

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, MIDSOMER NORTON

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING TO APPOINT CHURCHWARDENS HELD IN ST JOHN'S CHURCH SUNDAY 11 OCTOBER 2020 at 10-45

This meeting was due to take place on 10th May 2020 but had to be deferred because of lockdown restrictions, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, imposed by the Government in March. With some restrictions lifted, the meeting took place following guide lines issued by the Diocese.

Because of this long delay, it was inevitable that there would be references to not only 2019 but also to some events of 2020.

As the church was in vacancy, Carol Moore, churchwarden and PCC vice-chairman conducted the proceedings.

27 people were present as follows

9 members of the PCC

18 members of the congregation

Carol opened the meeting with a prayer

APOLOGIES: Tony & Pat Daniels, Helen Green, Colin & Gill Tincknell

MINUTES

The Minutes of the Annual Meeting to appoint churchwardens, 2nd April 2019, having been circulated prior to the meeting and also posted on the church web site, were taken as read. Proposed by Les Martindale and seconded by Beth Davies as being a correct record, and all present in agreement, they were signed by the acting Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING

None

ELECTION OF CHURCHWARDENS

Due to ill health, Shirley Blackburn had said she would not be able to stand for re-election

Two nominations had been received.

Nomination	Proposer	Seconder
Carol Moore	Tony Daniels	Margaret Marshall
Elizabeth (Beth) Davies	Carol Moore	Angela Fitch

With both nominees willing to stand and as there were no other nominations, the Secretary declared that the two people nominated should serve as Churchwardens for 2020 – 2021.

Gary Lewis then paid tribute to Carol & Shirley as follows;

‘When they took over as churchwardens in 2019, they must have known that in addition to all the other responsibilities, they were going to have to steer the church through a vacancy. What they could not have known is what a year they were in for! I think we would all agree that they have discharged their offices brilliantly. In the first part of the year, thanks to Fathers Jim and Tony, we seemed to sail through the vacancy with the usual services continuing very much as normal. I’m sure that we all recognise how much effort goes into making something work effectively and we know that our churchwardens have laboured really hard to maintain the fabric and life of our beloved church.

I have had the opportunity of working very closely with Carol as we were the Parish Representatives in the process of choosing our new Vicar. I’ve seen the meticulous preparation, the networking and the prayer Carol has put into that role. I’ve also seen her build very positive relationships with the local clergy and Archdeacon Adrian. With Carol, things don’t work out by accident, she makes sure every risk is covered in detail.

That mind-set has served Carol and Shirley well over the pandemic. They got us to rally round during lockdown and then, on 12th July, St John’s was almost the first church in the Deanery to re-open for services. We have quickly settled back into a reasonably normal parish life with Eucharist & music that is still denied to so many.

We used to say ‘cometh the hour, cometh the man’. However, at St John’s, I think we can say ‘Cometh Carol & Shirley’.

He then invited all present to give a huge round of applause for Carol & Shirley to which there was a loud response.

The meeting closed at 10-55