

Notes from Parish Council April 2016

Parish Council met on Sunday 17 April, 2016. Among the many matters discussed at this meeting the following are noted:

- The Rector reported on the results of the recent Electoral Meeting of the Parish. The Rector was appointed as Presiding Member of Parish Council; Robert Deane and Peter McDermott were appointed as People's Wardens; Sandy White was elected to Parish Council for two years and Christopher Deane was elected to Parish Council for one year. Ingrid Moses was appointed by the Rector as Rector's Warden and Tony Ralli and Mary Pollard were appointed by the Rector as members of Parish Council.
- Duncan Anderson has stepped down as Treasurer after many years of dedicated service. Naresh Gunasekere has taken up this role. The treasurer noted in his final report that freewill giving is tracking according to budget but that this needs to be maintained in order to continue providing the work of the parish. Both Duncan and Naresh were thanked for their willingness to do this vital work.
- It was noted that we recently paid our insurance for the year (almost \$15,000). We paid this in one payment to make a saving of almost \$1,000.
- It was also noted that the monthly assessment to the Diocese is some \$4,500.
- The parish archives have been sifted with some of the really old non-historical material deleted. Many thanks to Sarah Lethbridge for this work.
- Following on from the AGM it was decided to have these notes published after each parish council meeting.
- The issue of welcoming was discussed. The suggestion made at the AGM for a welcomers group was not taken up since parish council felt this was the job of all parishioners and not just a group.
- The creation of an email list for the parish was referred to a subcommittee for a report to the next meeting of parish council.
- The successful Lenten study groups were noted.
- The Rector reported that he had recently had a very successful lunch with the OpShop volunteers to recognise their valuable work.
- Several major events were noted: Kelvin's ordination, St David's Day service and brunch, the Canberra Girls Grammar 90th Anniversary service in St Paul's.
- The Rector attended the World Day of Prayer at Yarralumla recently and noted the work of Helen Raymond and Janet Graham in organising this service.
- Easter was noted as being very successful with large congregations. The work of many people was acknowledged by the Rector. It is the work of these people that allows us to offer such significant worship at major festivals and throughout the year.
- Choral Evensong continues to be popular with outstanding music. The work of our Director of Music, Matthew Stuckings, was acknowledged as was the work of our organists, Chris Erskine and James Porteous. Choral Evensong in May will be attended by people from other denominations as part of prayer for Christian unity. Parishioners are encouraged to attend.

- It was noted that Betty Navid a long time parishioner had recently died and that her funeral was at St Paul's. It was also noted that two parishioners, Syreira Ferguson and Lucas Owens were recently married in St Paul's.
- The Rector recently conducted a tour of the church as part of Heritage Week.
- The Rector will be on long service leave in most of June and all of July and August.
- Sandy White reported on the monitoring that has begun of the cracking in St Paul's. This monitoring work is continuing.
- Sandy White also reported on the progress to replace the doors of St Paul's which are in a bad state. A woodworker has quoted and parish council accepted this quote to replace the doors in sympathy with the style of the north doors.
- The Rector reported that during the leave of Canon John Campbell that all services at St David's were being maintained.

Brian Douglas
Presiding Member of Parish Council