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2023



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND





St. Nicholas

*Annual Parochial
Church Meeting
Sunday 23rd April
12 noon*



St. Nicholas Church Burnage

Asst Curate	Rev'd Mark Hewardine
Authorised Lay Ministers	Alison Mills Margaret Vessey (Emeritus)
Parochial Church Council	
Churchwardens	Mrs Alison Mills (Chair of PCC) Ms Jane Cawley
Assistant Wardens	Mrs Jill Lomas Mrs Grace Manley Mrs Julie Crossley Mrs Louise Hollingsworth (not on PCC)
Hon. Treasurer	Mr Andrew Mills Independent Examiner: Mrs Elaine Wilson
Minutes Secretary	Mrs Julie Crossley
Deanery Synod	Mrs. Grace Manley Mrs Christine Price
Elected on PCC	Mrs. Lyn Rimmer, (Electoral Roll Officer) Mr. Tony Witty Mrs. Margaret Witty Mr Giles Elliott Ms Val Hagan Ms Elizabeth Bray Ex officio: Mr David Crossley Ex officio: Mr Oliver Mills (MD & Organist)
Webmaster	Mr Andrew Mills
	The parish banking account is with the National Westminster Bank, Didsbury
	The insurers for the parish are the Ecclesiastical Insurance Group

ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH BURNAGE

Annual Parochial Church Meeting – Sunday 23rd April

AGENDA

1. Annual Vestry Meeting
2. Appointment of Vestry Clerk
3. Election of 2 Churchwardens for 1 year.
4. Election of Assistant Churchwardens for 1 year.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

1. Appointment of Clerk for the Meeting.
2. Acceptance of apologies for absence.
3. Acceptance of Minutes for last Annual Meeting.
4. Matters arising from the Minutes.

ELECTIONS

1. Election, as required, of members of the Parochial Church Council to serve for a period of three years.
2. Sides people to assist the Wardens for a period of one year.

REPORTS

1. Rector's report.
2. Churchwardens' reports.
3. Electoral Roll Officer's report.
4. Treasurer's reports with audited accounts.
5. Appointment of Independent Examiner of Church Accounts.
6. Fabric report
7. Reports from organisations with audited accounts.
8. Child Protection Policy statement (Safe Church Policy).

A.O.B.

ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH, BURNAGE

MINUTES OF A.P.C.M. HELD ON SUNDAY 10th April 2022

ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING

Meeting commenced at 12.00pm.

In the chair Alison Mills.

1. Appointment of Vestry Clerk: in the absence of Ruth Gent (PCC Secretary) Julie Crossley was appointed as Vestry Clerk.
Proposed by Brenda Maclese, seconded by Tony Witty. All in favour.
2. Election of 2 Churchwardens for one year:
Jane Cawley proposed by Julie Crossley, Seconded by Jill Lomas.
Alison Mills proposed by Jane Cawley, seconded by Jill Lomas.
All in favour.
3. Election of Assistant Churchwardens for one year. The following all agreed to continue for a further year.
Grace Manley, Julie Crossley, Louise Hollingsworth, and Jill Lomas.
All in favour.
4. Sides person: it was agreed to revisit this later in the year.
5. A meeting had previously been held to accept Church accounts.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

In attendance: Julie Crossley, Alison Mills, Jill Lomas, Sybil Gawkrodger, Margaret Vessey, Brenda Little, Sue Tyler, Marie Lavin, Brenda and Colin Maclese, Margaret and Tony Witty, Elizabeth Bray, Alex Booer, Giles Elliott, Valerie Hagan, Jane Cawley and Andrew Mills.

Apologies received from; David and Emily Crossley, Lucy Gleave, Katy and James Vickers, Oliver and Lorna Mills, Claire Cawley, Grace Manley, Louise Hollingsworth, Chris Grundy

Appointment of Clerk to the meeting - Julie Crossley was appointed as Clerk to the

Meeting. Proposed by Brenda Maclese, seconded by Tony Witty.

All in favour.

The minutes of the meeting held on **20th April 2021** were accepted as a true record. There were no matters arising.

Proposed by Christine Price and seconded by Giles Elliot.

All in favour.

1. ELECTIONS:

P.C.C. MEMBERS. There are three vacancies, thank you to Julie Bodgers, Claire Cawley and Storm Janeway for their support and service to the PCC. All three are stepping down from the PCC.

Lynn Rimmer and Giles Elliot have both been re-elected, we are delighted to welcome Valerie Hagan, and Elizabeth Bray who were duly

elected. Proposed by Alison Mills and seconded by Julie Crossley.

All in favour.

