

All Saints, Hérault

The English Church at Saint Pargoire

Minutes of the Annual Meeting held at L'Eglise Protestante Unie, St Pargoire, at 11.45 am on Sunday 12 March 2017

The Reverend Roger Smith opened the meeting with prayer.

Members whose names were on the current electoral roll completed the “sign-in” sheet (attached) and the meeting was declared quorate.

The Chairman of the Chaplaincy Council, Revd Roger Smith, was appointed as Chairman to the meeting. The Minutes Secretary to the Council, Delia Smith, was appointed as Minutes Secretary to the meeting.

- 1 **Appointment of Presiding Officer** The meeting approved Francis Bigot as Presiding Officer, proposed Nigel Summersall, seconded Patricia Bigot.
- 2 **Minutes of last Annual Meeting** The minutes of the meeting held on 14 February 2016 were approved and signed by the chairman as a correct record, proposed Andy Marshall, seconded David Mickelborough.
- 3 **Election of two Churchwardens** Patricia Bigot and Nigel Summersall had been validly nominated. In the absence of further nominations, the Chairman declared them elected, with thanks for all their work.
- 4 **Election of two representatives to the Archdeaconry Synod** The Chairman explained that synod representatives served for a term of three years and were ex-officio members of the Chaplaincy Council. Julie Johnson and Delia Smith had been validly nominated. In the absence of further nominations, the Chairman declared them elected.
- 5 **Election of four Chaplaincy Council members** The Chairman explained that there were six lay members of the council, two of whom retired each year to form an annual rotation. There were four vacancies for 2017 as two members had retired on rotation and two others had resigned during the year. Steven Hopkins, Andy Marshall, Jenny Morgan and Jac Phillips had been validly nominated. In the absence of further nominations, they were declared elected.
- 6 **Annual Report and Accounts 2016** The report and accounts had been made available prior to the meeting and were accepted. Proposed Andy Marshall, seconded Alison Kane.
- 7 **Appointment of Auditor** John Holmes was willing to continue and it was agreed to renew his appointment. Proposed Nigel Summersall, seconded Barry Marsh.
- 8 **Discharge of liability** Graham Gardner proposed and David Mickleborough seconded that the outgoing council be discharged from financial or civil liability for their conduct of chaplaincy affairs during 2016. This was agreed.
- 9 **Priest-in-Charge's Report** The Revd Roger Smith's read his report, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. This was accepted.
- 10 **Discussion**
 - 10.1 **Enquirer's Weekend** Steven Hopkins gave a brief overview of the weekend he had attended in London from Friday to Sunday 27-29 January, as the first stage in testing his vocation to the ordained ministry. He said nearly 30 people from the Diocese of Europe

attended, about 25% women and 75% men. They were a very diverse group from a wide range of backgrounds and traditions, illustrating, Steven felt, that the Anglican communion is broad enough to attract and accept all. There were excellent and varied speakers. Some time was spent in a parish in a deprived area, which Steven found inspiring and humbling.

The Chairman told members that the next step for Steven would be an interview in London on 12 June with the Diocesan Director of Ordinands and that, as part of his preparation for that, Steven would preach at St Pargoire on Sunday 14 May.

10.2 **Services in 2017** The Chairman said that services at Roquessels in June and at Margon in August were planned and that Harvest Festival would be on 24 September with fund-raising led by Roger Armson.

10.3 **Hope for South Africa's Children** Bobbie Trickett reported that her sale of second-hand books had raised 1000€ in the year. She thanked members for their support.

10.4 **Succession Planning** Graham Gardner asked about this, as putting aside 500€ a month in 2016 without significantly reducing charitable giving had exhausted the chaplaincy's reserves. It was acknowledged that it would not be possible to build up a succession planning fund and sustain the same level of charitable giving but also pointed out that the council could re-designate the money designated for succession planning at any time.

Roger reminded the meeting that his licence as Priest-in-Charge expires in 2018, when he will be 70, but that Bishop David had said he would be willing then to re-licence him. Thus, there was time for matters to evolve and to continue to reflect on whether to plan or to trust in God's good grace to provide.

10.5 **Secours Populaire** Patricia Bigot asked for donations of clothing, small household objects, books, etc, for Secours Populaire. Items could be donated via Francis Bigot or Vincent Augustin, both of whom were Secours Populaire volunteers.

10.6 **Next Chaplaincy Council Meeting** Steven would email his available dates to members, from which a date would be chosen.

The meeting closed at 12.27 pm with all saying the grace together.