

# St Bartholomew's Church, Burwash

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Held in Church following the 10am Parish Communion service

Present: Rev Tom Pelham (Rev TP - Chairman) Chris Woodburn (CW -Treasurer)  
Jan Macfarland (Secretary) Plus 27 others

## 1. Apologies for absence

Mary Westhead and Jo Brown

## 2. Approval of minutes of the meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2024

These were proposed by Richard, seconded by Shirley with all in favour.

## 3. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

## 4. Rector's report

Rev TP said the Church relies on the volunteers and expressed his thanks to the many people who helped every day, especially the following:

- Standing Committee – for the day to day running
- Linda, Doreen, Vicky and Francis
- Chris, our treasurer
- Mary, safeguarding ensuring we have a safe church
- Musicians especially Brian and Deborah who left last year
- Fund raisers especially Vicky who organised the Christmas tree festival and Ian and Tricia Kirk for the quiz
- Flower Guild for the beautifully decorated flowers
- Bell ringers who have grown from 4 to 10
- Holy dusters especially Tricia who is the co-ordinator
- Tom, Richard, Richard MR, Shirley and Vicky who lock and unlock the church
- Vicky our Health & Safety Officer
- Shirley who runs the 3Cs group
- Jan, PCC Secretary

All these people do a lot of work and make sure we are compliant with the law. Rev TP apologised for being a disorganised during the last year due to the birth of Hannah and the chaos of helping to look after two very young children. He thanked the committee for their patience.

Great is Thy Faithfulness

The website is up and running and new initiatives are being set up including a trip to Chichester. Groups like 3cs, Wednesday Club, the local school are all reaching out to people. There were five weddings and two funerals in 2024.

Bishop Greg from Australia joined St Bartholomew for ten weeks and is still in touch.

Christmas services were well attended especially Christingle.

Benefice services continue to grow across the three churches.

5. **Future Plans** – Rev TP and a few members attended Bishop Ruth’s address last week. There has been a growth in the Roman Catholic and Pentecostal churches. Eleven people will be confirmed on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> May with Bishop Will attending. The church must be ready to serve people and welcome them. Rev TP will revisit the current structure of the services as he cannot hold onto it forever, rushing from one church to another and not giving the pastoral service it deserves. Currently there are four or five services at St Barts each month and some of these could be held at a later time so that Rev TP could stay behind and chat to the congregation. The new service will be rolled out gradually.
6. **Election of Church Warden for 2024/2025**  
There were no nominations. It is possible that the Church will hold an EGM and elect the warden outside of the church.

Signed: .....

Date: .....