

St Stephens Church

South Dulwich



Meeting of parishioners for the election of churchwardens: 11 May 2025 at 11.40am

Election of Churchwardens

Eleanor Bracken, proposed and seconded by the Vicar and Ruth Cousins, and Barney Hearnden, proposed and seconded by Ruth Cousins and the Vicar were unanimously elected Churchwardens.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting, 11 May 2025 at 11.45am

1. Notice of any other business

No notice had been given of other business.

2. The electoral roll

There were 102 members on the newly compiled roll compared with 170 on the 2024 roll but around 20 more had lodged forms after the deadline and they would be added to the roll after the APCM.

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 2023 the PCC had decided, with the approval of the APCM, that PCC members should be elected annually.

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
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 2024 annual accounts

Peter Frost presented the statutory accounts for 2024 and simplified balance sheet and income and expenditure statements. Total net assets at end-year were £413,347, compared with £521,353 at the end of 2023. There had been a reduction in expenses, particularly in gas costs and in property routine maintenance. As a consequence, whilst 2023 had ended with a deficit of £39,991, 2024 had a positive balance of £459 (disregarding the one off costs incurred on the external renovation work).

The meeting voted unanimously to adopt the annual accounts.

8. Appointment of Independent Examiner to the PCC

The meeting voted unanimously to reappoint Kreston Reeves as Examiners.

9. Reports presented to the APCM

The Vicar commended the Annual Parochial Church Report for 2024 which had been printed and circulated. He picked out certain highlights and thanked the churchwardens, reader, treasurer and all who helped run St Stephen's.

10. Any other business

Trot asked whether those who attend church online were able to be on the electoral roll and the Vicar confirmed that they could.

Rosemary asked that those who view the service online should give it a "like" to increase its profile.

Alex asked if it was possible to use an electric burner when incense was used but the Vicar responded that it was rarely used at St Stephen's.

Barney echoed Caroline's experience of Ecclesiastical Insurance from whom she not only received an excellent quote but generated a £150 donation to the church as her charity of choice.

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

There being no other business the meeting ended at 12.30.

Signed

Revd Bernhard Schunemann, Vicar