

Bransgore and Thorney Hill: APCM Agenda

31st October 2020 at 6.00pm

Zoom details: Meeting ID 786 5659 9634
Passcode CDV4ux

Parish meeting – election of Churchwardens

APCM

Apologies

Minutes of 2018/2019 meeting

Receipt of reports and questions:

Chairman
Treasurer
Deanery Synod
Electoral Roll

Elections

PCC
Deanery Synod
Sidespeople

Any other business

PCC meeting – in a separate Zoom meeting

Election of secretary
Election of treasurer

Bransgore and Thorney Hill APCM: Vicar's Report

2019 was another great year for our Churches. We saw a good number of new people join our worshipping community and we made some new friends through the change of service time at All Saints. It was the year some of us took part in the Three Peaks Challenge, getting to know each other a little better and raising money towards our Common Mission Fund. Since our last APCM, we've also said goodbye to some very dear friends: to Yve Gerwat, Dennis Osgood and Ron Baldwin. Again, it was a year where many of us offered our very best in creativity, service and generosity. As I think back to 2019, however, it seems like it belongs to another age: an age where Brexit dominated the headlines, rather than COVID-19. The proper time to reflect on how we have weathered the Coronavirus Lockdown will be at the next APCM in April, assuming some far-from-guaranteed return to normality by then. It seems to me, though, that now is the time to be encouraged by the ways in which we have risen to the challenges of the virus and seen what God has been doing through it.

Here are some statistics:

- At the time of writing, we have produced 33 services which have been broadcast on YouTube. Thank you to everyone who took part in these services, particularly those who read the Bible and led prayers.
- These services have had 7,185 views, equating to attendances at services. Thank you to everyone who encouraged others to attend by liking the services and sharing them on social media.
- Over 144 Zoom meetings took place: PCC meetings, standing committee meetings, Friends and Social Committee Meetings, Vicarage Bible Time on weekday mornings and prayer meetings every Sunday evening at 7.30pm. Most of us had never heard of Zoom at the beginning of the lockdown: for many of us it now seems a normal part of everyday life.

During this pandemic, difficult decisions have had to be made. I am so enormously grateful for the support of our congregation and the PCC. Stu Hulbert has been of such value in showing leadership and clear thinking during this time, along with Damien Brewitt offering sound and well-explained financial guidance and Ken Pimenta, helping ensure that each week we have an online service ready to share the Gospel of Christ with the local community and further afield. Wherever God chooses to lead us in the next year, we will rise to the challenge in his strength and wisdom.