



ALMONDBURY WITH FARNLEY TYAS PARISH

Our purpose is to:

- grow in faith as the family of God
- celebrate and share the love of Christ
- show his love by our witness and service in the community

Minutes of the Annual Vestry Meeting of the Almondbury with Farnley Tyas Parish held on Sunday 21st May 2023 at All Hallows' Church Hall, Almondbury, Huddersfield

I. Opening Prayers

Revd J Malay opened the meeting with a prayer

II. Members Present & Apologies for Absence

Forty-four (44) members of the parish were present, with Revd J Malay acting as Chair. Revd M Burn was also present in the capacity of an interested observer. In addition, apologies were given for twelve (12) members of the parish.

III. Minutes of the Annual Vestry Meeting held on 15th May 2022

The minutes of the Annual Vestry Meeting of the Almondbury with Farnley Tyas Parish, held on Sunday 15th May 2022, which had been circulated by email prior to this meeting, and hard copies of which had been given to all present, were approved as an accurate record. This was proposed by Cath Ball, seconded by Monica Wells, and passed unanimously by all present.

IV. Election of Churchwardens for 2023-2024

The following nominations for Churchwardens had been received following individual church Annual Congregational Meetings:

All Hallows: Jenny Hinchliffe & Linda Smith

St. Lucius': Cath Ball & Monica Wells

St. Michael & St. Helen's: None

A vote was taken to ratify these nominations, each of which was agreed unanimously by all present.

Revd Malay thanked all those who undertake, both formally and informally, the work of Churchwarden across the parish.

The Annual Vestry Meeting concluded

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting of the Almondbury with Farnley Tyas Parish held on Sunday 21st May 2023 at All Hallows' Church Hall, Almondbury, Huddersfield

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IV. Matters Arising

Garden: Hillary Pollard noted that still no work had taken place in the garden.

Review & Development of Worship Patterns: James Wilkinson asked for an update on this, and Revd Malay advised it was still in development, and whilst a great deal of interfaith work has taken place, that any further development has been put on hold during the maternity leave of Revd Cowling-Green, as it would be inappropriate to not include her. Linda Smith noted that Worship is always on the PCC meeting agenda, and the PCC would like to see more interfaith events, and are aware of the current pause, and the need to move forward.

Local Dean: Geraint Price raised a query about the local dean, Julie Anderson, especially in the period of maternity leave. Revd Malay advised that whilst parishioners may not have physically seen her, that her help to clergy in the maternity period has been invaluable. Also Monica Wells stated that Julie Anderson has been an enormous support to them in the maternity period.

Interfaith work: Hillary Pollard noted that the parish invites the local Union of Catholic Mothers group to join them in worship, but has yet to be joined by them.

V. Reports

1. Clergy Report

Revd Malay began with a reading (1 Corinthians 12:4-4-26) and continued that 2022-23 was a year of transition for the parish, with the final COVID restrictions lifted and the parish moved out of the interregnum. Both of these events were difficult, but by acting as the Bible passage says – as one body – we have thrived and emerged strong, ready to take on new and further challenges. Important events have included: the baptisms of Rachel & Jorjan, celebrations of the long period of worship and ministry in the parish (500 years etc.) the good works of the parish (Foodshare, Little Hallows, Community Café, Eco-Church) all of which strive to meet the physical needs of the community. Our great call is to fill our churches with people looking for hope, seeking to be part of the Body of Christ, to fill the emptiness they are enduring in their lives. Called by God and filled with the Holy Spirit, we and they can come and enter into the one Body. That is our challenge now and in the years ahead, and it is a challenge, but it is also a great joy, to be given this work to do.

2. Electoral Roll Report

Corinne Lord reported that little had changed in the past year. However, sadly, there had been seven (7) deaths across the parish.

There are now 157 parishioners on the electoral roll, with the following for each church.