Worship Committee – to be reconvened, Rev Mark is compiling the new church rota for service cover from the end of April, Jan Ainsworth will continue to take a service on a monthly basis.

Pastoral Committee -the committee has not reconvened. Contact is maintained with 75 members of the St.Nick's community via email and to a further 16 people via a hard copy delivered by post.

Friends - boxes still being exchanged the donations help the church financially, thank you to all those who have a box and contribute.

Rainbows: Jane reported that the Rainbows are full, 3 new leaders have taken over, Jane still is part of the team but 3 new leaders take the weekly meetings. She hopes that the leaders will support the church for special family services such as: Christingle, Mothering Sunday etc.

All in favour

2. REPORTS:

Wardens Report: Alison read the report which has been shared in the APCM booklet. Alison thanked everyone who has assisted with the challenging year. She expressed her gratitude to the visiting clergy including Jan Ainsworth and the rota supported by St James and Emmanuel.

She also shared the current position and progress of the appointment of the O.5 position for St Nicholas. There has been a delay with the appointment of Rev Mark Hewardine. Following the submission of a letter from St Chad's PCC, in which they outlined that there had been no engagement or communications with the PCC of either St Chad's and St Nicholas. St Chad's PCC have requested that both PCCs' have separate meeting with Archdeacon Karen as they want to discuss the merits of the original plan which was drafted 5 years ago, to ensure that this remains the best solution. Dates for both these meetings is to be confirmed.

Alison reported the closure of the Women's Fellowship who have decided not to re-open after lockdown. The Fellowship had been part of the church for over 60 years. Alison acknowledged the contribution of the Fellowship. The PCC would like to record the contributions made by

members of the congregation and church organisations over the years with a memorial in the new prayer garden. The church is to undertake further work on the Prayer Garden. Our Eco church status is currently at Bronze level, we plan to progress to Silver in the next twelve months.

The report was accepted and no questions raised. All in favour.

Julie Crossley presented Alison and Jane with a plant and card to thank them for their dedication and leadership over the last twelve months. Julie conveyed the thanks of the PCC and the congregation for all their hard work.

CHURCHWARDENS. Report was accepted- all in favour.

3. ELECTORAL ROLL OFFICER. Report: Alison reported on behalf of Lyn Rimmer (Electoral Roll Officer) the numbers on the current electoral roll of St Nicholas is 67 members, 1 member has resigned and 1 member has sadly passed away.

This compares to 68 in 2021 and 70 in 2019.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT WITH AUDITED ACCOUNTS. Andrew Mills presented information illustrating the current trend on income and expenditure. It was explained that the income has changed since 2018 with income is showing a downward trend but the majority of this has been due to reduced rental income for the Hall following the period of lockdown and recovery. There is renewed interest in hall rentals.

The type of income has changed with less direct giving, and cash on the plate and more making a contribution through standing orders and Direct Debits. One of the main challenges is the cost of utilities and particularly the heating.

Heating used to be: 30% of income and this has increased to 60%. It is expected that this could rise to year to 70-80% of income. We have to plan to use the heating as economically as possible in the coming year.

Andrew Mills outlined that we have benefited from £5K through a Gift Aid claim.

There were no questions arising. Alison thanked Andrew for his work good stewardship of the finances and for his regular reports. The PCC will make decisions on how much we can afford to contribute to the Parish Share.

5. Fabric Report: The building committee have been made aware that the funding of Capital Programmes has changed and if a programme requires funding, this has to be sourced by partnerships in the community or via grants. Members of the PCC have and continue to explore this but as part of the recovery following the pandemic all partners are in a similar position of limited funding. Tony Witty is working to explore all opportunities for grants and he is hoping to be able to get some contribution towards the update of the Security System and other items which were highlighted in the Quinquennial report.

It was raised as the Church is an “inclusive church” if more could be made to promote this. Alex Booer asked if a banner could displayed at the front of the church. This was supported by everyone and Alex was asked to suggest a design for the banner so that it can be ready for June Pride month.

This verbal report was accepted: all in favour.

Alison reported that the Appointment of Independent Examiner. Elaine Wilson is to continue as independent Examiner. Alison expressed thanks to Elaine on behalf of the PCC and congregation.

Other organisations: Alison reported that the Church is to set out more events and this will be the responsibility of the social and Fundraising committee. She also thanked Jill Lomas for organising the Dementia friendly monthly Craft Afternoons. These are well attended and provide a craft and social gathering for church and non-church members.

Worship Committee – to be reconvened, Rev Mark is compiling the new church rota for service cover from the end of April, Jan Ainsworth will continue to take a service on a monthly basis.

