

St Stephen's Church

South Dulwich



Meeting of parishioners for the election of churchwardens: 27 April 2024 at 11.30am

Election of Churchwardens

Eleanor Bracken and Barney Hearnden, proposed and seconded by Temple Sambo and Olivia Holmes were unanimously elected Churchwardens.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting 27 April 2024 at 11.35am

1. Notice of any other business

No notice was given of other business.

2. The electoral roll

There were 170 members compared with 173 on the 2023 Roll.

3. Election of members of the Deanery Synod

Bernhard stressed the importance of this role. Susan Patterson and Penny Fuller were currently serving but two more members could be elected if anyone wished to serve.

4. Election to the Parochial Church Council

In 2021 eight members of the PCC had been elected for a three year term. The Vicar said that the PCC had decided that, subject to the approval of the APCM, PCC members should in future be elected annually. This was put to a vote and carried nem con.

The following had been proposed for membership and the APCM, by vote, approved their election:

James Fraser	Peter Frost	Olivia Holmes	Laura Thomas
Caroline Lenton-Ward	Temple Sambo	Rosemary Waweru	Reuben Akintunde
Nicholas Ansdell Evans	Heather Savini	Ovidiu Precup	Matthew Shirley

Ex officio members, being the church's synod representatives: Susan Patterson and Penny Fuller.

5. Election of sidespersons

The following were elected as sidespersons

Sandra Potter	Barney Hearnden	Christine Murrell	Gabbi O'Regan
Peter Benton	Rosemary Waweru	Anne Lunkuse	Stella Marion
Carol Craig	Ovidiu Precup	Howard Jacobs	Eleanor Bracken

6. Announcement of two assistant wardens to help the wardens for a period of one year only

The Vicar announced his appointment of Temple Sambo and Olivia Holmes as assistant wardens.

7. Presentation of the 2023 annual accounts

Peter Frost presented the statutory accounts for 2023 and simplified balance sheet and income and expenditure statements. Total net assets at end-year were £521,353, compared with £558,320 at the end of 2022. Income for 2023 was up slightly on 2022 but expenditure was much higher. As a consequence, whilst 2022 had ended with a surplus of £12,206, 2023 had a deficit of £39,991.

John Wheen asked about the figure of £2,587 for accounting costs and Peter explained that a new

accounting software system had been adopted and this cost encompassed not only the rental but also his own training. It would enable reports to be more easily produced, and for someone else to take over from him if necessary.

Susan Patterson followed up Peter's comment about the greatly increased cost of gas in 2023 by asking that more thought should be given to using renewable sources of energy.

The meeting voted unanimously to adopt the annual accounts, proposed Olivia Holmes, seconded by Temple Sambo.

Barney detailed what had been done about repairs during the year. This was inevitably variable year on year, but the PCC should discuss what might be considered a normal level of spend per annum (say £10,000) on routine maintenance. The Quinquennial Report done last May was the catalyst for seeing what is needed and a meeting of the new PCC directly after the APCM would discuss and vote on accepting the estimate for the stone repairs needed at both east and west ends of the church. The recommended builder quoted £73,500 (+ VAT which should be recoverable).

8. Appointment of Independent Examiner to the PCC

The meeting voted unanimously to reappoint Kreston Reeves as Examiners, proposed Caroline Lenton-Ward, seconded Sarah Bucknall.

9. Reports presented to the APCM

The Vicar commended the Annual Parochial Church Report for 2023 which had been printed and circulated. He picked out certain highlights.

10. Any other business

No notice of other business had been given.

Temple Sambo proposed, to general agreement, thanks to the Vicar for his tireless work during the year.

Signed

Revd Bernhard Schunemann, Vicar