



# **ANNUAL PAROCHIAL MEETING**

**SUNDAY 18 May 2025**

**Agenda, Minutes  
and Candidate Profiles**

***Starting at 11:00am at Holy Trinity Church***

## **Annual Meeting of Parishioners**

Apologies

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners held on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners held on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2024

Election of Churchwardens.

## **Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

Apologies

Minutes of APCM held on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Matters arising

Elections

1. PCC Representatives
2. Appointment of Readers to the PCC
3. Approval of serving 2 terms on PCC

Reports

*These have been available to view before the meetings.*

1. Electoral Roll
2. Finance Report  
*Appointment of independent examiner*
3. Buildings and Fabric Report
4. Diocesan and Deanery Synod Reports
5. Other Reports

Safeguarding

Vicar's Report

Vote of Thanks

Any Other Business.

Closing Prayer

## **Parochial Church Council Meeting**

*(for PCC members only, held immediately after the APCM at the front of Church)*

1. Appointment of Vice-Chair.
2. Appointment of Honorary Treasurer.
3. Appointment of Secretary.
4. Appointment of Electoral Roll Officer.
5. Any other Business

## **Holy Trinity Church - Minutes of the Annual Parishioners' Meeting**

**Held on Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

**Apologies:** Jess and JoAnne Brake; Griffiths family; Geoff and Sue Wilcox

*The meeting was chaired by the Vicar, Revd Richard Hibbert*

### **Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners held on 30 April 2024**

These were unanimously approved as a correct record of the meeting.

There were no matters arising.

### **Election of Churchwardens**

Thanks was offered to Alison Jackson, who is stepping down for health reasons, especially for her contributions as Finance Warden and Safeguarding Warden. A gift was offered followed by a round of applause. Alison responded with thanks to everyone for their support, particularly the other Wardens. She noted this is an exciting time for Holy Trinity with the permanent appointment of Revd Richard and the appointment last summer of Revd Carolyne.

Three nominations had been received for four vacancies. The Chair therefore declared Nehemiah Akinyele, Chris Howard, and Andrew Selwyn as duly elected for a period of one year, unopposed. The remaining vacancy would be filled during the year.

The Vicar thanked them for their service over the past year and thanked them for their willingness to stand again.

The meeting was closed.

# **Holy Trinity Church - Minutes of the Extraordinary Annual Parishioners' Meeting**

**Held on Sunday, 06 October 2024**

*An extraordinary meeting of Annual Parishioners was called on October 2024 in order to appoint a 4th Warden. The meeting was held during the joint Harvest Service and chaired by Revd Richard Hibbert.*

## **Election of Church Warden**

One nomination had been received for one vacancy and the Chair therefore declared Jenny Williams as duly elected until the next Annual Parishioners' Meeting.

She was thanked for her willingness to serve in this capacity.

The meeting was closed.

## **Holy Trinity Church – Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

**Held in Holy Trinity on Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

**Apologies:** JoAnne and Jess Brake; Griffiths family; Geoff and Sue Wilcox

### **Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on Sunday, 30 April 2023**

The minutes were unanimously approved as a correct record of the meeting.

### **Matters arising:**

Revd Richard spoke of the deep sadness felt at the unexpected death of Sue Shepherd in June 2023, shortly after the last Annual Parochial Church Meeting. Her service as a Lay Reader for many years was much appreciated and her contribution to music at Holy Trinity is greatly missed.

### **PCC Elections**

#### **1. PCC Representatives**

Thanks were given to Pam Hopkins, Emmanuel Vasanthkumar and Catherine Jupp (who had served as Vice-Chair) whose terms were ending

Four nominations have been received for four 3-year vacancies. The Vicar therefore declared Mike Draper, Nick Jackson, Amarchi Umah and Jenny Williams as duly elected for a 3-year term.

#### **2. Readers**

Geoff Wilcox was appointed as Holy Trinity's Reader and the Vicar proposed that he continue as a member of the PCC. This was unanimously approved by the meeting.

### **Reports**

### **1. *Changes to the Electoral Roll since 2023:***

The Electoral Roll Officer, Julie Wilcockson, reported that there are now 203 people on the Electoral Roll, an increase from 178. Julie was thanked for her work in preparing the Roll for the meeting.

### **2. *Financial Report:***

Nehemiah Akinyele, Treasurer, presented a report to the meeting.

