

PCC Meeting Minutes Monday 22 March 2021 held via Zoom

Present: Canon Mark Standen (Chairman) (MS), Ben Lucas, Ann Jones, Roy Richardson, David Boreham, Keith Varney, Adrian Warburton, John Roberts, Jackie Johnson, Andy Kyte, Alan Butler, John Bawler (JB) Steve Bentley, Esther O'Toole, Sue Pauley, Hannah Jones, Tina Smith, John Heaton, Chris Harris, Matt Porter, Derek Dainton, David Fordham, Chris Wild (part)

1. Welcome, Bible reading and prayer

MS welcomed everyone to the meeting and read from 1 Cor.15 with its relevance to Holy Week through the emphasis on the death and resurrection of Jesus and the need to hold firmly to these truths. The meeting went into breakout rooms for prayer.

2. Apologies for absence

None

3. Minutes of PCC meeting held on 22 February 2021

Agreed subject to a minor wording amendment.

4. Matters arising and action points

The protocol for replying to PCC wide emails was still to be determined although it was concluded that much would depend on the subject matter of the emails.

5. Chairman's Report

MS reported on the last four weeks. The *Journeying with Jesus* series had been well received and consideration would be given to doing something similar at other times of the year. Two good breakfast meetings had been held. Attention was drawn to a number of church family members who had moved from the area. They would need to give permission to the church office for their new addresses to be given out to anyone wishing to know them.

6. Resumption of in-person services

Chris Wild, whose report and advice on the prevalence and impact of Coronavirus in the local area had been circulated to Council members, was present for this part of the meeting. He reported that recent figures from the ONS showed a decline in covid cases in the local area to 1 in 384. In the light of this and following further discussion it was felt that in-person services should resume in like manner to those held previously (booking, social distancing, face masks, no singing). It was proposed by Jackie Johnson and seconded by David Fordham that in-person services (8 am, 9 am, and 10.30 am) should resume from Palm Sunday. This was agreed unanimously.

7. Finance report

JB reported that voluntary income was in line with budget and was ahead of last year's figure. He presented the Annual Report and Financial Statements as

previously circulated to Council members. He explained that the deficit of about £72,000 shown in the accounts was substantially covered by funds set aside in previous years for work on the churchyard trees and church sound installation. It was proposed by John Roberts, seconded by John Heaton and carried unanimously that the Financial Statements and Annual Report for 2020 be approved. It was proposed by Alan Butler, seconded by Steve Bentley and carried unanimously that the Letter of Representation be signed by the Rector and Treasurer on behalf of the PCC. Thanks were expressed to John and the finance team for their excellent work.

8. Youth, Children and Families

Matt's report, circulated prior to the meeting, was noted with appreciation. Newcomers to the online youth groups have been an encouragement and hopefully face to face relationships will soon become a reality. The 9 am Sunday sessions have been challenging but a wider range of church families have got involved. The participation of two newcomers to the online youth groups has been an encouragement. The Tuesday and Sunday evening sessions have been stimulating for the leaders and feedback from the group has shown that there is appreciation in getting stuck into some theological issues. After his BAP and further discussions with the Diocese Matt confirmed that he would be taking up a place at Oakhill Theological College in September and shared prayer requests.

[Note to Church Family reading these minutes: if you would like to know more from Matt please contact him]

9. Discussion regarding a successor to Matt

MS reported on the deliberations of the Staff, Wardens and Treasurer. Two main options had been considered:

Recruit on a like for like basis - one person to replace Matt;

Recruit 2 workers, one to concentrate on Youth and the other on Children and Families;

The second option is attractive since the skills and/or experience required for the two categories are different. But because of the pressure of time and the possible difficulty in make two appointments at the same time, Mark and the Wardens felt that an appointment of a person to oversee the ministry to under 18s should be made initially. Such a person would have experience with children or youth but would be able to be effective with both. A second appointment would be made in 2022 to work with the leader and take responsibility for either children or youth. The proposed financial package was presented to the meeting and options were discussed. It was agreed that a recommended financial package and overall responsibility for recruitment should be delegated to the Rector and Wardens who would work with others on advertising, shortlisting and bringing a final recommendation to the PCC for an appointment

10. APCM

Roy reported that the Annual Meeting of Parishioners and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting would be held in-person and via Zoom as previously but that,

following relatively soon after the October meetings, they would be brief. Booklets containing reports would be available.

11. Planning for "Freedom Day" and beyond

It was recognised that forward planning was difficult in the present uncertain circumstances. It might be difficult to find volunteers willing to staff events such as the Fun Day. It was agreed that the summer should be spent in re-engaging within the church family by means of garden parties, coffee mornings and in-person homegroup socials. Suggestions of further ideas along these lines should be sent to Mark.

12. Safeguarding report

There was nothing to report from James Nicholl. Consideration would be given to splitting this responsibility between those under age 18 and others.

13. Property matters

Nothing new to report

14. Wardens items

None

15. Correspondence

None

16. Any other business

MS expressed thanks to Andy Kyte who would be retiring from the PCC at the APCM.

17. The Grace

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm

The next meeting will be on Monday 24 May 2021 at 7.15pm

Action

Mark Standen