

## **BROOKE BENEFICE**

### **St Peter's Church Mundham with SS Margaret and Remegius Church Seething**

Annual Meeting of Parishioners and Annual Parochial Church Meeting

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2016 at St Peters Church Brooke**

#### **Minutes for Annual Meeting of Parishioners**

1. Lynn opened the meeting with a reading and prayers and also welcomed all those present. John Ash then thanked Lynn for all the care and support that she provided in the Benefice.
2. Election of Churchwardens: The Churchwardens were thanked for all the help and support that they give to Lynn. All the Churchwardens agreed to stand for another year.  
Ann Garnham for Seething  
Margaret Key and Gillian Balls for Mundham.  
All those present were in favour of this. The service to licence the churchwardens will be held on 20<sup>th</sup> June 2016.  
John Ash was thanked for all the support and help that he gives in the Benefice.

#### **Minutes for Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

1. Apologies for absence: Jilly Le Coq had sent apologies for being unable to attend.
2. It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held in March were a correct record of that meeting.
3. Matters Arising: There were no matters arising.
4. Finance Report: The treasurer reported that she had got to grips with the accounts and that she had claimed back Gift Aid from HMRC for 4 years from 2011 this amounted to £1197.27 and a claim would shortly be submitted for 2015. £5500.00 had been paid towards to Parish Share for 2015. At the end of the financial year the funds stood at £8564.81 in the deposit account and £3309.45 in the current account, £2531.50 of this being designated funds.
5. PCC Reports: The PCC for Mundham with Seething had held 4 meetings during the year, and a new pattern of services had been put into place. The Parish newsletter had been put into a new format and is now delivered to every home in Mundham, Seething and Thwaite, no online copies are now being sent. A finance meeting had been held at Brooke Vicarage to discuss the way forward to increase the churches funds and a meeting was had with the Diocese regarding the Parish Share which was then reduced.
6. Church Electoral Rolls: At the time of the Annual Meeting there were 16 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll and the average weekly attendance at Church was 10. There had been 5 baptisms, 0 weddings and 7 funerals (including cremations) during the year.
7. Fabric Reports: The following matters had been attended to at Mundham during the year, the organ had been serviced and the gutters around the vestry roof had been cleared also the car park and the disabled access to the church had been restored. Photographs of the bat damage in the church had been sent to the Diocese with the view of getting a grant. At Seething the organ and fire extinguishers had been serviced and slates had been replaced on the porch roof. Gravel had been put on the path from the church to the small gate leading onto the parish land.

8. Deanery Synod Report: There had been 3 synods during 2015, the first being at St Peter's Brooke where the new Dean of Norwich Cathedral spoke of her role as Dean and of her hope of getting more people through the doors of the Cathedral including more of the younger generation. The second meeting was at Saxlingham Church, it commenced with a walk which was followed by afternoon tea and then a Deanery Evensong. The third meeting was in October at St Mary's Newton Flotman and the speaker was The Rev Canon John Malinda who gave a talk on his work with Christians in Tanzania.
9. Reports Church organisations: The Friends of Seething Church had held a strawberry tea in July and the Annual Christmas Fair in November and both events were very successful. At the present time the Friends have funds of £6595.00 in the bank and are looking to see how they can best use the money to help the church. The secretary of the Norfolk Churches Trust was going to visit the church. The Community Lunches are still being held monthly during term time at the village hall. These are very successful and a good social event for the community. A small profit was made during the year and this was donated to Mundham, Seething and Thwaite churches.
10. Election of PCC representatives: Lynn gave thanks for the life of Major Jimmy Le Coq who had been a good servant to Seething Church and had served as a Churchwarden for many years and had remained a member of the church until his death. The Parochial Church Council for 2016 was elected and these were as follows: Churchwarden Seething - Ann Garnham, Churchwardens Mundham – Margaret Key and Gillian Balls. Also the members of the church were as follows: Margaret Eastham, Jilly Le Coq, Judy Baldwin and Ann Rudd. Ann being a new member.
11. Vicars Report: Lynn reported that there were new service Booklets out and a book of common prayer. There would be a renewal of seasonal worship to celebrate major festivals. A questionnaire had been given to congregation members regarding the way forward with services. It was agreed that people prefer regular service times and the Café Church had proved to be popular. During the year there had been 8 Baptisms during services and in November there were 4 people Confirmed by the Bishop of Thetford. The War Memorial at Brooke had been re-dedicated and 2 services for the bereaved had been held at Brooke. Also 2 Christingle services had been held 1 at Brooke and 1 at Seething. During the colder months there had been warm worship held twice a month at the Vicarage.  
Learning together: There had been monthly Prayer and Meditation meetings to study the bible and also a Lent Study Group. Exploring together did not work as expected. There had also been services in both Brooke and Seething with Mundham Schools. There had been 11 weddings over the year in the Benefice and 21 funerals.  
Lynn said she is Chairperson of the Brooke Adventurers football club. Community lunches had been very well attended. Brooke House Residential Home was visited on a regular basis and Lynn thanked the people who go along with her. The Parish Newsletter for Mundham, Seething and Thwaite had been revamped and the News from the Pews was also available.
12. AOB: The finance of the Churches was a cause for concern and income needs to be increased. A Benefice Support meeting had been attended during the year and 17k was cut from the Parish Share which was a great help.
13. The next meeting was arranged for the 12<sup>th</sup> March 2017. There being no other business the meeting was closed.

