

**The Parish Church of St Mark Broomhill & Broomhall  
Annual Parochial Church Meetings  
27th April 2025**

Minutes of the meeting held in Church and via Zoom on 27 April 2024 at 11.08am.

	<p><b>Meeting of the Parishioners</b></p>
	<p><b>Present:</b> - Sarah Armstrong, David Armstrong, Fleur Bayley, Stuart Bennett, Maureen Bownas, Jennifer Bradley, Arthur Button, Richard Carwardine, Julie Dignam, Tony Dignam, Helen Fisher, Rachel Glithero, Mark Glithero, Sue Godley, Martin Godley, Frances Gray, Rebekah Hampson, John (Jack) Hampson, Rachel Heginbotham, Jenny Hide, Helen Hillman, John Hillman, Rosemary Hunt, Linda Kirk, Penelope Lasko, Roger Lasko, Gillian MacGregor, Jane Marr, Richard Martin, Jennifer Martin, Michael Miller, Pauline Miller, Brian Nelson, Alice Newitt, Sandra Newton, Dilys Noble, James Oliver, Maria Oliver, Anne Padget, Jane Padget, Amanda Pilkington, David Price, Judith Price, Kathryn Redfearn, William Rolls, Elisabeth Rolls, Anna Ryder, Peter Ryder, David Sanderson, Evelyn Saunders, Robin Saunders, Charles Stirling, Joy Straits, Habumugisha Sylivere, Katherine Tattershall, Richard Taylor, Zoe Varcoe, Rachel Vedder, Robyn Vesey, Christopher Ware, Naomi Wassall, John Whitmill, Peter Whitmill, Susan Mary Whitmall, Catherine Williamson, Jonathan Williamson, Laura Woodbury, Paul Woodbury, Alan Yearsley, Samuel Pestrige, Mark James, Richard Wassal, Laura Mizzi.</p> <p><b>On Zoom:</b> Shelagh Marston, Wendy Maas, and Briony Tayler,</p> <p><b>Licensed/PTO Clergy Present:</b> Revd Shan Rush (on Zoom), Revd Dr Beth Keith, Revd Dr Michael Bayley.</p>
<b>1</b>	<b>Welcome</b>
	Beth Keith chaired the annual meeting of parishioners and welcomed everyone to the meeting.
<b>2</b>	<b>Appointment of Clerk to the meetings</b>
	The appointment of Bek Hampson as Clerk was agreed unanimously.
<b>3</b>	<b>Apologies</b>
	Apologies were received from: Michael Hunt, Patricia Hunt, Margaret Ainger, Mary-Jane Ryder, David Ryder, Stephen Straits and Duncan Lennox.

<b>4</b>	<b>Approval of Minutes from last meeting of parishioners, 28th April 2024</b>
	No amendments raised. The minutes of the last meeting held on the 28/04/24 were agreed as a true record.
<b>5</b>	<b>Churchwardens Remarks (including update on vacancy)</b>
	<p>Beth Keith gave thanks to churchwardens James Oliver and Dilys Noble. James is stepping down and Dilys has been nominated for the coming year.</p> <p>James Oliver thanked Beth Keith, and the lay ministers, clergy and volunteers for the ministry and support we give to each other. He thanked Shan Rush for leading the pastoral ministry of the church. He noted that St Mark's is seen as a healthy and thriving church. James thanked Dilys for her super human abilities as churchwarden and also thanked his wife Maria for all of her support to him as churchwarden.</p> <p>Beth presented James and Dilys with gifts of thanks. Beth explained that we currently have 1 churchwarden vacancy, but Dilys is planning to step down in the coming year, so we are looking for two people to step into the churchwarden role. Churchwardens can be voted in by the PCC during the year. Anyone interested should have a conversation with Beth or Dilys.</p>
<b>6</b>	<b>Election of Churchwardens</b>
	<p>Dilys was proposed by Briony Tayler and seconded by Mabel Padfield and unanimously agreed.</p> <p>Moving forward we will also have a team of vergers to support the church wardens on Sunday mornings.</p>

