

St Margaret's Church, Angmering
PCC minutes, 21st June 2021

Present: John Bawler, Steve Bentley, David Boreham, Alan Butler, Derek Dainton, David Fordham, Chris Harris, John Heaton, Ann Jones, Hannah Jones, Jackie Johnson, Ben Lucas, Esther O'Toole, Sue Pauley, Matt Porter, John Roberts, Tina Smith, Mark Standen (chair), Keith Varney, Adrian Warberton

1. Mark Standen welcomed everyone and shared the passage Matthew 9 v35-38, citing the compassion Jesus had for those who did not believe, and the sadness of life without God. Also, the expectation of a harvest amongst people leading to eternity, brought about by prayer. This was followed by prayers in breakout rooms.
2. **Apologies for absence:** Ben Bennett and Chris Wild.
3. **Minutes of PCC meeting, 24th May 2021.**
Unanimously agreed that these were an accurate record of the meeting.
4. **Matters arising**
None
5. **Chairman's comments**
 - (i) Mark **thanked** everyone for their prayers in such a difficult time for his family, and he gave an update. He also asked for prayers for Geoff Hart who is currently in Southampton Hospital having suffered a severe stroke.
 - ii) **Chris Wilson** is expected to meet up with the clergy team and in particular Matt, three or four times before he officially starts on 1st September. His recent meeting with Adventurers was a hit!
~ Will there be any children's work during August? There are enough volunteers for the children's work to continue through August, but the creche might be more difficult.
 - (iii) **'Freedom day'** (the appropriateness of this term was questioned) has been postponed till 19th July but as from 27th June the pattern of services will be:-
8am BCP communion service in church
10am Family Service in church, with children's work in the church hall
There will be a slightly increased number of people allowed safely in the church (59) and it is hoped that many will return. Livestream (not pre-recording) will be continued. Various questions and discussion around this were asked, including:-

~ How long would this continue for? Answer: Certainly for several months, since we expect that a number of the Church family will not feel safe returning to services for some time to come. There are cogent reasons for the livestreaming of services to continue indefinitely.

~ Would this lead to people not coming back into the church building? We'll have to see whether this happens, and due consideration given to it over time.

~ Is the PA team large enough to cover livestreaming? Yes, but could always use extra volunteers!

~ What are the limits in the Church Hall for numbers of children? 15 over 2 year olds but we may

take some children outside. The Vestry Hall could be used for the creche if necessary.

5pm It is planned to recommence 'The Five' in early September.

There will not be a 'holiday club' this summer due to staff movements.

~ Is the 11.15 service to recommence? Currently this is not planned as there would probably only be approx. 20 participants. This will be kept under review over the Autumn months.

(iv) **Chichester Diocese** has launched a project looking at each parish, opportunities post pandemic, individual parish priorities and the ministry teams needed to deliver these. Mark gave suggestions for priorities in 2022, around youth, children and families; the elderly; and new housing developments. These were then discussed in breakout rooms. Scribes sent details in post meeting for consideration in July.

6. Finance report

John B reported that the finances are holding up well, with spending slightly down on predictions (for good reasons). The end of year surplus is now looking to be approx £20k. We should however not be complacent, but be grateful and prayerful and keep other less fortunate churches in our prayers.

7. Youth, children and families Report (for full details see Matt's report)

The 9am children's service has now run its course so it will be good to get back to 'face to face' groups in the church hall on Sunday 27th. Children can be dropped off at the hall at 9.55 and will remain there for approx. 45 mins to start with. Matt is planning on leaving Chris a month of rotas and plans etc, so he has time to settle into his new role. Thanks were extended to Matt for this.

8. Safeguarding

James Nicoll has reported to David B that the vulnerable adult cited last month is still engaging with social services. There is nothing new to report. Thanks were extended to Chris H for circulating the safeguarding training link.

9. Buildings

David B reported that one of the jobs identified in the QI report has now been completed (undercroft steps and weeding of French drain around church) thanks to Bob Pauley. The electrical inspection and roofing problems are in hand. The disappearance of the weather vane was noted – Chris H says it is in the tower – hopefully this can be replaced. There is some rotten timber on one of the finials to be replaced. A gas service is booked for early July.

Rectory garden tidying – Sat 3rd July – to make the garden useable for social gatherings (especially removal of brambles!)

Similarly, a session needs to be arranged for tidying the churchyard.

10. Wardens items

None

11. Correspondence

None

12. AOB

(i) Derek – would it be a good idea to have a defibrillator in the church? Chris H will look into costs

(ii) Reminder for all that Ben Lucas has his priesting at Bishop Hannington Church, Hove on Monday 26th June.

13. Meeting concluded at 9.00pm with prayers followed by The Grace

Next meeting: Mon 19th July, 7.15pm probably by Zoom