**2021:** The Independent Examination of the 2021 Accounts was completed and the Financial Statements had been filed along with the Annual Report with the Charity Commission.

**2022:** Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2022 had been compiled and handed over to the Independent Examiner. The value of our investments fell by 19K thus resulting in a net loss of 22K for the year. The PCC would be presented with the accounts on completion of the Independent Examination.

**2023:** The Final Accounts for 2023 are being compiled and should be ready soon. During the year 2023, there were increased demand for expenditure which continue to overshadow the encouraging improvement in our income. However, a general overview of the Revenue & Expenditure Accounts shows that the Improved Income during the year assisted in ensuring that the actual deficit is a little lower than the budgeted deficit. We also envisage that movements within our Investment portfolio may not change this position materially.

**2024:** A fairly difficult year in 2024 is anticipated and PCC approved a budget deficit of 42K for the year. An appeal was made for donations/pledges to boost our income and parishioners are responding. Actual activities for the 1st quarter of the year cautiously suggest a slightly better result for 2024. Aside from seeking an increase in giving, the PCC is also pursuing other avenues of income. Thanks was given to those who give generously and especially for the increased number of families who have joined the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) as well which is a useful way of giving regularly. It is also possible to make a single one-off donation through PGS as well.

*The appointment of the Independent Examiner was deferred to the PCC.*

### **3. *Buildings and Fabrics Report:***

This was available to review before the meeting. In recent days DAC approval to install a defibrillator and external CCTV had been received.

A question was asked about what was happening with the screens. The DAC had asked if a proposal about a new AV unit and server in the West End could be added to the screens proposal which had delayed the project. Currently designs were being prepared to submit to the DAC so the whole project could be approved.

### **4. *Diocesan Deanery Synod Reports:***

These were available to review before the meeting.

There were no questions arising.

### **5. Other reports:**

These were available to review before the meeting. There were no questions arising.

A verbal report was given on Social Media. Holy Trinity's Social Media presence and footprint had grown significantly over the past year. Of our current followers, 50% are local to Coventry, but we also have significant audience from Pakistan, Uganda, US, South Africa, Australia, Hong Kong and many more. Our audience percentage of people under the age of 34 has increased to 18.9% (Facebook) and 39.1% (Instagram). Sophie offered a big thank you to all those who had provided content over the year.

### **Safeguarding**

Vicki Johnson, Parish Safeguarding Officer, report was received with thanks and had been available to review before the meeting. She reminded the meeting that safeguarding is for all of us. She encouraged everyone to report anything that concerned them and to pray for their particular area. She thanked the PCC for undertaking their Safeguarding training and offered particular thanks to Alison Jackson for sharing her wisdom and experience as Safeguarding Warden.

### **Vicar's Report**

Thank you for, firstly, for your love and prayers for Sarah and I over the last year. We're very grateful for your messages of encouragement and for your friendship.

Hanging over 2023 was the ending of the Interim Vicar role – officially March 2025. AD Barry said I needed to know whether the role would be made permanent or not by the end of 2023, so that, if required, I had a clear year to move on.

My call to Coventry was not just for 3 years. I trusted that God would provide for this role to become permanent. At the end of 2023, AD Barry had consulted with the wardens, the PCC and me. There was clear agreement that the role should be made permanent.

Sarah and I are excited to continue serving you and the people of this historic city.

That joyful news, for us and I believe for you, was among many other wonderful things that God was doing amongst us in 2023:

- Appointment of Vino and Thilini brought strength to our Verging Team and the running of Trinity House.
- The stronger Verging Team enabled our midweek Welcome Team to open this amazing church 6 days/week.
- Appointment of Sophie to manage our social media has revolutionised our presence on-line.
- Our Welcome Team grew in numbers – there's always room for you to join them too – and in confidence: we had a great training session on how the Doom Painting is actually good news for everyone.

