. There is a basic level of training which is easily accessible online and open to anyone wanting to find out more about the general topic of safeguarding.

While Fr Jeremy, the PCC and I have primary responsibility for safeguarding at All Saints, we can all be mindful and alert to any potential safeguarding issues. That might include an uncharacteristic change in behaviour by a fellow member of our church community, or we may have some information shared with us that causes concern about the safety of the person concerned.

If you are in that position, do please share the information or your concerns with Fr Jeremy or me - anything you do share will be treated in strictest confidence and could make an enormous difference to someone in distress. Thank you.

10 Community Annual Report & Vision for the Future - Fr Jeremy

I would like to share my feelings with you all at this APCM, following what was an exciting year for All Saints. I begin by sharing the Parish Vision statement *'To encounter Christ in Word and*

Sacrament, through the story of the Supper at Emmaus and the early church community that is described in Acts 2: 42-47. I would like to tell you all that this year marks 30 years since I was ordained deacon at Monmouth Cathedral in Newport, South Wales. I would like to share with you the fact that this year has been the most inspiring year I have experienced in ministry. This is in no small measure due to the Easter experience of 2022 when I asked the congregation to respond by saying goodbye in their home language. Those present that amazing morning heard languages from all over the world but right at the back we heard a joyful sharing of 'Goodbye' in Farsi. Since that day we have built wonderful relationships with our friends from Iran.

Other exciting expressions of the Holy Spirit being at work have been present during the year.

1. Safeguarding – This needs to be a starting point for any community. Safeguarding is missionary. Every community should provide a safe, caring environment for all people to flourish but particularly children and vulnerable adults. We desire communities of faith that enable people to live in an environment that they can trust and live life in all its fullness. Thanks to Stella Harding and Louise O'Dwyer Barnard for leading this ministry at All Saints.

2. Welcome – Thanks to Fr John and the welcome group the church community provided many more opportunities for activities and events to take place. Some of the highlights were the wonderful trip to visit Peter Blee's parishes on the South Downs, the welcome cream teas to newcomers, the pilgrimage to Walsingham, the notice boards inviting people into church and Paul Lion's chairs and tables from Maidenhead Boat Club that have provided a wonderful welcome area at the back of church where people gather on Wednesdays and Sundays to share hospitality and friendship. There are more good plans set for this year and we will shortly visit Keble College, Oxford to retrace the steps of the Oxford Movement that All Saints vision came out of.

3. Worship – We try to provide worship that is vibrant and Holy Week this year and last provided wonderful experiences that are at the heart of the Christian faith. Recently Doreen and Don Young asked me to share the Annual South Bucks and East Berks Bell Ringers meeting which was at All Saints. This organisation began in 1879 and was formed here in Boyne Hill. Doreen shared with me the 100th anniversary memories of roast turkey, baked potatoes and apple pie and ice cream being served to 100+ bell Ringers all those years ago. Doreen provides another example of growth at All Saints. Just over a year ago Doreen found herself following lockdown ringing a bell in our Church Tower. From that single tolling of the bell, we now have 10 new ringers! People who enjoy ringing had moved into our area and on hearing the bell made their gifts known!

Brian Graves is challenging the choir to learn George Herbert's poem 'The Call' set to the music of Vaughan Williams. Within this beautiful piece of music, we discover the life of a man who felt God calling him to ministry but who at the same time never felt worthy to respond. Finally, he did respond to the God of love by offering his life back to God. Within his country parish, Herbert would ring daily the church bell to bring people to worship. Perhaps the bells have helped All Saints as we have an increase in choir, an increase in servers,

who provided wonderful support during our Holy Week liturgies and an increase in numbers attending Eucharist.

4. Schools and Children and Families – We have tried to follow the Diocesan Common Vision and sought engagement between children, young people and families within the church, wider community, and schools. Through assemblies, Open the Book, school visits to church and governorships we are trying to support our schools. Alongside this we are through Tiny Saints, Young Saints and Sundays@4 trying to support young families.

5. Sustainability – Led by Jenny Wilks the group has succeeded in gaining the Eco-Church Bronze award. We were able to support new toilets in South Sudan, clean water in Kenya and more recently shared our Lenten lunches and in so doing provided funds to ‘Ripple Effect’ a charity that helps families in Africa to be sustainable. Ripple Effect has invited us to be prayer partners with them in their future ministry. For the Sustainability group to progress we need more people at All Saints to take on the challenge to protect the planet.

6. Buildings – Thanks to the wonderful restoration work that restored Street’s floor we now have a building that enhances worship and provides a place for mission to take place

7. Other major events/services

i. Celebration of All Saints Day and meal at the Gandhi Restaurant – It was wonderful to celebrate our Patronal Festival and share an excellent Indian meal together.

ii. The Baptism/Confirmation service with Bishop Olivia – a confirmation with 32 candidates including 9 children. This was a marvellous occasion and at the service, children being confirmed, shared their knowledge of issues around Sustainability as we were awarded our bronze award from Bishop Olivia.

iii. Our second Christ Child Market took place in November 2022 and large numbers from the wider community came to the quadrangle to share fun and fellowship. The Salvation Army brought the joy and hope of the Christmas message through their band.

Thank you to all of you present at the APCM and all those who were unable to attend but who provide support to the community and to Monika and me. Thank you to all of you that play your part as members of the Body of Christ at All Saints, Boyne Hill.

As our vision for 2023 May the Holy Spirit bless us with the joys of last year.

May you be blessed by God’s love this week - Fr Jeremy

11 Any other notified business - none

The meeting finished in prayer