

# **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 15<sup>h</sup> March 2020 @ 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 and Christopher Kemp, the Lay Chair of Kirstead PCC, for their support and particularly their service as the "Benefice Council". She greatly appreciated their willingness to shoulder some of the responsibility for the Benefice.

Thanks were expressed to John Ash, the Benefice Lay Reader, for his work in the Benefice and for his stoic example during recent serious illness. The Vicar asked that people continue to pray for John's recovery.

Steve Hayman and Leslie Swindells, both of whom had died in the last year, were remembered by name and thanks were given for their contribution to the life of the Benefice.

The following nominations had been received for those standing for election in 2020-21:

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 23<sup>rd</sup> June at Norwich Cathedral. All wardens meet the Safeguarding standards required.

#### **ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**

##### Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from:

Brooke:	Ruth Dodds, Brian Orland, Charles Wilde
Mundham with Seething:	Jilly le Coq

##### Minutes of the meetings held in March 2019

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

##### Matters arising

There were no matters arising

### Safeguarding Report

The Benefice Safeguarding Officer, Laura Cowan, gave her report. The Benefice meets all the requirements identified in the Parish Safeguarding Handbook and all training and checks are up to date.

There were no questions and the report was unanimously accepted by the meeting.

The Vicar thanked Laura for her willingness to continue in this role and for her work over the last year, which had been particularly challenging due to the need to DBS check all PCC members.

### 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 updated during the period before the Annual Meetings. Electoral Roll officers reported that the numbers on each new Electoral Roll stand at:

Brooke:	74
Kirstead:	13
Mundham with Seething:	14
Thwaite St Mary:	16

### 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

Thanks were expressed to Jim and Janet Haddingham and Valerie Healey; long-standing members of their respective PCCs who have retired this year.

Nominations for membership of the PCC were received from:

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

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

All these PCC members are already compliant with safeguarding expectations.

### Election to Deanery Synod

Thanks were expressed to those who have served as Deanery Synod Representatives for the past three years. Two nominations had been received:

Brooke: Rosemary Sanford, Daphne Warman

These nominees were elected to serve by members of Brooke PCC.

The meeting was reminded of the importance of being represented at Deanery Synod and that meetings of the Synod are now usually open to all who wish to attend.

#### 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  
Stephanie Drake  
Martin Hanner  
Peter Horner  
Janet Joad  
Keith Joad  
Christina Jones

Maureen Kittle  
Linda Riley  
David Sanford  
Pat Strachan  
Gwyneth Watson  
Charles Wilde  
Diana Wilde

#### Vicar's Report

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

2019 had been a year of “coming together” and there was now a sense across the Benefice of togetherness. The vicar suggested that this is an area that needs continued work and that it is important that “togetherness” does not become exclusive but remains open. She felt that a shared vision is required, both to maintain the things that people value and to minister to people’s needs effectively.

Using marshmallows as a visual aid the vicar spoke of the importance of shared responsibility and reminded the meeting of the importance of prayer, which everyone is able to share in. She also reminded the meeting of the many practical jobs that are done each week and suggested that there may be new ways of doing these so that more people can share the load.

It is hoped that in the coming months a vision statement can be refined, against which to measure all activities. The vicar emphasised the need for the weight of responsibility to be shared across the whole benefice.

#### Any Other Business

No other business was raised.

#### Date of Next Meeting:

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2021

The meeting closed at 12.00pm