- The formal lighting of the East and West windows – paid for by the City Council. The West window at night reveals the glory of Christ to our City.
- Our worshipping community has grown in numbers – may it grow in discipleship as well.
- We have rejoiced in a good number of baptisms and confirmation candidates.
- We welcomed many students, especially from Coventry University. The Table on Sundays and The Walk on Tuesdays both see a committed group of students and young adults attending.
- Carlyne's arrival in August was key to that strengthened student and young adult ministry – she brings excellent personal and relational skills.
- Alex has overseen the enrichment of our music and worship:
  - Our 2 choral scholars, Georgi and Seren.
  - Music group's new musicians and singers.
  - New choir members, both children and adults.
  - Choir highlights: Llandaff Cathedral visit, Aural Histories Evensong, Coronation Evensong, Advent and Christmas services.
  - Both morning services are inspiring acts of worship as the worship team has grown in depth and breadth.
  - and Civic services for the Lord Mayor, the Freeman's Guild, Remembrance and the Armed Forces.
- Improved resourcing of all our ministry. The number of donors and the amount donated have grown, which further enables our expanding mission in the heart of this historic city.
- Increasing numbers of young families and children. It's stretching the manpower resources for our children's and youth ministry – a nice problem to have!
- Trinity House being on a firmer footing financially, though we still need more rental income.

There have been sadnesses. We mourned the loss of Sue Shepherd, a much-loved member and Lay Reader of many years. We prayed for those – it seemed too many – who suffered serious illness or set-backs, but we rejoice with those for whom the gift of God's healing was given. We miss Bishop Christopher and his episcopal ministry: he loved Holy Trinity and prayed for his parish church.

In all this good news, tough news and sad news, I want to thank the Wardens for their co-leadership with me. Alison, Chris, Nehemiah and Andrew have sustained and encouraged me, offered wisdom and practical involvement, and been an example to us all of daily faithful discipleship.

They care greatly for this church, and you its worshipping community. They serve you unstintingly and I thank them for all they give to us.

They and I are proud of our paid staff:

- ✓ Jack and Megan in serving our children and young people;
- ✓ Colin, Vino and Angela in the office and around the buildings;
- ✓ Alex serving our worship;
- ✓ Sophie in our social media;
- ✓ and Thilini coordinating Trinity House.

You are all much appreciated, by me (even when I am not good at showing it) and this congregation. Thank you for your love for Holy Trinity and your commitment to letting our mission and ministry shine brighter.

Thank you too to Carolynne for coming among us last summer, for bringing your prayerfulness, and your commitment to lives devoted to following Jesus in the richness of community. Your impact is already seen in the lives of the students and young adults, who worship with us.

Thank you also to you, the worshipping community of Holy Trinity. You encourage us and one another by your presence Sunday by Sunday. You delight to offer your gifts and skills in the service of God and his church. You release more mission and ministry by your prayers and your deeds. Thank you for being part of Holy Trinity.

As I look forward to being your Vicar for some years now, I want to make the reality of our Values more and more evident in all we do and offer to one another and to our City:

- Welcome – this is the task of each of us. Someone once welcomed you and you made Holy Trinity your worshipping home. Now you can welcome those who come through our doors, not just formally by being on the Sunday and Midweek Welcome Teams, but just looking out for those you don't know. The power of being welcomed is a key enabler of people coming into our worshipping community.
- Warmth – this builds on welcome and takes it to the next level. This is about how we rejoice in one another, support one another, unite around the whole mission and ministry of Holy Trinity. Sustaining one another by building friendships across our life is key to being one spiritual family under one God.
- Worship – this is a rich part of our heritage and our offering to God's people and our City. We probably have some personal preference on worship styles. Our call, as members of Holy Trinity, is to support and bless all our worship, uniting in one desire for all to find ways to worship God here.
- Witness – linking with the parish through leaflet drops at Easter and Christmas saw parishioners come to our Festival services. We are their parish church and I long that we serve them well. We also see huge numbers of people walk past Holy Trinity each day, who don't know and worship their Heavenly Father. We have not yet found the best way to touch the lives of these ordinary Coventry people.



- Wealth – God has provided again and again. We have prayed for God to resource His mission and ministry amongst us, and He has answered our prayers through the generosity of His people – thank you. Holy Trinity has then been able to be generous to others, tithing our PCC's income towards our 12 mission partners.

I am prayerfully pondering if there may be a new Value to add: Walk – to create space for our discipleship, that we may know and appreciate more the reading of God's Word and a life of prayer. Let me know if that resonates with your heart.

God has been very good to us in 2023. We are called to be faithful to Him in 2024, to seek His will for our lives and to pray for His Kingdom to come to our City.

There is a prayer I often return to:

God of Mission

Who alone brings growth to your Church,

Send your Holy Spirit to give

Vision to our planning,

Wisdom to our actions,

And power to our witness.

Help Holy Trinity grow in numbers,

In spiritual commitment to you,

And in service to our community,

May this prayer inspire us, unite us and send us on in faithful service.