Pastoral Committee -the committee has not reconvened. The Newsletter is distributed to 75 people weekly via email and to 16 people via a hard copy delivered by post.

Friends - boxes still being exchanged the donations help the church financially, thank you to all those who have a box and contribute.

Rainbows: Jane reported that the Rainbows are full, 3 new leaders have taken over, Jane still is part of the team but 3 new leaders take the weekly meetings. She hopes that the leaders will support the church for special family services such as: Christingle, Mothering Sunday etc.

Alison thanked Claire Cawley who with Jane were both instrumental in establishing the Rainbows at St Nicholas. Claire will still have connections but has moved out of the area.

Safeguarding Report: Giles Elliott read the following report to members:

Report by the Parish Safeguarding Officer

St Nicholas, Burnage, follows the commitments outlined by the House of Bishops Safeguarding Policy for Children, Young People & Adults to promote a safer church:

- Promoting a safer environment and culture
 - Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children and vulnerable adults
 - Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation.
 - Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse or other affected persons
 - Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns/ allegations of abuse and other affected persons
- Responding to those that may pose a present risk

We agree that the care and protection of everyone who is involved and included in church activities is the responsibility of all who participates in the life of the church. As part of those procedures, we use The Organization Thirty-One: Eight (formerly Churches' Child Protection Advisory Service (CCPAS)) for our Disclosing and Barring Service (DBS).

Using this service, we have now verified the identity of about half the people who need to be checked. Unfortunately, there has been an additional delay in

undertaking the final stage of the process, as our DBS officer, Julie Bodgers, has had to step down due to other commitments: Julie Crossley has kindly assumed this role, but there have been inevitable delays in getting her authorised for this role.

We have identified appropriate training for people in the church with safeguarding responsibilities in this area: I and both church wardens have undertaken (and passed!) the basic awareness training, and other people will be assisted to undertake this in the next few months.

Equally, we are all committed to providing a safe environment for our children and vulnerable adults who will be supported as they grow in faith and we endeavour to confirm that everyone is an important part of our church; we all have as much to give as to receive. We are glad to be part of the first deanery in the country where all the churches have joined 'inclusive church'. One way in which we are currently trying to put this into practice is by working to be 'dementia friendly', by making adding simple signage in the church building and holding coffee mornings designed to be accessible to people with dementia.

Safeguarding can bring many challenges and I'd like to thank those for their support and our members who continue to work directly with our children, and vulnerable adults and, who do so, with integrity, grace and compassion.

Giles Elliott

Safeguarding Officer

The Safe Church Policy is set out in the APCM booklet.

Alison Thanked Giles for his work and the report. Everyone approved the policy

A.O.B

- Alison thanked Claire Cawley who with Jane were both instrumental in establishing the Rainbows at St Nicholas. Claire will still have connections but has moved out of the area. A 'Thank you' to Claire was expressed.
- Deanery Synod representatives are Grace Manley and Christine Price; both are to continue to represent St Nicholas and Alison expressed her thanks to both.

- It was raised as the Church is an “inclusive church” if more could be made to promote this. It was suggested by Alex Boorer if a banner could be displaced at the front of the church. This was supported by the Wardens and this is to be progressed so

MEETING CLOSED AT 12.50pm.

St Nicholas Electoral Roll 2023

The total number on the Electoral Roll for 2023 is 65 which compares to 67 in 2022 , and 68 in 2021 2 members have sadly passed away: Mr Bevan Taylor and Miss Patricia Bradley.

Lyn Rimmer

Worship Committee

As we all know, we have continued with our normal services in church with the support of visiting clergy, we are grateful for the support of Rev Mark Hewerdine, Rev Jan Ainsworth , and Rev Augustine Ihm.

Christmas services were a great success, we tried a new 5pm Carols by Candlelight service and welcomed over 105 people.

We have a regular pattern of services and we continue to broadcast the Sunday morning service and the Taize Service.

Alison Mills



Bank Summary

St Nicholas Church (Burnage) From 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022

Bank Accounts	Opening Balance	Cash Received	Cash Spent	Closing Balance
Buildings Account	370	8,108	-	8,479
Current Account	1,984	50,671	47,520	5,135
Deposit Account	212	-	-	212
FRIENDS Current	5,506	870	413	5,963
FRIENDS Deposit	96	-	-	96
Gifts In Memoriam Account	4,295	1,012	-	5,307
Hall Account	7,194	18,171	16,866	8,499
Total	19,659	78,833	64,799	33,692

St Nicholas Club 2021.22

The draw is made monthly. Subscriptions remain at £12.50 and we have had an increase of 8 in the number of members to 70 in 2023 .