	<b>Annual Parochial Church Meeting</b>
	<b>Present:</b> - As above
<b>1</b>	<b>Apologies:</b> - Apologies were received as above.
<b>2</b>	<b>Approve Minutes of the last APCM, 28th April 2024</b>
	The minutes of the last meeting held on the 28/04/24 were agreed as a true record. The minutes were agreed unanimously.
<b>3</b>	<b>Vicar's report</b>
	<p>Beth Keith reported on the joy and privilege to be the Vicar of St Marks and thanked all for the support in the vacancy and application process.</p> <p>Beth identified the growth we have seen in our musical life, and children's ministry. starting a new children's choir. The church made the decision to invest in these areas, and this has borne fruit. Beth thanked David Willington, Hannah Jones, the volunteers and leaders for their work. Beth noted that there are gaps in our current provision to teenagers. Our children's ministry has grown in number, and the children are also growing up in age. She also noted the work with students, noting that there are opportunities here for investment and growth.</p> <p>Beth commented on the success of the stewardship campaign and thanked all involved in that process and all those who gave to the church. Giving is never just about money, but also commitment and sharing in God's work.</p> <p>Beth commented on her role as incumbent of St Mary's Walkley and increase of workload that involved. She thanked Shan for her ministry at St Mark's which made the balancing of roles workable. Beth thanked the other licensed ministers at St Mark's, and noted that the Revd Dr Ian Wallis is to be licensed at St Marks and the Revd Alison Wragg is to be licensed to St Mary's over the summer.</p> <p>Beth noted the painful truths have rightly come to the surface across the national church and the safeguarding failures. In our parish we have a strong safeguarding team. Beth noted that Duncan Lennox the Parish Safeguarding Officer was not able to be here today. His report can be found in the annual report, and he is happy to be contacted and asked about this. He is supported by Beth Keith (vicar), Dilys Noble (churchwarden), Hannah Jones (safeguarding administration) and Cath Williamson (domestic abuse officer) to support our safeguarding work at St Marks.</p> <p>Beth then moved on to talk about St Mark's relationship with Sheffield Diocese. She noted that at the past two APCMs there have been questions raised about contribution to the Diocese. Concerns have been raised that St</p>

	<p>Mark's should play a strong and generous part of the Diocese. Concerns have also been raised querying what the Diocese does with the money, and about the strategy and funding of church planting. She noted that it is right that we give generously to the common fund. She explained the theological background to the common fund (citing The Book of Acts and practices of financial sharing in the early church).</p> <p>Beth then explained that during the past year, and in response to Living in Love and Faith/Prayers of Love and Faith (blessing same sex partnerships) some conservative churches are encouraging others to give to restricted funds only, rather than give into the common fund, and a fund called the Ephesians fund has been set up for this. However, in response, the Bishop of Sheffield has set up a restricted fund within the Diocesan Board of Finance (see March Diocesan Synod) and some conservative churches within Sheffield Diocese are opting to give into this restricted fund rather than the Diocesan common fund. Beth explained that the Bishop of Sheffield had offered to set up an equivalent fund for inclusive churches to give into, but she declined, and expressed her commitment to continue giving into the common fund.</p> <p>Beth went on to explain that she and the PCC are having conversations with the Diocese about how we could support inclusive churches across the Diocese. Our Mission Partnership with St John's and St Mary's has shown an alternative model to church grafting, and shown how mutual support amid reducing numbers of clergy can enable supported and flourishing churches.</p> <p>Beth noted that the Diocese has received a large grant for strategic development over the next five years. There is hope that we can work together with the Diocese to support other churches who would like support from us, and who are similar in practice and belief. And so our value to give generously to the Diocese may look different in the coming years.</p> <p>Beth also noted that this development needs to be sustainable. The PCC are working through how and when we appoint another member of clergy, and what that role might look like.</p> <p>Beth finished by thanking all of those involved in the life of St Mark's, and thanked everyone for helping St Mark's to be a functional, joyful and generous church.</p> <p>There was an opportunity for comments and questions but none were raised.</p>
<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>Presentation of the Electoral Roll (Peter Ryder)</b></p>
	<p>Peter Ryder presented the electoral roll, making the following points. He encouraged people to be on the roll, to vote in APCM meetings, and to be on PCC. The number of individuals on the electoral roll also affects how many places we can have on PCC with a larger roll resulting in a larger PCC.</p>

