

Minutes of St Botolph's Annual Vestry Meeting held in Church on Monday 16th April 2018

51 parishioners were in attendance. The meeting was chaired by Revd Mark Lucas.

The meeting opened with the hymn Christ Alone

Revd Lucas spoke on Matthew 9: 35 - 38. Jesus could see not the rejoicing of people that miracles had been done, but that they were sheep without a shepherd. and the question arose as to whether the congregation looks at those outside the church in this way. The labourers are few for the harvest, so Jesus asked his disciples to pray. Then he sent the disciples out to tell the people about the good shepherd. The congregation should pray for the sheep without a shepherd, but should also be prepared to be the answer to the prayers, to go out themselves to tell others. Revd Lucas expressed his wish for the church to take on a person part-time to work with families and children, at an estimated cost of £20,000 per year, which would be a challenge. A Stewardship Sunday is coming up at which this will be mentioned.

Revd Lucas highlighted the Archbishop of Canterbury's initiative Thy Kingdom Come. A prayer opportunity in St Botolph's in May, with prayer stations in church, testimonies, etc.

Prayers were said in small groups.

1. Apologies:

Martin Adamson, Robert and Barbara Bashford, Lindsay Burch, Judith Edwards, Diana Ellis, Paul and Ali Gosling, Maurice Haynes, Victoria Hutchinson, Julie James, Claire Johnson, Carol Keach, Angela McClatchey, Tina Noble, Debbie Palmer, Sheila Thompson, Jane Wade and Elaine Walker.

2. Minutes of the Vestry Meeting held 24th April 2017.

The minutes of the meeting were approved as a true record.

3. Matters Arising.

There were no matters arising.

4. Election of Churchwardens.

Revd Lucas spoke about the value of having a team of Church Wardens and that he was grateful for all their hard work.

Nominations for the position of Churchwarden had been received for Peter Jackson, proposed by Philip Burch, seconded by Andrew Saville, and for Ken Ansdell, proposed by Andrew Saville, seconded by Peter Jackson. Peter Jackson and Ken Ansdell were unanimously elected to serve for the coming year.

5. Electoral Roll.

It was reported that at the end of the past year the number of parishioners on the electoral roll was 263. By April 2018, 14 new people had been added to the roll, and 1 person had come off it, so the total number on the roll was now 276

The Vestry meeting ended at 8.21pm.