

The Brooke Benefice

St. Peter's Church, Brooke : St Margaret's Church, Kirstead :
St Peter's Church, Mundham with Ss Margaret and Remegius' Church, Seething :
St Mary's Church, Thwaite St Mary.

Annual Meeting of Parishioners and Annual Parochial Church Meeting Sunday 18th March 2018 @ 11.30am St Peter's Church, Brooke

MINUTES

ANNUAL Meeting of Parishioners

Welcome and prayers

The Vicar welcomed those attending the meeting and opened with prayers.

Election of Churchwardens

The Vicar thanked the current Churchwardens for their support during the year and for all the work that they do in their parishes. She is particularly grateful for their cooperation in attempting to cut down on administration.

The retirement of Mrs Margaret Key as Churchwarden of Mundham was announced. Margaret has served three terms amounting to twenty-one years in the parish. A presentation will be made to Margaret at a later date.

The death of Mr Colin Alexander was remembered. Colin served as Churchwarden of St Peter's Mundham for eighteen years in the 1970's and 80's.

The following nominations had been received for those standing for election in 2018-19:

Brooke :	Rosemary Sanford, Daphne Warman
Mundham with Seething :	Gillian Balls, Ann Garnham
Thwaite St Mary :	Mavin Shulver

Following elections in each parish all were elected unanimously to serve. They will be admitted to office at the Central Visitation on Tuesday 14th May at Norwich Cathedral.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from:

Brooke:	Stephanie Ash, Keith Joad, Gwyneth Watson, Pat and Philip Strachan
Mundham with Seething:	Ann Garnham, Margaret Key
Thwaite St Mary:	Marion Barwick, Tom Edwards, Valerie Healy

Minutes of the meetings held in March 2017

These were received as a true record and signed by the Vicar

Matters arising

There were no matters arising

Finance Reports and PCC Reports

These had been available before the meeting. There being no questions it was unanimously agreed to accept these reports.

Church Electoral Rolls

All four Electoral Rolls had been open for amendment in the period before the Annual Meetings. Electoral Roll officers reported that the numbers on each Electoral Roll now stand at:

Brooke:	96
Kirstead:	22
Mundham with Seething:	16
Thwaite St Mary:	18

The Vicar reminded the meeting that the Electoral Rolls are completely renewed in 2019

Fabric Reports, Deanery Synod Report and Reports from Church organisations

These had been available before the meeting. There being no questions it was unanimously agreed to accept these reports.

Election of PCC representatives

Using the new nomination forms the following nominations had been received:

<u>Brooke:</u>	<u>Kirstead:</u>	<u>Mundham with Seething:</u>	<u>Thwaite St Mary:</u>
Keith Joad	Andrew Behagg	Judy Baldwin	Marion Barwick
Christina Jones	Christopher Kemp	Margaret Eastham	Tom Edwards
Diane Marshall	Cliff Whatrup	Jilly Le Coq	Janet Hadingham
Brian Orland		Anne Rudd	Jim Hadingham
Alison Rhodes		Caroline Egerton	Valerie Healy
David Sanford			Su Mahon
Patricia Strachan			
Philip Strachan			
Kenneth Warman			
Gwyneth Watson			
Charles Wilde			
Diana Wilde			

Following elections in each parish all were elected unanimously to serve.

Election of Sidespeople

This item is only relevant to Brooke. The following had agreed to act as Sidespersons in the next year and were elected to do so unanimously:

Laura Cowan	Linda Riley
Martin Hanner	David Sanford
Peter Horner	Pat Strachan
Janet Joad	Gwyneth Watson
Keith Joad	Charles Wilde
Christina Jones	Diana Wilde
Maureen Kittle	

Vicar's Report

Further to her written report, available before the meeting, the Vicar made the following comments:

Following the publication of the Parish Share reports for 2017 the Benefice is to be congratulated on paying 95% of the amount asked of it, with three parishes paying 100%. Overall £1000 more was paid than in 2016. This is a remarkable achievement and the Vicar thanked everyone for their commitment and efforts in this regard. She acknowledged that the current year places even more financial demands on the Benefice and congratulated those who are already in the process of organising fund raising events to help to meet the extra funds needed.

After the success of the first Benefice Growth Plan in 2016-17 it had been difficult to set targets for the coming year. Each parish was asked to plan for one target and these are being worked on currently. The establishment of the new Growth Group, meeting to eat, talk and pray together, has been successful and it is hoped that this group may provide inspiration for the planning for growth in 2018-19.

The Vicar spoke of the importance of recognising that the concept of Church is changing in the minds of society and of Christians. She shared the example of Lucozade which has transformed its image in living memory from a drink given to invalids to an aid to sport and energy. The change of branding and target audience may be something from which the Church will need to take lessons in coming years.

To conclude, we were reminded of the need to remain faithful to the work of the Gospel, to continually explore and discover our calling, both individually and corporately, and to trust in the power of prayer. We were encouraged to accept and work within our limitations, concentrating on what we can do, rather than feeling defeated by what cannot be managed.

Any Other Business

No other business was raised.

Date of Next Meeting:

Sunday 17th March 2019

Before the meeting was closed John Ash thanked the Vicar on behalf of the Benefice for her ministry and took the opportunity to show the assembled company the new muffles and bag supplied for Brooke's bells as part of their restoration.

The meeting closed at 12.00pm