70 members	£12.50	£875
Prizes		
£25 x 12		
£15 x 12	Prize money	£480
Total contributed		£395

Flower Fund Account	
16/2/2022-15/2/2023	
Start balance	£173.57
Donations rec'd	£631.00
Flowers & Accessories	£680.60
End balance	£ 123.97



Churchwardens report for 2022.23

Dear Friends,

We've had another busy 12 months, we manage our own affairs with the support of the PCC and we are staying afloat with our finances thanks to some generous giving and the good stewardship of our treasurer. It has been a year of change:

We sadly lost Mr Bevan Taylor in May 2022 our historian and 'Father of the house'. Bevan died peacefully at home, which was exactly where he wanted to be. Bevan received wonderful care from Hilary Shepherd. We celebrated his life with a beautiful service lead by Rev Canon Roy Chow a former rector of St.Nick's and a dear friend of Bevan's. May Bevan rest in peace and rise in Glory.

We were informed in May 2022 that we will be part of a new Team Ministry to include St. Chad's, St. Paul's and St. James and Emmanuel;. Rev Nick Bundock will be the new Team Ministry Rector. There will be 3.5 clergy Nick, Lisa Battye, Mark Hewerdine, Cate Allison, unfortunately St.Nick's will not have a minister. As of March 2023 we are still awaiting final documentation and we will have to see how this will work going forward, the positive aspect is that we are part of a larger team of churches.

We continued to hold all our usual services and they were broadcast out across the ether. Our tech team which includes Andy Mills, Ollie Mills, Julie Crossley and Giles Elliott do a great job. We are grateful to Ollie and Elizabeth Bray for their contribution to the music in our worship.

It is good to report that we paid 75% of our parish share in 2022, we very nearly paid the final instalment when we received a huge utility bill for heating costs in December. Heating costs continue to be the bane of our lives and a constant worry that we will have the funds to make the

payments.

We have still not managed to continue work on the memorial prayer garden. This is something we must tackle in 2023. We are also keen to work toward the Eco Church Silver accreditation.

We are grateful to members of the PCC who take on roles to ease our work load, thanks to Val Hagan for the beautiful floral arrangements and decorations in church at Christmas, thanks to all those who help to decorate the tree, thank to Julie Crossley who is a Trustee of Burnage Foodbank and our community link, to Margaret Witty for being our representative on the Christians Together In Burnage Group, to Tony Witty for leading on grant applications, to Alison and Julie for being our Mission Community Representatives, to David Crossley for looking after the church grounds, to Jill Lomas for organizing monthly Craft and Coffee sessions and all the interesting craft activities and to Julie, and Grace for serving refreshments. Thanks to jill for maintaining supplies for our services, candles and the Fair trade Stall. Thanks to all those who brew up after church each Sunday and take their turn on the rota. Thanks to Ollie Mills for designing posters for key events in our calendar. Thank you to the Worship group for helping with the occasional service of the word. Thank you to Grace and Ollie for our monthly Taize services.

It is time that we reconvened the Mission and Action Planning group to plan how we will move things forward in the coming 12 months we've spent too long waiting for someone to come along and lead our congregation.

Please pray for St. Nicholas Church our Church Officers, PCC and our congregation as we move towards membership of the new Team Ministry.

With our thanks, love and every blessing *Alison and Jane xx*

Social and Fundraising Events 2023

Across the year we have held several coffee mornings, including raising funds for the Children's Society, and joint events with St Chads some of which raised funds for Fair Trade charities. Summer and Christmas Fairs were also very successful and enjoyable social occasions. We have welcomed interested visitors to our special Grade 11 * listed building with an Open Heritage Day, and with a tour company.

We have been entertained with wonderful concerts by Greater Manchester Voices and Chapel-en-le-Frith Ladies Choir which also raised funds for the choirs as well as for the church. One very cold night in December, we were pleased to go to Theatre 53Two to watch Ollie's production of "Realms of Glory." We travelled together by minibus which took us right to the door. Also, in December we attended the Tree Lighting event on Fog Lane, and provided well needed hot drinks, chocolates, and mince pies to those gathered there. Bishop Mark joined our 90th celebrations with a special service and birthday cake.

We are pleased to see members of the community joining our craft days. We prepared for Christmas by making cards and crackers filled with chocolates and enjoyed mince pies. We celebrated the late Queen's Platinum Jubilee by wearing crowns we had decorated and with a red, white, and blue theme. Easter brought Easter baskets and chocolate eggs, bunnies, and chicks. The craft afternoons provide our participants with many health and physical benefits, as well as social enjoyment. (Thank you to Julie C, Grace and Carole who keep us well supplied with drinks and cakes, and to Julie B who shared her crafting skills.)