	<p>This year the role has been revised. The new roll has 128 people, with 20% living within the parish and 80% live outside of the parish.</p> <p>The previous roll was 178. There is usually a drop when a new roll is started.</p> <p>Beth Keith thanked Peter Ryder for his work on the electoral roll.</p>
<b>5</b>	<b>Presentation of the Annual Report</b>
	<p>Beth presented the annual report to the APCM and thanked all those who had written reports. The report gives a good picture of the church but cannot cover every aspect of church life. Beth thanked Zoe Varcoe who did the bulk of the work in bringing the report together, and wished her well as she begins parental leave in June.</p> <p>There was an opportunity for comments or questions but none were raised. The annual report was proposed by Maureen Bownas and Jane Padget seconded. It was unanimously accepted.</p>
<b>6</b>	<b>Treasurer's Report &amp; Presentation of 2024 Accounts</b>
	<p>David Armstrong presented the treasurer's report. He made the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● For 2024, income and expenditure are roughly balanced</li> <li>● Beth was appointed as vicar in 2024, and began in January 2025. The post of vicar is paid for by the common fund, where previously she was associate clergy paid by the parish and from legacy funds.</li> <li>● We have been planning to replace the Gas boiler upstairs with infrared which can be powered with greener electricity rather than gas. Approval from faculty has taken longer than hoped so we will spend the money in the next financial year instead of last year as we had expected.</li> <li>● Stewardship - the stewardship campaign led to increased giving, for which we are very grateful. This has enabled the PCC to think about how best to use the money, and whether to employ another member of clergy. Planned giving continues to go up and down, with some leaving and others joining. Stewardship remains an ongoing task.</li> </ul> <p>There was an opportunity for comments and questions.</p> <p>Q: Sandra Newton thanked David and asked about heating of the church, commenting that it is often too cold in church on Sunday morning.</p> <p>A: David explained that we have, with the Diocese looked, into heat loss using a drone. This has helped us to plan how we will spend money to improve the insulation of the church. We are planning to triple glaze more windows. We have money set aside for this, but the DAC asked us to wait to</p>

	<p>test the new windows for 12 months before installing more. This can now happen.</p> <p>We are also losing heat through open doors, and planning to put glass into the doors at the back of the nave and chapel, so they can remain closed but still appear welcoming.</p> <p>James Oliver (representing F&amp;F) commented that it is a church with a huge size/volume to heat, with an electric underfloor heating system that is over 60 years old. Which makes the job of heating it (predominantly on Sundays) a difficult one.</p> <p>Q: David Price said that the case for appointing an associate vicar was stronger now that Beth has also taken on the role of incumbent of St Mary's, and he asked whether the church could reliably afford an associate vicar over the coming years.</p> <p>A: David Armstrong responded by saying that it depends how we employ the additional member of staff and what we do about housing (provide housing or contribute to housing cost). He also mentioned that St Mary's also pays into the common fund and that our joint contribution far surpasses the suggested common fund contribution.</p> <p>Q: Roise Hunt mentioned that six years ago we cut donations to Home/International Donations charities and asked whether we could revisit that.</p> <p>A: David responded by explaining that the amount we give in donations to home and international charities is a percentage of our income. So the amount went down due to our income going down. Given that our income has now increased, the amount we give to charities will increase next year.</p> <p>Beth Keith thanked David Armstrong for all of his work on the accounts. David Armstrong proposed the accounts, this was seconded by Sandra Newton and unanimously agreed.</p>
<b>7</b>	<b>Appointment of the Independent Examiner</b>
	<p>David Armstrong proposed Julie Holderness, a partner of Roddis Taylor Robinson, Chartered Accountants, as the Independent Examiner for the 2025 Accounts. This was seconded by Beth Keith. This was accepted unanimously to continue with them.</p>
<b>8</b>	<b>Appointment of Tellers (if needed)</b>
	<p>None were required as the number of nominations to PCC was equal to the number of places available.</p>
<b>9</b>	<b>Election of Lay Members to the PCC</b>
	<p>Previously St Mark's had a system of electing the full PCC each year, with everyone standing for a period of 1 year. However, the standard practice is</p>