All Hallows': 82 (84 in 2022, and 18 of whom live out of the area)

St. Lucius': 51 (55 in 2022, and 16 of whom live out of the area)

St. Michael & St. Helen's: 24 (25 in 2022, and 5 of whom live out of the area)

Corinne reminded those present to advise that the Electoral Roll is always open for new members, and not just in the period leading up to this annual meeting. Furthermore, she added that examination of the data showed that average attendance at each of the churches showed:

All Hallows': 48 (due to COVID there is no comparative data for 2022)

St. Lucius': 22

St. Michael & St. Helen's: 23

3. Financial Report

Andrew Wilkinson presented the Consolidated Financial Statement for 2022, and reported that this had previously been independently

examined by Malcolm Batty and accepted by the PCC before being circulated to the wider parish community ahead of this meeting. The reports are consolidated, as the parish consists of three individual churches, each with their own restricted and unrestricted funds.

The summary of the report showed:

- Overall funds had increased by £19K over the year – which could be explained due to St Lucius completing their capital work and All Hallows' collecting ahead of scheduled work in 2023.
- The Parish Share (its contribution to the Diocese of Leeds) for 2023 will be £62.6K, which is a rise from the £59.8K levied for 2022.
- Parish expenses will rise in 2023 from £16.5K to £22K – this is due mainly to the appointment of a Parish Administrator and Parish Caretaker
- The effect on each parishioner is that to cover costs (not including heating) there is a need for donations equalling £18 per person per week or £75 per person per month!
- This means there is a parish-wide need to look the amount collected, including increasing other revenue streams, such as rent etc.

Revd Malay thanked Andrew, and all the Treasurers for their continued support hard work, identifying how faithfully and well they undertake this vital work. This was particularly pertinent for Brian Mallinson, as he has now stepped down as St. Lucius' Treasurer. Malcolm Batty was also thanked for his examination work.

4. Churchwardens' & Fabric Reports 2022

Reports on the Fabric, Goods and Ornaments had been received from the Churchwardens (or equivalent) at each church, and had been circulated prior to the meeting. Questions arose about the poor sound systems at All Hallows' and St. Lucius', in particular the poor range of the loop systems. Linda Smith advised that efforts to resolve these problems were ongoing, and were not helped by a complete lack of reply from the company responsible for their installation and upkeep. However, she ensured those present that she would continue to pursue a resolution to this pressing issue. No further comments were made, nor questions raised, regarding these reports.

5. Deanery Synod Report

A report on the 2022 proceedings of the Almondbury, Kirkburton Huddersfield Deanery Synod had been received from Cath Ball &

Charlotte Mallinson (Deanery Synod Representatives) and circulated prior to this meeting. No comments were made, nor questions raised, regarding these reports.

6. Reports from Church Organisations

Reports were received from Almondbury Mothers' Union, All Hallows' Bell Ringing Group and All Hallows' Organist & Choir prior to this meeting, and had been circulated. Thanks were raised for the continued hard work of these groups, and no questions were raised regarding these reports.

7. PCC Lay Chair's Report

Linda Smith presented a report on the past year's work by the PCC, outlining its membership, the key areas of work they had discussed, and the attendance figures during the year at the numerous services and events. Thanks were raised for the continued hard work of the PCC, and no questions were raised regarding these reports.

VI. Election & Appointments

1. Election of Representatives to the Deanery Synod

- As stated in 2022, the following are the elected parish representative members of the Almondbury, Kirkburton Huddersfield Deanery Synod:
 - Cath Ball (elected 2020 until 2023)
 - Charlotte Mallinson (elected 2020 until 2023)
 - Marion Beckles (elected 2021 until 2024)
 - Hillary Pollard (elected 2021 until 2024)
- As the term of office ends before the next Annual Parochial Church Meeting it was necessary for Cath Ball and Charlotte Mallinson to seek re-election. However, Charlotte Mallinson has decided to step down with immediate effect. Helen Marshall, together with Cath Ball sought the approval of this meeting to assume (or continue) their role until the APC Meeting of May 2025. This was passed unanimously.
- Marion Beckles & Hillary Pollard were advised that their current terms of office would end at the May 2024 APC Meeting.

