

APCM

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

THE PARISH OF NORTON

SUNDAY 11th May 2025

11.00am

ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHONERS To elect Churchwardens for 2025 / 26

Rev Eugene opened the meeting with prayer.

Clerk: Susan Taylor: proposed by Neil Greatorex and seconded by Tracey Nicholls. All agreed.

1. Election of Churchwardens for 2025 / 26

Neil Greatorex: proposed by Andy Stewardson, seconded by Keith Taylor
All agreed.

Ros Pratt: proposed by Rachel Phillips, seconded by Pat Timms. All agreed.

After the election this meeting was closed.

MINUTES OF ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

There were 39 people present.

Apologies: Margaret Andre, Janet & Rudi Clarke, Edward Croot, Ruth Croot, Helen & John Smith, Keith Sparrow.

1. **Appoint Clerk for Meeting:** Susan Taylor: proposed by Neil Greatorex and seconded by Tracey Nicholls. All agreed.
2. **Minutes of last APCM:** Andy Nicholls proposed, and Olive Greatorex seconded that we accept the minutes which were agreed and signed by Neil Greatorex.
3. **Matters arising:** None
4. **Electoral Roll:** Tracey Nicholls presented the Electoral Roll which will run until 2031 There are 104 members on the Electoral Roll. Rev Eugene thanked Tracey for all her work.
5. **Elections:**

Election of members to serve on the Parochial Church Council for three years, 2025 / 2028

Tim Croot: proposed by Pamela Whittam, seconded by Keith Sparrow All agreed

There is still one place available on the PCC.

Election of Sunday wardens for the coming year. (see attached sheet)
Karen Williams proposed, and Margaret Wenman seconded that those named should be elected. **All agreed.**

6. **VICAR'S REPORT:** See attached sheet
7. **FINANCE:** Carol Greatorex presented the main points from the Treasurer's report
- In 2023 the income went down by 9%.
 - We entered 2024 hoping to break-even but by the end of the year we had a loss of nearly £13,000.
 - We are now taking Ad hoc bookings for the hall and trying to get more daytime bookings.
 - Only emergency repairs are being done now due to our financial state.

Question:

Will we see a fall in Parish Share in line with the reduction in the electoral roll numbers?

- It was confirmed that a reduced electoral roll number would assist in keeping the level of Parish Share lower in future years.
- It was also confirmed that the monthly payment towards the Parish Share has been reduced from 90% to 50% of the sums due to the Diocese from June 2025.
- The Finance committee will meet in September/ October 2025 to review how much more we will be able to pay towards the Parish Share for the 2025 year-end with the benefit of a further 4 months income.

Vicky Cameron proposed we accept the audited accounts for the year ending 31/12/2024 & Andy Nicholls seconded. **All agreed.**

8. **AUDITOR**
Carol proposed we ask Robin Mead to audit the accounts again next year. Don Salisbury seconded and **all agreed.**

9. **FABRICS, GOODS AND ORNAMENTS.**
See the reports on St. George's and St Nicholas churches.

REPORTS The following reports were given.

- a) A report on the proceedings of the Parochial Church Council.
- b) Safeguarding.
- c) Reports on the proceedings of Hitchin Deanery Synod.

Neil Greatorex proposed, and Christian Allen seconded that we accept the reports. All agreed.

Rev Eugene said he feels privileged to be our priest here in Norton. We are going to work together to spread God's kingdom.

10. **ANY QUESTIONS** none
11. **RESULT** none to report

Rev Eugene closed the meeting with the grace at 11.32