

Chaplaincy of Costa Almeria & Costa Calida
Minutes of AGM 2023 Meeting (TO BE ACCEPTED)
12 Noon Tuesday 2nd May 2023, Miraflores

1. Chairman opened with a welcome and prayer.
2. Apologies: Robina Dore, Gill Makin, Brian Firth. Tony Baugh and Eileen Margison.
3. Acceptance of last year's Minutes (May 2022).

Copies of the Minutes had been circulated several weeks before the meeting so the congregation could read them. No amendments were suggested and the Minutes were unanimously accepted and signed by Father Alan.

4. Election of officers as required under Spanish Association Law.

Presidente Legal: there was one nomination, Pam Carter, this was accepted and agreed unanimously.

Secretary: there was one nomination, David Blake, this was accepted and agreed unanimously.

Treasurer: Ron Makin is stepping down this year. There was one nomination Chris Hughes-Jones. This was accepted and agreed unanimously.

A vote of thanks was proposed for Ron's hard work over the previous year.

5. Election of other officers as required by the Church of England

Church Warden. There was one nomination, Janis Matheson. Accepted and agreed unanimously.

PCC Members. There were two vacancies on the PCC this year. Two nominations had been received from Pam Carter and Peter Stevenson-Green, these were accepted and agreed unanimously.

Synod Representative. There were three nominations from Tony Noble, Peter Stevenson-Green and Caroline Gore. Based on our Electoral Roll we can only have two Synod Reps so an anonymous vote took place. The votes were counted and Father Alan reported that the vote was very close with Peter and Tony being duly elected. He went on to say that it had been decided prior to the meeting that the Chaplaincy would pay for the third nomination (Caroline) to attend as a lay person.

Side Persons. As in previous years Father Alan explained that the whole congregation would be voted on as Side Persons so that people can then be called upon if necessary. This would be subject to Safeguarding training.

6. Acceptance of Financial Report.

Ron explained that it was good to see a surplus for the first time for several years. The currency variance section of the report shows how the sterling account has been converted into Euros at the end of the year. Ron went on to explain why we have so much money in the UK. One is a legacy account which was given to the church several years ago specifically for the furnishing of a new church if one is built. Another was an investment account which over the year had earned £1000 in interest. The other is a current account which we use to pay the common fund, monies to the Archdeaconary etc. This is a Church of England account set up with Barclays.

Roddy Matheson audited the accounts this year to which we are very grateful and a vote of thanks was given.

7. Questions relating to officers reports.

Alwyn stated that the number on the Electoral Roll remains the same as last year – 66.

Diane Drummond asked if Alwyn would prefer more or less people on the roll. He felt that less was better for the chaplaincy as we pay a cost to the Diocese per person each year. The only advantage to those on the roll is that they can vote at the AGM. Those who aren't on the roll can still attend the AGM, raise questions etc. but can't vote. Father Alan explained that the roll needs to be realistic of church life but also its finances.

Father Alan thanked the Ministry Team as Priest in Charge. He went on to say that we are all retired and that he has many family commitments this year which is why he is away a lot. He thanked Michael Garland, a retired priest who will be helping out in May. Also Father Marcus who has helped the chaplaincy from Lent to Easter and returns later in the year. He thanked those in the congregation who had contributed to keep services going and said that leading requires stamina, confidence and talent. He appealed to all, asking 'what can you contribute to the life of the church?' He stated that age is no barrier and he was pleased that, over the years, more people have been able to contribute particularly women.

In June the PCC will be starting to look for a new priest and Father Alan hopes to be able to step down by the end of the year.

8. Adoption of Safeguarding Policy.

Darren Ellsum explained that last year we adopted the Church of England's standard policy and recommended that the meeting accept it again this year. A vote was taken and it unanimously agreed.

Father Alan thanked Darren Ellsum for his continued work with Safeguarding.

9. Any Other Business.

Darren Ellsum urged the PCC to involve the congregations in the upcoming priest recruitment process, perhaps through questionnaires or congregation meetings. This was a good opportunity to reflect and take stock and consider the direction the congregations wanted the chaplaincy to go in. This would have an impact on the type of priest we would be looking for. He went on to point out that the "House for Duty" package has a monetary value of approximately 1000 euros a month and that we need to have very clear expectation of what we expect for this. He felt that the last thing the chaplaincy needed was someone coming thinking they were semi-retiring in the sun. We need someone who can lead and direct the Chaplaincy and someone who will pull their weight. There was much support for this in room, which Father Alan acknowledged. However he went on to explain that the number of candidates for new priest would likely be very limited.

Richard Gall asked whether Father Alan could confirm that La Mata was still going to be sold, as this was agreed at the last PCC meeting. Father Alan confirmed that this was the case.

David Price asked whether the 'House for Duty' could be a rented property. It was confirmed that it could.

A presentation was then made to Pam Carter, who is standing down as Church Warden after ten years. Although she will continue as a PCC member, the church wanted to acknowledge and thank her for all her hard work and support over the years.

A presentation was also made to Ron Makin to thank him for his work as book keeper.

10. The meeting closed at 12.50 with prayer.

11. Following the AGM a very brief meeting of the PCC was held to decide the date of the next full PCC meeting, which will take place on Wednesday 7th June 10.30am at Miroflores.

The meetings were followed by fellowship lunch for those who wanted to stay.