Charlotte Mallinson was thanked for her service to the Synod and the parish.

2. Election of PCC Members

Both Brian and Charlotte Mallinson have announced their retirement from the PCC. Brian with immediate effect and Charlotte at the end of

her current term of office. Revd Malay thanked them for their years of dedicated service to the parish, and wished them well for the future.

- Five nominations had been received for positions on the PCC. They were from Christopher Thompson, Anadelle Robinson, Helen Marshall, Eric Lord & Sue Edwards.
- Each was unanimously elected by those present. However, one of the five would be the replacement for Brian Mallinson, and would therefore only serve for two years, rather than the three for the other four. Initially, it was proposed that the candidate for two years would be decided by the drawing of names. This was negated when Anadelle Robinson offered to accept the position for two years.
- As result the elected members of the PCC are now:
 - Jane Dutton (elected until 2024 APC Meeting)
 - Sue Edwards (elected until 2026 APC Meeting)
 - Corinne Lord (elected until 2024 APC Meeting)
 - Eric Lord (elected until 2026 APC Meeting)
 - Helen Marshall (elected until 2025 APC Meeting)
 - Anadelle Robinson (elected until 2025 APC Meeting)
 - Christopher Thompson (elected until 2026 APC Meeting)
 - Andrew Wilkinson (elected until 2025 APC Meeting)
- Therefore, Jane Dutton & Corinne Lord were reminded that their term of office on the PCC would come to end at the next APC Meeting, unless they seek re-election.

3. Appointment of Independent Examiner

Malcolm Batty noted that he was willing to continue as Independent Examiner of the parish's accounts. His reappointment was proposed by Andrew Wilkinson, seconded by Brian Mallinson, and unanimously agreed by all present. Revd Malay thanked Malcolm for his past work, and for agreeing to continue.

VII. Any Other Business

List of PCC members: It was raised about the lack of a list of current PCC members in any of the three churches of the parishes. Linda Smith advised that this would be rectified.

Home Communion: It was requested that this be looked in to as a matter of urgency. Revd Malay said that an action point of ensuring the appropriate licences were in place would be added to the next PCC agenda.

PA System: Further complaints about the system were raised, to which referral to the matter arising from the Fabric report was advised. Namely,

it is being looked into, and despite the difficulties in doing so, it will be resolved.

Brian Mallinson: A vote of thanks for Brian's 45 years on the PCC, as well as his other tireless work, was proposed, which was unanimously passed.

Clergy: Another vote of thanks, for the eight ministers who have served the parish during Revd Cowling-Green's maternity leave, was also proposed. Again, this was passed unanimously. Revd Malay & Revd Burn thanked all present for their sign of support, which they said was much appreciated.

Methodist Church: Thanks were publicly expressed for the Almondbury Methodist Church's support of the recent Coffee Morning.

2024 Meeting Paperwork: It was noted that the paperwork for this meeting had been sent out later than usual. Linda Smith apologised, but did state that the reason was not administrative, as had been suggested by some present, but the failure of some of those required to do so, to present reports for circulation. Nevertheless, all endeavours would be undertaken in 2024 to send out paperwork at least two weeks prior to the meeting.

Further thanks: In addition to those listed above, the following other thanks were offered by various attendees of the meeting:

- To Jane Dutton for her continued work at St. Michael & St. Helen's
- To those who run the various parish meetings, including this one!
- To Revd Malay for "holding the fort"
- To the clergy who continue to help us
- To all our Churchwardens

Liturgical changes: A brief discussion ensued about liturgical changes. Revd Malay advised that any such changes should be agreed with clergy before implementation, and in particular with Revd Cowling-Green when she returns from maternity leave.

VIII: Closing Prayers

Revd Malay ended the 2023 Annual Parochial Church Meeting with the Grace.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting concluded