Thank you.

### **Vote of Thanks**

Chris Howard, Warden, offered a vote of thanks to Revd Richard and also rejoiced that he will continue to serve Holy Trinity for many more years. He proposed a vote of thanks which was followed by a round of applause.

*As there was no other business, the meeting was closed in praying the Mission Prayer together and saying the grace.*

# ANNUAL PARISHIONERS' MEETING

## CANDIDATES' PROFILES

### Churchwardens

#### ***Nehemiah Akinyele***

I have been a consistent parishioner at Holy Trinity Church, Coventry since I joined in 2008 after I relocated to the United Kingdom.

My involvement in HTC includes the grace of serving as a Church Warden from 2022 to date and currently as Finance Warden. I also served as Treasurer of the PCC in 2023.

Prior to moving to the UK, I had the privilege of serving as Treasurer of Yaba Archdeaconry Board and in various capacities on the PCC of All Saints' Anglican Church, Yaba. (Church of Nigeria).

***Proposed: Ann Russell; Seconded: Mike Draper***

#### ***Chris Howard***

I have been a member of Holy Trinity since 1981. I was Director of Music from 1981-1990, and from 1992-2012.

I have served on PCC and on Building and Fabric Committee and have been a Churchwarden for the past 5 years.

***Proposed: Bill Johnson; Seconded: Catherine Kendall***

#### ***Andrew Selwyn***

My family and I have been part of Holy Trinity Church from 2018. God beautifully planned our move to UK (to work for JLR), our involvement with Holy Trinity Church and all the opportunities he has given to serve Him. The way He has led us is incredible and it is something we always look back with a grateful heart.

By God's grace, from 2018, Vino [my wife, who is also part of the church staff team] and I have opened our home to have bible study growth group. I'm part of church choir, 11:15am children's group team, and for the past three years I'm serving as a church warden, mainly focussing on outreach / student ministry.

It is a great privilege to be able to serve God in this incredible church with so much opportunity to share God's love and the gospel. If it is God's will for me to continue to serve him as a church warden, I'll be grateful and will be faithful to obey his call.

### ***Jenny Williams***

Along with my husband Jonathan, I began attending Holy Trinity in 2021, although I have been a Christian for over 50 years. I worship at the 9:30am and 11:15am services where I support with the children's work, am on the Welcome Team and sing in the Worship Band. I also welcome when the Church is open to the public and regularly attend the monthly Church Prayer Hour. I was elected Churchwarden last year and feel very honoured to have been entrusted with this role.

I currently teach 2 days a week at Barr's Hill Secondary School where I teach English to newly arrived students, and support students with their learning.

***Proposed: Rachel Jackson; Seconded: Paul Doggett***

## **ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING CANDIDATES' PROFILES**

### ***Peter Civzelis***

I was born in Coventry and lived there all my life. I was brought up a Catholic going to St Elizabeths and Cardinal Newman Schools. I'm a widower twice over. I have been a member of the Holy Trinity congregation since 2017, when I married my second wife Carole Spicer. I was confirmed in the Anglican faith in May 2021 at the cathedral. I served an electrical apprenticeship at Torrington Co. Ltd. Coventry and retired as Engineering Manager having worked for a number of manufacturing companies. I recently became a member of the Buildings and Fabric Group assisting Bill Johnson.

### ***Pam Hopkins***

I first came to Holy Trinity in July 1986 and since then have been actively involved in many aspects of church life. I have helped in the crèche, completed all the rotas for all the services and other administration jobs such as the parish returns and copying baptism and wedding certificates for those who have needed another copy or lost the original.

I have nearly always been part of a home group, now called growth groups, and currently facilitate one at my home on a fortnightly basis. I am also a member of the walking group and knitting and crochet group. Currently I am part of the table and involved with students and young adults, cooking on a monthly basis and helping in building relationships which I thoroughly enjoy.

Although regularly attending the 9.30 service and helping with breakfast, I have tried

to get to know many of those attending the 11.15 service particularly families. It is important to stress that we are all one church despite worshipping in different ways. I have been a member of the PCC in the past and I think my experience of the church should enable me to make a positive contribution to the life of Holy Trinity.

*There are two further vacancies on the Parochial Church Council (PCC). If you are interested in standing, please fill in a nomination form (available to download from the HTC website, or at the back of Church by the PCC noticeboard) and return it to Keri Husband, PCC Secretary, by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.*