

**Minutes of The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)  
held on Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> May 2025 at 5.00 pm  
at St Thomas Church.**

The Reverend Tim Heaney opened the Meeting with a Prayer.

**Parishioners Present** – Chairperson, The Reverend Tim Heaney, The Reverend David Oakden, Mr John Slater, Mrs Nina Kingshott, Mr Arthur Webb, Mr Richard Melhuish, Ms Helen Corbett, Mrs Janette Webb, Mr John Peake, Mrs Jennifer Love (Part), Mrs Alison Oakden, Mrs Ruth Coleman, Mr Thomas Deady, Ms Mary Boxall, Mr Roger Buckley, Mr Benjamin Thorn, Mr Colin Balchin, Ms Anita Foreman.

**Minutes taken by** – Ms Yvonne Alfert, PCC Secretary

**Vestry Meeting.**

Election of Churchwardens

The following person has been nominated to serve as Churchwarden for the coming year (Nomination papers are available).

Ms Helen Corbett – proposed by Janette Webb, seconded by Richard Melhuish.

That this person be elected to serve as Churchwarden was agreed unanimously.

Warm thanks were extended to Mr Richard Melhuish, who was retiring from the role, for his hard work.

Rev Tim Heaney asked that if anyone else wished to take on the role, they should talk to Rev David Oakden.

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## The Annual Parochial Church Meeting

### 1. Apologies

Apologies have been received from Mr Mike Pike, Mrs Margaret Roberts, Mrs Janis Stanhope

### 2. Minutes of the APCM held on 30<sup>th</sup> May 2025

The Minutes had earlier been distributed.

That the Minutes be accepted was unanimously agreed.

### 3. Electoral Roll Officers Report – Mrs Jennifer Love.

There is a requirement for a new Electoral Roll to be prepared every six years. Jenny Love had carried this work out and had provided a report for the APCM.

Very encouragingly the new Church Electoral Roll includes 19 new members.

### 4. Report on the Proceedings of the PCC – The Reverend David Oakden .

The PCC has met six times during the year. The standing committee (comprising the Rector, the Priest, the Churchwarden and Treasurer) has not met during the year.

### 5. Report on the Fabric, Goods and Ornaments of the Churches of the Parish - Richard Melhuish, Ms Helen Corbett

Richard Melhuish and Helen Corbett had both produced very comprehensive reports that were contained within the Draft APCM Annual Report 2024 which had been circulated in advance of the meeting.

Richard Melhuish warned that a lot of work would be required going forward. There were still some outstanding items from the Quinquennial Report on St Martha's that needed to be resolved. Although he had officially resigned as Churchwarden, he indicated that he would be happy to continue to help out.

Reverend Tim Heaney thanked Helen Corbett for all her hard work, particularly with regard to the updating of Church House and the repainting of the kitchen at St Martha's.

Reverend Tim Heaney and Reverend David Oakden both thanked Richard Melhuish for all his hard work over the previous years.

**6. Independently examined Financial Statements of the Churches of the Parish**

A full copy of the Financial Statements and Reports had been circulated within the Annual Report and Mr John Slater gave a verbal overview of the financial situation.

The Parish had made a small surplus even though there had been extensive works on Church House and so it had not been necessary to draw on the deposits. Reverend Tim Heaney noted that there had been a financial improvement since the change in Ministry.

The accounts had been independently examined and passed by A J Bennewith, FCA. The APCM formally accepted the report unanimously.

**7. Safeguarding Officer's Report –Mrs Nina Kingshott**

Reverend Tim Heaney expressed his thanks to Nina Kingshott who had produced a report that was contained within the Draft APCM Annual Report 2024 which had been circulated in advance of the meeting.

Nina Kingshott thanked everyone for participating in Safeguarding training and their vigilance. Reverend Tim Heaney reiterated the importance of vigilance on the ground and the importance of coming forward with any concerns.

**8. Verger's Report – Mrs Ruth Coleman**

Reverend Tim Heaney expressed his thanks to Ruth Coleman who had produced a report contained within the Draft APCM Annual Report 2024 which had been circulated in advance of the meeting.

**9. Tinies and Toddlers – Mrs Alison Oakden**

Reverend Tim Heaney expressed his thanks to Alison Oakden who had produced a report that was contained within the Draft APCM Annual Report 2024 which had been circulated in advance of the meeting. He also expressed how good it was to have such a resource in the Village.

**10. Foodbank Report – Mrs Alison Oakden**

Reverend Tim Heaney expressed his thanks to Alison Oakden who had produced a report that was contained within the Draft APCM Annual Report 2024 which had been circulated in advance of the meeting. He also expressed how much this resource was appreciated and his gratitude for all her hard work.

**11. Report on Musical Events and Concerts & Broad Horizons Book Club  
– Mrs Margaret Roberts**

Margaret Roberts had prepared two reports which were contained within the Draft Annual Report. Reverend David Oakden noted the high quality of the music events at St Martha's and expressed his thanks to Margaret Roberts for all her work in organising these.

**12. Friends of St Martha's – Ms Helen Corbett**

Helen Corbett had produced a report that was contained within the Draft Annual Report. Reverend Tim Heaney expressed his thanks to Helen and Janis Stanhope for all their hard work in promoting this group.

**13. Social and Fundraising Report Ms Linda Holden**

Linda Holden had produced a report which was contained within the Draft Annual Report.

The Reverend Tim Heaney thanked the Social Committee for all their hard work over the year and Helen Corbett added her appreciation for all the wonderful lunches and events they had arranged.

**14. Annual Report of the Proceedings of the Deanery Synod 2024/25  
- Mrs Nina Kingshott**

This report was given verbally by Mrs Nina Kingshott who noted that the main highlight had been meeting the new Archdeacon.

It was agreed that Mrs Nina Kingshott and Mrs Ali Oakden would continue as elected members.

**15. Clergy Report – Reverend David Oakden**

Reverend Tim Heaney thanked Reverend David Oakden for his report which had been included in the Draft Annual Report.

Reverend David Oakden took the opportunity to thank everybody who had contributed to the life of the Church. Reverend Tim Heaney noted that rural clergy face more challenges than their urban counterparts and the current situation was not sustainable and required reviewing.

Reverend Tim Heaney expressed sincere gratitude on behalf of everyone present to Reverend David Oakden and also to Alison Oakden

**16. Election of PCC Members.**

There were two nomination for the PCC:

Roger Buckley proposed by Margaret Roberts. This was passed unanimously by the meeting.

Benjamin Thorn proposed by Margaret Roberts. This was passed unanimously by the meeting.

All other members had been elected in 2024 and therefore re-election would be required in 2027 (3 years tenure).

**17. Deanery Representatives**

Nina Kingshott and Mrs Ali Oakden confirmed they were happy to carry on as Deanery Representatives.

**18. Appointment of Independent Examiner for 2025**

Anthony John Bennewith, FCA – passed unanimously.

This ended the APCM 2025.

The Reverend Tim Heaney closed with prayer

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_