

The Brooke Benefice

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

Annual Meeting of Parishioners and Annual Parochial Church Meeting Sunday 26th March 2023 @ 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 following nominations had been received for those standing for election in 2021-22:

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

Following elections in each parish all were elected unanimously to serve. Churchwardens will be sworn in by the incumbent later in the year at an appropriate service in the Benefice. All wardens have current DBS checks and plans are in place for these to be updated as necessary later in the year. Their safeguarding training is up to date.

The Vicar thanked the Churchwardens and Christopher Kemp (Lay Chair for Kirstead) for their support in what had been another challenging year. She expressed her gratitude for their steady encouragement in a time of uncertainty and their openness to the need for change.

The Vicar also thanked John Ash for his steadfast support and help in leading the Benefice and sharing ministry.

The following congregation members who had died in the past year were remembered: Mary Driver, Patricia Gilks, Jilly Le Coq, Philip Strachan, Nanette Woodrow

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from:

Mundham with Seething: Laura Cowan

Minutes of the meetings held in March 2022

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

Matters arising

There were no matters arising

Safeguarding Report

The Vicar gave the report in the absence of the Safeguarding Officer.

There were no safeguarding issues reported in the year.

All parish Dashboards are now at Green (except Kirstead which cannot reach green as it has no Churchwarden). All PCC members have updated their Safeguarding training in line with CofE requirements.

The Benefice Safeguarding Officer continues to attend the Safeguarding network meetings on behalf of the benefice and these are valuable in keeping up to date.

In the coming year continued emphasis will be placed on ensuring that all who attend worship or events are safe.

Finance Reports and PCC Reports

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

The Vicar thanked the treasurers for their work over the year. She also expressed gratitude that a large proportion of the Parish Share had been paid and encouraged parishes to consider the coming year when more is being asked.

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:	68
Kirstead:	13
Mundham with Seething:	14
Thwaite St Mary:	14

Fabric Reports, Deanery Synod Report and Reports from Church organisations

The Vicar thanked Alison Rhodes for collating and producing the Benefice Annual Report.

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

Election of Deanery Synod representatives

There were three nominations for the three Brooke vacancies:

John Ash, Alison Rhodes, Rosemary Sanford.

These three were duly elected by Brooke PCC.

Election of PCC representatives

Thanks were expressed to Diane Marshall, Kenneth Warman and Diana Wilde who all retired from PCCs during the year, after long service, and to Morna Hill who had also decided to step down from the PCC.

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>
Stephanie Drake	Andrew Behagg	Judy Baldwin	Tom Edwards
Keith Joad	Gillian Green	Laura Cowan	Su Mahon
Christina Jones	Christopher Kemp	Anne Rudd	
Brian Orland	Cliff Whatrup		
David Sanford			
Patricia Strachan			
Charles Wilde			

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

Vicar's Report

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

The current transition to becoming a new benefice, with the people of the Hempnall Group, is a calling from God. As such it will require discernment of God's will and all decisions will need to be rooted in prayer.

Over time decisions will need to be made about worship patterns, finances, governance, communication and pastoral care.

The Vicar presented photographs of the churches in the Hempnall Group for interest and by way of introduction.

Everyone present was encouraged to take opportunities to be fully involved in the decision making processes, to share ideas and to socialise across the new benefice. The Vicar promoted the planned "New Benefice Vision Day" on 29th April 2023.

Any Other Business

There was none

Date of Next Meeting:

Sunday 17th March 2024

The meeting closed at 12.05pm