



St Paul's 2013 Minutes of the AGM

The meeting opened with a video presentation of photos depicting the church and Paul's precinct.

Minutes of previous year AGM

The minutes of the previous AGM [2012] were accepted
[Proposed Gabby Dean – Seconded Simon Miskin]

Register & Parish Roll

The "Parish Roll" was acknowledged as the current directory together with the inclusion of all present. An Attendance register was circulated and 35 attendees were recorded.

Thanks were recorded and applauded for last year's Church council:

**Bob Matthews (Treasurer) - Chris Jamieson (Warden) – Debbie Gwynne - Lia Johnson
Kim Kemp - Michael Jessup (Warden) –Joan Jessup(Warden) – Rodger Philpot(Warden)
Synod Reps: Chris Jamieson and Michael Jessup
And alternates: Debbie Gwynne and Michael Ellis**

And again for the new 2013/4 Church Council

**Sally Van Pelt – Don Barendrecht – David Hawks – Christabel Chamarette - Chris Jamieson
(Warden) Joan Jessup (Warden) – Rodger Philpot (Warden) Bob Matthews (Treasurer) - Debbie
Gwynne**

Lia Johnson - Kim Kemp

Synod Reps: Chris Jamieson and Michael Jessup

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Warden's Reports [included in AGM Report]

Joan Jessup delivered her report and introduced three questions:

Does my belonging to St Paul's give me life?

Does my involvement at St Paul's give life to others?

Does St Paul's depend upon my financial giving?

She also provided an 'Addendum'[attached to these minutes] that reflected on Alan Albany's part in St Paul's and our overall vision.

Chris Jamieson delivered his report and spoke also of what is being created, an awareness of who is 'touched' by St Paul's and of people moving on.

Michael Jessup delivered his report and reflected on changing roles and new opportunities.

Treasurers Report [included in AGM report]

Bob Matthews thanked Michael Ellis for once again auditing the parish accounts. He also thanked his daughter Ainsley who provides support every 3months and assists in the preparation of the BAS Statements.

There were no questions from the floor and the report was accepted with thanks to Bob for his efforts.

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2 Continued....

- Rector's Report [included in AGM report]
Peter spoke about the Church Council visioning day the previous week and in preparation for this AGM. He stated the Post-Easter theme of realising "A New Creation" and identified the implications of our 'vision' in relation to the parish finances.

- The following four points were then opened for discussion at each table
 - How do YOU describe St Paul's?
Create a "We are....." statement and share with your table.
Is there a common statement that emerges?
 - Look through "Budget Working Paper" 1 & 2
Discuss the weekly commitment that is needed to meet our budget.
Identify any changes that YOU would like to see in the Budget
Provide thoughts/ideas that will enable us to commit to our budget.
 - What aspects of Growth and 'making new' do YOU imagine?
Look at the list of ideas/thoughts below, Tick any that are important for you.
What else would you add to the list or suggest for further development?
Describe what YOU want to participate in during the year ahead
 - Consider the proposals on the next page and share your response.
We will seek a show of hands at the end of the discussion to enable so immediate feedback for our Church Council.

- Each table presented their feedback from their table discussion to the AGM
 - The feedback has been collected and will be presented at the next Church Council meeting.

- It was evident from the feedback that the "Proposals to AGM – for discussion & determination" would require further discussion and so were dropped from the agenda. An invitation to a shared meal on Saturday 29th June to continue the discussions of the AGM was proposed and Chris Jamieson and Rosemary Spark agreed to organise. Those planning to attend were asked to email either Chris or Rosemary to confirm catering arrangements.

- Other Reports & Business
 - Rosemary spoke of the web-site & discussion group - the value of both were acknowledged and praised by many.
 - Debbie spoke about the garden group and thanks were acknowledged for all who participate.

- Final acknowledgements were followed by a *Shared community lunch*

Attachments:

1. Addendum to warden's report from Joan Jessup

ST PAUL'S BEACONSFIELDS AGM 2013 WARDEN'S REPORT

ADDENDUM:

One of the most significant events that occurred within St Paul's this year was the death of Alan Albany. Alan & I shared quite a bit in common. We had both chosen to build & live within the St Paul's precinct. We had both elected to give up paid employment & looked forward to giving our time to working within the St Paul's parish. We also both had a cancer diagnosis. The difference of course being that I survived, whereas Alan sadly did not.

I experienced Alan to be a highly intelligent yet quiet, perhaps even introverted person. It was therefore a surprise to me to learn at Alan's funeral there was so much more to him. We heard that Alan had used what resources he had to make a difference in the lives of others. Over the years Alan had opened his home to more than 20 overseas students, providing them with affordable housing whilst they studied. We heard of one student who feeling a sense of hopelessness due to his critical economic situation had considered suicide. With Alan's practical help this person went onto complete his studies.

On hearing these stories, I felt my life had been diminished by not knowing the fuller person Alan was or should I say the fuller person Alan "is" because the legacy that Alan gave to these students lives on.

I would not describe Alan as being a person of great vision. He was possibly like me, not a "big picture" thinker but rather one whose vision is confined to his own resources, both physical & financial. Whilst this is an excellent place to start it does have some limitations.

There is however one amongst us who is a "big picture", visionary person. That person is our Priest, Peter Humphris. Whereas people like Alan & I need to climb to the top of the hill to see what lies beyond, Peter has the ability to envisage what lies beyond before climbing the hill. Whilst this is a great skill, it can only bring about change with the involvement of others.

A good demonstration of this is seen in regards to the new creation of the St Paul's east end development. Whilst many of us saw the cracks in the old east end wall, Peter had a vision of something quite special. However this could not come into creation without the involvement of others, the Parish Council who approved the concept, Graham Kershaw our architect, the builders & of course the people of St Paul's who committed to paying for it.

Whilst Alan may not have been a "big picture" person, he linked into the bigger vision for St Paul's that Peter had shared with him & others as early as 2011. Even in his death, Alan's legacy lives on. It was Alan's desire for his estate to be used for the outreach ministries of St Paul's which has the potential to continue to give to others.

I have come to the realisation that like Alan I am not a visionary person but I believe that with prayer, reflection & discernment I & others can also link into something that is bigger than my/our narrow vision for the future.

Joan Jessup
Church Warden February – June 2013.

