

**Minutes of St Botolph's Annual Vestry Meeting
held in Church on Monday 8th April 2019 at 7.45pm**

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

The meeting opened with a hymn and then Revd Lucas spoke on Revelation 8 : 1-3 "When the Lamb opened the seventh seal there was silence in heaven for about half an hour." The other seal mimicked the plagues. So with the seventh seal we should expect terrible retribution, but there was silence and half an hour is a long time. There was then fire from the censer but God is merciful. In current times parliament is making a mess, so how do we pray? Revd Lucas referred to the views of John Newton that when God is exceedingly displeased with a people, it is not necessary that he should bury them with an earthquake but just leave the people to themselves and their ruin follows. Do not pray that God will judge a country, just leave the people alone so they can mess it up themselves. Revd Lucas said that In this country family life has been destroyed. The country has turned its back on God. The difference is prayer, the angels collecting prayers up. The only hope for the nation is if people pray. Therefore we have a duty to be informed and to pray, to bring about God's will and pray that God will extend his hand of mercy.

1. Apologies:

Lou Adamson, Heather and Don Cash, Judy Cowan, Steve and Sandy Frost, Victoria Hutchinson, Ali Gosling, Carole Jackson, Maryna Jacobs, Heather Laughton, Dave and Christa Liggins, Liz Pegg, Andrew and Sarajane Saville.

2. Minutes of the Vestry Meeting held 16th April 2018.

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

3. Matters Arising.

There were no matters arising.

4. Election of Churchwardens.

Ken Ansdell was not seeking re-election as Churchwarden. Revd Lucas thanked him for his work over the past 3 years.

Nominations for the positions of Churchwarden had been received for Peter Jackson, proposed by Adrian Keach and seconded by Ken Ansdell, and for Adrian Keach, proposed by Paul Gosling and seconded by Peter Jackson. Peter Jackson and Adrian Keach were unanimously elected to serve at Churchwardens for the coming year. It was noted that this will be the 6th year that Peter Jackson has held the position of Churchwarden and 7 years is the limit without a special dispensation.

5. Election of Deputy Churchwardens.

It was noted that the Election of Deputy Churchwardens is a matter for the PCC and the agenda item for this had been listed in error.

6. Electoral Roll.

It was reported that at the end of the past year the number of parishioners on the electoral roll was 275. The church was required to draw up a new electoral roll by April 2019 and the total number of parishioners on the electoral roll is now 224.

The Vestry meeting ended at 8.17pm.