

**The Annual Parish Meetings held at
All Saints Church, Shillington on Sunday 11 May 2025**

The Meeting of Parishioners

1. Present and apologies

Present:

Revd. Jenna Dearden
Trish Humphreys
Liz Allan
Linda Butler
Clive Butler
Roger Barnard
Fiona Howarth
Tim Watson
Peter Farmer
Helen Smith
Jessica McClean
Liz Carboni
Emma Stevenson
Liz Brewer
Dick Brewer
John Cole
Julia Moss
Anne Simkins
Diana Whitely
Emma Lodge
Andy Gibbs

Apologies:

Ian Moss
Anne Cameron and Derek Wilson
Tim and Maggie Theaker
Paul and Ros Taylor

2. Approval of Minutes of the meeting held on 28th April 2024
Proposed by; Peter Farmer
Seconded by; Linda Butler
3. Matters arising from the minutes. There were none.

4. Election of two Church Wardens for the year 2025 – 2026

Liz Brewer; Proposed by Shirley McGrath
Seconded by Tim Watson

Ian Moss; Proposed by John Catton
Seconded by Linda Butler

There were no objections to either candidate; Liz Brewer was continuing her role and Ian Moss is taking over from Dick Brewer who has stood down. Both candidates duly elected, and thanks given to Dick for his faithful service.

Revd. Jenna thanked Dick as well as Liz for her ongoing work.

Meeting of Parishioners closed

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting

1. Present and apologies; as above
2. Approval of Minutes of the meeting held on 28th April 2024
Emma proposed minutes and Helen Smith seconded; minutes duly approved as an accurate account.
3. Matters arising from the minutes; there were no matters arising
4. Presentation of the Electoral Roll and appointment of Electoral Roll Officer
Linda has prepared report; this year it was revised. Revd. Jenna thanked Linda for her work and Linda is happy to carry on with this role for which she was proposed by Clive Butler seconded by Emma Lodge.
5. Chair's Report
Revd. Jenna added to her report that she wanted to thank Helen Smith for producing the weekly Pew sheet. Jenna thanked everyone for welcoming her. She asked for questions regarding her report but there were none.
6. Treasurer's Report on the financial affairs of the Parish
Liz Allan asked for questions but there were none.
Liz explained about how we are drawing on savings. There remains a need to adjust the record for reduction of Parish Share which accounted for extra funds to pay extra for additional clergy time which did not come to fruition. Our Parish Share has increased; we have been 'hit hard' by this and we need to address this in our giving and fund raising.
Liz explained how events, although bringing in funds also incur a cost, for

example, due to lighting.

We now have a card reader which helps with ad hoc donations and payments, for example, at Sunday Teas.

Liz is now stepping down as treasurer and Revd. Jenna thanked her for her efforts particularly making the financial affairs understandable. Liz and Revd. Jenna also thanked Helen Smith for her support and agreeing to take on the role.

There were no questions regarding the accounts

Accounts proposed by; Liz Carboni and seconded by Fiona Howarth.

7. Appointment of Independent Examiner to the PCC.
Emma Lodge proposed Jackie Smith and Liz Brewer seconded her.
Jackie Smith was duly appointed
8. PCC Secretary's Report
Revd. Jenna explained the meaning of 'Plurality' and that she will be Vicar, not Priest in Charge from 1st May; this will be amended in the secretary's report.
We will celebrate this with prayers and cake.
No questions arose
9. Churchwardens' Report
It was discussed that the work of the Churchwardens is varied and much of it goes unseen. Revd. Jenna highlighted there is now a job description and our newly appointed Churchwarden will be licensed as is required.
10. Parish Safeguarding Officer's Report
Trish Humphreysd expressed how it is hoped that All Saints church is a place where everyone feels safe and able to make disclosures should they wish to. Such disclosures will be listened to and acted upon accordingly. There were no questions regarding the report.
11. Reports on church activities

Shillington Friends

Revd. Jenna thanked Andy Gibb and the Friends. Andy thanked everyone for their support. Revd. Jenna also thanked Peter Farmer for his support regarding the Fabric committee and report

Events

Liz Brewer highlighted there is no chairperson of the events committee and hence no report for today, however, the committee is very active. There will be a meeting regarding the 200-club next week and it is anticipated this lucrative fundraiser can be continued.

Churchyard

Liz Allan advised that we have required a new mower which has been purchased

from funds held by the church, however, there is a need for a new, larger mower, and she anticipates accessing a grant for this as well as training to use the strimmer. It was discussed whether the Parish Council or Hertfordshire Council can offer funds, however, this depends on availability. Revd. Jenna extended her thanks to Liz Allan and all the churchyard volunteers.

Flowers

Di Whitely thanked everyone who contributes to flowers and stressed how we need more volunteers. Revd. Jenna thanked Di and the flower volunteers. It was highlighted that the volunteers also fund this themselves.

Bells

Revd Jenna thanked Emma Lodge, the captain, and Emma spoke about a young person who has joined the group as part of their Duke of Edinburgh award and who is learning very quickly and becoming highly proficient. Ringers are improving and increasing their repertoire.

Funds are raised through 'sponsor a bell' scheme. Safety is a priority and new accessibility rails are being arranged.

No questions regarding the report submitted by Emma.

Bible study group

The group continues to run every Tuesday evening in the village with around 6 members. They have recently completed a study of Acts of the Apostles.

12. Election of PCC members

(Election of six members of the Parochial Church Council. Note: The Churchwardens and Deanery Synod Representative(s) are ex-officio members of the PCC)

Dick Brewer; proposed by; Shirley McGrath, seconded by; Fiona Howarth

Trish Humphreys; proposed by; Rev. Jenna Dearden, seconded by; Emma Lodge

Peter Farmer; proposed by; Trish Humphreys, seconded by; Rev. Jenna Dearden

Emma Lodge; proposed by; Trish Humphreys seconded by; Rev. Jenna Dearden

Helen Smith; proposed by; Peter Farmer, seconded by; Liz Allan

Liz Allan; proposed by; Liz Carboni, seconded by; Trish Humphreys

Tim Theaker proposed; by Liz Allan, seconded by Helen Smith

Revd. Jenna thanked the PCC for their commitment and responsibility, decision making and enthusiasm

Liz Allan and Peter Farmer continue as Deanery Synod reps

13. Any other business

Di Whitely spoke about how lowering the access for wheelchairs has caused an increase in the impact of weather particularly rain and snow which blows into the entrance, and something needs to be considered to reduce the damage and risk to people slipping. Revd. Jenna assured that this will be discussed at next PCC meeting.

Linda Butler thanked the choir and asked for any new members.

Linda also highlighted how the heater in the choir vestry is not useable and not worth repairing. She also asked about the lantern on the steps which needs repair; Liz Brewer and Andy Gibb assured this was in hand and will hopefully be completed before the end of the Summer.

14. Looking ahead to 2025

Revd. Jenna reminded us that Gravenhurst is included with Shillington. She is excited about the future and welcomes comments about a way forward. She expressed her gratitude for all that the church family do and achieve for the church as well as the community.

Emma thanked Revd. Jenna for her commitment to her role as our vicar and we all really appreciate having her on board.

Revd. Jenna closed with a prayer and we recognized the great work completed by Dick Brewer and Liz Allan by presenting them with gifts.

The meeting ended at 11.41 am.

Trish Humphreys

PCC Secretary 11th May 2025