**The United Benefice of St Mary’s Goudhurst with Christ Church, Kilndown**

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parishioners and Annual Parochial Church Meeting of St Mary’s Church held on Sunday 24 April 2022 at St Mary’s**

**Meeting of the Parishioners**

Rev Rachel Robertson welcomed Parishioners and opened the meeting with prayer.

1. **Apologies**

Dave Lodge

1. **Clerk**

The meeting appointed Huthrie Copplestone as clerk for this meeting.

1. **Election of Churchwardens**

The current churchwardens Ali Williams and Simon Taurins stood down as they have reached the end of their term and thanks were given for their wonderful work. Two new Churchwardens were proposed, Sam Davis and Jo Alsop. Sam was proposed by Barney Mayhew and seconded by Huthrie Copplestone. Jo Alsop was proposed by Becky Addis and seconded by James Wickham. Both appointments were unanimously approved. We prayed for blessing on Sam and Jo.

This meeting was then formally closed.

**Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

The meeting opened with prayer.

1. **Apologies for absence**

Dave Lodge, Treasurer. Dave held a meeting on Zoom on 20 April to answer any finance-related questions.

1. **Minutes of the APCM held on 25 April 2021**

Approved.

1. **Election of Parochial Church Councillors**

Rachel advised that Huthrie Copplestone, Karen Gillett, Wes Hinsley, Catherine Lloyd, Richard Vinton, James Wickham and Ali Williams would be standing for election to the PCC. All these appointments were unanimously approved.

Rachel asked all the members of the PCC to make themselves known and thanked them for their hard work.

1. **To Appoint Independent Examiner**

John Tapper is the current Independent Examiner, and it was agreed unanimously to re-appoint him. Rachel thanked John for all his invaluable help.

1. **To receive reports**

All the following reports were made available ahead of the meeting and were received by the APCM:

1. Changes in the electoral roll since the last APCM: in 2021 there were 202 people on the church electoral roll. Since then there have been 15 removed and 27 added, so there are now 216 people on the roll.
2. The life of the parish generally and the activities of the PCC
3. Financial statements of the PCC for the year ending 31 December 2021
4. Fabric, goods and ornaments of the church
5. Deanery Synod proceedings
6. **Questions on the report or other matters, and discussion**

Rachel spoke of her joy at being vicar and reflected on her vision and hopes for our church. She encouraged us to go deeper with God and to be confident in who our God is so that we may be beacons of God’s light doing his work and drawing people to our church like a campfire.

Rachel gave thanks for the Small Group ministry which is thriving and to Martin Loy for overseeing this and mentioned that it would be good to find a second person to work alongside Martin in this ministry.

Rachel gave thanks to Dan and all her family for their tremendous support and encouragement. She thanked Ali and Simon who have been a blessing to her as Churchwardens and Becky, Kat and Louise Vickerman for all their brilliant work. Rachel blessed and gave thanks to everyone in ministry within the church.

There were no questions.

Ali and Simon reflected movingly on their time as Churchwardens. Rachel thanked them on behalf of the Church and added her personal thanks for supporting her prayerfully, spiritually and with their time, wisdom and encouragement. She also thanked Chris Williams and Katie Taurins for their support to Ali and Simon.

Rachel closed in prayer.