We provided over 60 handknitted teddies for refugee children, arriving at Manchester Airport, including those from Ukraine. We have been supporting a charity called Early Essentials. They fill Moses baskets with gifts of toiletries and baby clothes for vulnerable new mothers. We have a band of knitters who have knitted beautiful baby blankets and clothes, as well as providing the required toiletries.

Many thanks to all who have supported these events and charities.

Jill Lomas

Report from the Community and Burnage Foodbank

During the last twelve months, the Foodbank has started to return to their normal ways of working following COVID. Refreshments are now served at each session and clients are invited into the hall. The Foodbank has seen an increase in demand due to the challenges which many individuals and families face. The Foodbank continues to receive very generous donations from the public both directly to here at St Nicholas Hall or via Tesco and Asda Supermarkets.

The Foodbank has several volunteers who assist with collections, storage and the distribution of food parcels to those referred every Tuesday between 12.30 – 2.30.

The Church is represented on the committee of Trustees to ensure we deliver the strategy for the people of Burnage

A massive thank you to all those who donate, support and help.

The Local Community

The church has been invited to join and participate in several meetings and events in the community. These have been organised by the Local Neighbourhood team. These meetings provide the opportunity to be aware of what is happening across the community, work with partner organisations, share events with all the church congregation and to improve the profile of St Nicholas.

We were asked to host the Cost-of-Living Event on Tuesday 21st March. This event was organised in conjunction with Manchester City Council and Burnage Foodbank. Over 80 people attended the event, who had the opportunity to have Health Checks, discuss and meet with teams from Manchester Law Centre, local MP Jeff Smith, South Manchester Credit Union, Southway Housing, West Croft along with other partner organisations. This was a great success and hopefully we will be able to host similar events in the future.

Julie Crossley



Friends of St Nicholas

The 'Friends of St Nicholas' collection box scheme has been running for over 25 years. The income from Friend's boxes like all the church income has reduced over the past year as many of us don't have as much cash and small change but we are grateful to receive the boxes and donations having bank notes instead of change. We are happy to receive Friend's donations in any form.

These funds provide the opportunity to do things and not have to use church Funds, these include the transport to see Olliver Mills' production in December of Realms of Glory where a small minibus transported a number of us to and from the theatre and also provided refreshment in December to celebrate the Churches 90th Anniversary.

The boxes are collected every two months and a fresh box issued. Any donations however small are most welcome. If you are a taxpayer we can recover a percentage of your donations from the Inland Revenue under the Gift Aid Scheme.

if you are not already in the scheme and would like to join please contact me personally or by telephone on 0161 432 4083.

Thank you, **David Crossley**

Rainbows Report 2022

9th Didsbury Rainbows has continued weekly meetings involving the girls in crafts and activities. We had a visit to the cinema at Christmas with other units to see Matilda.

Unfortunately due to 3 leaders leaving due to work and university commitments the unit will have to close (hopefully temporarily) on the 10th May. Division will hope to get some interest and recruit new leaders in the summer. We could restart in September. Watch this space!

Thank you for your support.

Love **Jane Cawley (iris)**



A Safe Church Policy

As a church community, we are committed to:

- The care, nurture of and respectful pastoral ministry with all children and adults
- The safeguarding and protection of all children and adults
- The establishment of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment, where there is a culture of 'Informed vigilance' regarding the dangers of abuse, which:

For children and young people

- values them for who they are, and nurtures their positive development
- enables them to participate fully and contribute to their church community
- protects them from actual or potential harm

For adults who may be vulnerable, including those suffering domestic abuse

- ensures that all people feel welcomed, respected and safe from abuse
- encourages those who may be vulnerable
 - to lead as independent a life as possible,
 - to choose how to lead their life, and
 - to be active contributors to the church community
- protects those who may be vulnerable from actual or potential harm

For all people

- enables and encourages concerns to be raised and responded to openly and consistently
- offers support and care for those suffering, or who have suffered, from any form of abuse
- promotes respect, and the value of each person as a child of God

We are therefore committed to best practice according to the national policies and guidelines of the Church of England, in the protection of children and vulnerable people; in the recruitment, training and supervision of all who exercise a pastoral ministry; and in responding to any allegations or complaints. This policy is reviewed each year by the Parochial Church Council and re-affirmed at the Annual Meeting.

(Incumbent)

(Churchwarden)

(Churchwarden)

(Date)

Because we understand that:

- God has a special care for those who struggle
- All of us at different periods of our lives are vulnerable and in need of help
- We can make a difference

