

PARISH OF CLAYDON WITH CLATTERCOTE

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held in the Church Room, Claydon on Tuesday 8th May 2018 at 7.00 pm.

As the Chairman of the Parish Council was not present a vote was taken and Richard Millward was nominated to Chair the meeting.

Present: Richard Millward, Jenny Jones, Veronica Purdey, Anne Hoggins, Kirsty Buttle (Clerk)

1. **Welcome and apologies** – The chairman welcomed those present.
2. **To approve the minutes of the APM held on 9th May 2017** – The minutes were proposed, agreed and duly signed.
3. **Report from the Chairman of the Parish Council** - One year on and this is my second report as Chairman. Things have gone fairly well in the village over the last year.
 - The bank balances are healthy and the audit went very well with the auditor noting ‘the Council together with its qualified and competent Clerk is to be congratulated in achieving and then maintaining significant improvements in standards of governance during the course of the audit year ‘.
 - The General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) is something else to learn and administer in the coming year.
 - The Notice Board and Litter Bins look good and are being well used. If parishioners see any rubbish thrown or Fly Tipping they should call 01295 227007 to report it. This seems to be a very good service with very quick response times.
 - There are currently some available allotments. Anyone interested in taking on one of the vacant allotments should contact the clerk.

Thanks to Cllr Ken Atack for his service as District Councillor. We wish him well for the future. Thanks also to Cllr George Reynolds and all of the Parish Councillors for their support over the past year, and finally, many thanks to Kirsty, our clerk, for all her help and guidance.

4. **Reports from local groups/organisations and District/County Councillors – All reports that were provided were made available for those present to read. Reports below:**

St James the Great - Annual Report April 2018

Aims and Objectives

St James the Great PCC has the responsibility of working alongside Revd. Hilary Campbell in promoting, within the parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is responsible for the maintenance of St James the Great and, with the Church Room Committee, the Church Room.

The PCC is fully aware that we are a small parish who at times, struggle to raise the finances needed to pay our Diocesan Share and maintain the Church building and churchyard. However, our regular parishioners are dedicated, committed and dedicated in striving to work cohesively to fulfil the aims of the church and strengthen the worshipping community within the village.

PCC Members:

Angela Ferguson (finance)

Keith Hamilton

Adele Broughton
Spencer Prestige
Janice Hamilton (secretary)

Worship

A range of services is offered over each month.

Revd. Hilary sends the service schedule to Paul Gallagher for the village website and Angela puts it up on the church noticeboard. We are grateful to Revd. Hilary for the weekly prayers and liturgical season activities and reflections which support our spiritual journeys.

Evening Prayer provides a service which is quiet and reflective and offers a peaceful environment for worship.

8:30 Communion is a said service whilst the 9:30 communion is sung and often gives the opportunity for family worship.

Once a month there is the opportunity to worship with parishioners from Cropredy, Great Bourton, Wardington and Mollington in a United Benefice Service.

The Harvest service was very fairly well attended and parishioners were invited to bring along food for the Salvation Army food bank. It was decided that a box would be left permanently in the church and the proceeds taken regularly to the centre.

The Remembrance Service was taken by Sue Upton this year.

All three Christmas services (the Carol Service, the Blessing of the Crib and Christmas morning communion) were well attended. The Carol Service was candlelit and we were delighted that Tony Martin opened the first carol with a solo - something he has done for many years.

The Blessing of the Crib was delightful and the church was full of very excited children. Mulled wine and mince pies were served afterwards.

Mothering Sunday was a very happy service and we are most grateful for Marjorie for providing the basket of posies to distribute to the congregation.

On the 18th March parishioners were invited to a shared lunch following the United Benefice Service. This was an opportunity to raise money for Christian Aid. Services were arranged throughout Holy Week at different venues in the Benefice and the Easter Sunday Communion was led by Revd. Linda Alcock.

In order to promote worship with the younger members of the benefice, Revd. Hilary started 'Little Lights'. This has been well accepted and offers parents, grandparents and carers an opportunity to bring their young children to the church for some informal worship, singing and stories followed by refreshments and craft in the Church Room. In December the focus of the Little Lights was Christingle. The sessions are held once a month in St James.

Baptisms: 1 Weddings: 1 Funerals: 1

Pastoral Care

Revd. Hilary visits parishioners regularly. There is always a time in every PCC meeting where the pastoral needs of the parish are reflected upon and any appropriate help offered.

Churchyard

We are grateful to Nigel Prickett who continues to manage the grass cutting of the churchyard. The mowing is regular and of a high standard.

The churchyard wall is of urgent need of repair and we are very appreciative of Adele's hard work in liaising with the Diocese and the architects in order to obtain a faculty and put together a plan of work. We still need to raise a considerable amount of money to proceed with the work.

Fundraising

This has included the 100 Club, the Napton Bike Ride, the jumble sale, the Beetle Drives and the forthcoming Moonrakers Concert

Acknowledgements

Grateful thanks from the PCC go to:

Sylvia Ingram and Dorothy Becket for doing the flowers every week

Chris Griffiths for cleaning and linen.

Spencer and Keith who set up the altar and take on all the necessary practical tasks.

Angela for managing the accounts.

Diana for her continual support and for running the Beetle Drive every month.

Adele for her enthusiasm and hard work on fundraising.

Marjorie for her support and help throughout the year.

Mike and Vicki Smith for their support with financial audit and children's worship.

Claydon Parish Council for their valuable financial contribution towards the churchyard mowing costs.

St James parishioners are a team and everyone is valued for their contribution to the life of our village church.

Finally, as stated at the start of the report, we are a small but dedicated group of parishioners. We are fortunate to have Revd. Hilary as our vicar and it is her commitment and hard work that keeps us focused and determined to ensure that St James the Great remains a centre of worship for future generations.

Neighbourhood Watch Report - May 2018

No further reports will be issued by me until it can be seen that villagers are willing to be more security conscious. Last year I stated that there should be younger, possibly newer resident of the village who would be willing to get involved. Nothing happened.

The Church Room

This village asset continues to be used by numerous people involved in a wide range of interests. It could be used by many more. Apart from the fees charged for its use (£8 - £9) several donations have been received for equipment hire (wheelchair, tables & chairs). Many residents may have only entered the room to register their vote for an election but may think of it as a venue available for all to use for a very small fee.

The room is currently run by a small committee of three and would welcome additional members.

Currently funds are healthy but in the past it has been necessary to go *cap in hand* for grants and local donations to fund major works. Our annual running costs are in the region of £1210. Since the current committee took over we have had only one grant awarded to cover the cost of replacing a window. Since then all windows and the entry door have been replaced.

Any requests to use the room can be arranged by contacting Clive Mutch on 690610.

Claydon Playing Field

Friends of the Playing Field - The Committee are aware that not everyone wants to be on a committee but we do need people who are available to support us on a regular basis with organising events and general ongoing maintenance. We therefore welcome anyone who would like to be a Friend of the Playing Field. The PFMC is continuing to focus on raising money to purchase play equipment for the children's play area.

5. Question from parishioners to the representatives of village organisations – None.

Meeting closed at 7:21pm