that PCC members are elected for a 3 year period, with roughly a third of the PCC being nominated and elected each year. We are moving over to this system, so each nomination is for a three year period, however we expect some PCC members to step down next year (with new members elected), and then the following year, by which time we will have shifted to the usual practice.

11 nominations had been received prior to the meeting for 11 places as follows:

Nomination	Proposed	Seconded
Amanda Pilkington	David Armstrong	Laurence Keith
Boyd Morgan	Martin Godley	Amanda Pilkington
Jane Padget	Michael Hunt	Frances Gray
Nana Nyarko	Briony Tayler	Dilys Noble
Joy Straits	Robyn Vesey	Chris Ware
Briony Tayler	Boyd Morgan	Martin Godley
Rachel Heginbotham	Helen Cottrell	Hannah Jones
Bek Hampson	Boyd Morgan	James Morgan
Katherine Tattershall	Bethany Leake	Tessa Chan
Martin Godley	David Armstrong	Boyd Morgan
Frances Gray	Jane Padget	Michael Hunt

Beth Keith declared the nominees were elected (all unanimously voted), and the meeting attendees showed their appreciation with applause.

Beth thanked Michael Hunt for his contribution to PCC over the past few years.

	<p>Beth listed the other members of the PCC who do not need to be elected, due to their license (clergy/churchwarden) or the roles they have on Deanery/Diocesan Synod .</p> <p>Dilys Noble (churchwarden)  Chris Ware (Deanery rep)  Robyn Vesey (Deanery rep)  David Armstrong (Member of Diocesan Synod and treasurer)  Beth Keith (clergy, ex officio, Chair of PCC and member of Diocesan Synod and Deanery Synod)  Shan Rush (clergy ex officio, and member of Deanery Synod)</p> <p>Beth presented Anne Padget and Jonathan Williamson (both licensed readers, to ask the meeting's agreement for them to be on the PCC (annual appointment). This was unanimously agreed.</p> <p>There are a total of 19 people able to attend the PCC meetings with 11 elected members and a further 8 people that are ex-officio or have permission to attend due to their other roles (churchwarden, licensed minister, Deanery or Diocesan Reps).</p>
<b>10</b>	<b>Appointment of vergers (sidesmen/ sidesperson)</b>
	<p>To reduce the load of Sunday duties placed on wardens we are introducing the role of vergers (sometimes referred to as sidesmen). Beth listed the new vergers team and asked for the meeting's approval.</p> <p>The new list include for Vergers includes:</p> <p>Stuart Bennett  Jenny Hide  Richard Hide  Martin Godley  Amanda Pilkington</p> <p>This was unanimously agreed.</p> <p>Beth explained that there will also be a new Crucifer/server team who will support and prepare the sanctuary for worship.</p>
<b>11</b>	<b>Members of Deanery Synod and Diocesan Synod</b>
	<p>Beth Keith explained the importance of being connected to the Diocese and Church of England through its synod structure.</p> <p>Robyn Vesey and Chris Ware are still within their 3 year election period, and are happy to continue in the role of Deanery Synod Representatives.</p> <p>Beth and Shan also often attend Deanery Synod.</p> <p>David Armstrong, James Morgan and Beth Keith are on Diocesan Synod.</p>

	No questions or comments were raised about Deanery or Diocesan Synod.
<b>12</b>	<b>Vicars' closing remarks and prayer</b>
	Beth shared an extract from a poem Septuagesima by John Betjeman as thanks, and then closed the meeting in prayer.
	<b>Closing Prayers</b> were led by Beth Keith.

**The meeting ended at 12.21pm.**