

St. Leonard's Parish Church  
Clent, Worcs.

Annual Vestry Meeting  
Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2023  
Minutes

12:00 \_ In church \_ chaired by Rev. Richard Newton.

1. Welcome and Prayers

Prayers to help us receive Your Grace, to open our hearts to Your Word, and carry out Your Mission in Clent.

2. Apologies

Received from Rose Padmore and Paul Timmins who were (temporarily) visiting an unexpectedly absent Anne Harris to check on her safety.

In attendance\_

PCC:	Rev Richard Newton,	Rev. Kim Topham,	LLM Alison Lewis,
Harry Grove (Secretary/Synod Rep.),		Neill Robb (Warden / Electoral Roll Officer),	
Rosemarie Buchan (Warden),		Jon Prior (Hon. Treasurer),	Louise McMichael,
Susan Dennis,	Martin Whittaker,	Betty Garbutt,	Alan McMichael,
Janet Adams,	Albert Adams,	Jill Mucklow,	Janet Steele,
Jan Prior,	Steve Eagle,	Sarah Eagle,	Bonnie Harvey,
Celia Nancarrow,	Diana Davies.		

3. Minutes

The Minutes of the previous 2022 meeting, having been circulated, were accepted.

4. Election of Wardens

The thanks of the parish and congregation were extended to Neill Robb and Rosemarie Buchan for their past 12 months in office and for carrying out their duties so diligently.

At last year's AGM Rosemarie had indicated that she would want to step down at this meeting and a replacement had been sought, but to no avail.

Only Neill stood for election and, proposed by Kim Topham and seconded by Steve Eagle, he was voted back into office unanimously.

A fellow warden was still being sought for a gradual introduced to their duties.

5. Presentation and Acceptance of Parish Hall Accounts

In presenting the accounts Jon Prior indicated that they were dominated by the design and construction of the 'Clent Connect' annex to the Parish Hall – a church / village / community initiative.

Balance sheet: this showed the £102,000 which the project had cost – design, fees, construction and fitting-out, of which a) £50,000 was 'our' money, b) £9,000 came from fund-raising activities, and c) £43,000 was released from the funds from the sale of Church Avenue property, held on our behalf by the Worcs. Diocese. While the construction was taking place it had been discovered that the kitchen roof required attention and this had been replaced.

In/Out: BDC [Bromsgrove District Council] had given a 'small business grant' and this was shown added to the £10,000 of hall income.

Operating Costs: cleaning costs had risen, though we were satisfied with the standard of work: a rise in energy costs had balanced out over the complete year period. We received £6,000 per year from the funds held by the Diocese and this was shown set against a loss over the year of £4,000.

Jon offered the parish's thanks to James Bradbury for his administration of the hiring bookings; and to Richard Woolley for acting as an Independent Auditor for the year – it was hoped that he would see his way to continue for 2023/24.

The accounts, having been proposed by Kim Topham and seconded by Sarah Eagle, were put to the meeting and accepted unanimously. *Copy on file.*

#### 6.Parish Hall Report

A written copy of the report had been circulated and this was accepted by the meeting, with thanks to those who had produced it. *Copy on file.*

#### 7.Election of Parish Hall Trustees

The current body of Trustees was presented to the meeting for re-election en-block, and this was carried. The Trustees consist of\_

Anne Harris (chair), Rosemarie Buchan, Paul Timmins, Ann Nation, Neill Robb .

#### 8.Election of an Independent Examiner for the Parish Hall Accounts

Richard Woolley, having been asked if he was prepared to continue, accepted, and was re-elected, sine die.

This concluded the Vestry Meeting