



Minutes of PCC Meeting
Tuesday 2nd March 2021 at 19:30
On Zoom

Present: Howard Wright, Jonathan Rooke, David Duffin, Andrew Walters, David Craigen, Janet Foster, Rich Gillard, Pip Hughes, Timothy James, Pam Maloney, Bob Meekums, Abi Mezzullo, Mike Saltmarsh, Natalie Senior, Howard Short, Jill Williams, Lorna Littlewood (guest), Jane Hughes (guest), David Williams, (secretary).

1. Welcome and Apologies

Action

Howard welcomed the team to the second meeting of the New Year. David Williams had agreed to take minutes.
All present - there were no apologies.

2. Worship & Prayer

Howard read 1 Thessalonians 3:6-10: Timothy brings Paul encouraging news which gives him much joy. *“What joy does our church bring us?”* The team broke into groups of three to discuss. Suggestions included:

- The Church sustained and not collapsing;
- The excellent Online Church presentation;
- Extending the Church family through online contacts;
- Showing adaptability;
- Outreach continuing at many levels;
- The demonstration of teamwork throughout the pandemic

Members then led us in prayers of Thanksgiving for those and other Joys, for all that has happened despite the pandemic pressures, and for the Holy Spirit to fill this Church and enable us to make greater progress.

3. Declarations of (financial) Interest

None.

4. PCC – 5th January 2021

- a. Approval of Minutes – approved.
- b. Matters Arising from Previous Meetings:

PCC Secretary: David Williams had agreed to take that role.

5. Questions from the PCC & Ministry Leaders’ Update

Encouragement to keep all congregation members informed of progress on opening face to face worship and ministry. It would not be possible to reopen the building for worship on 14th March. But the return of the ‘Rule of Six’ expected on March 29th gives hope that we can meet once again face-to-face on Easter Sunday, April 4th. Estimation of likely demand might mean we run either one (9.30am) or two (9am and 10.30am) services.

HW

6. Future Strategy Team Report

(Report ‘Strategy Process Plan Explained.docx’ previously circulated.)

Lorna had met with Abi, Pip and Andy. They had also received input from David Bush. A video is in preparation for showing at Online Church and to be available through the website. There are six groups of questions to which they would like responses. The team stressed the importance of being inclusive, seeking feedback across the whole congregation so paper-based versions will also be available for benefit of those who do not have online access.

7. Finance.

DC

- a. Approval of Annual Report including Accounts 2020.
David C briefly explained significance of a Transfer of Funds between restricted and unrestricted headings on page 1 of '*Annual Accounts 20 DRAFT 180220.xlsx*' (*document previously circulated*)
Subject to minor amendments, Howard W proposed, and Pip H seconded, that The Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31st December 2020 ('*Annual Report for 2020 (published Apr 2021) Final copy.docx*' *previously circulated*) should be signed off. Unanimously agreed.
- b. 2021 current indicators.
(*PCC Summary Jan_Feb 2021.pdf previously circulated*)
David C advised that during the exceptional year a number of donors have moved or will shortly do so. Others have had to reduce donations. The impact on the current year of these changes implies a worst-case scenario of a £14k reduction to forecast annual income. He also reminded members that some give their annual donation in January which may give a false impression of the flow of income. Although the deficit in 2020 had been only £3k against a larger budgeted shortfall, expenditure would necessarily rise as many lock-down activities return to operating in-person.
Council accepted that the issues should be raised with the congregation.

8. Meeting with bishop, archdeacon, area dean, and deanery PCCs, 8th March

All
PCC

Expectation that about 100 attendees from across the Diocese will hear proposals on restructuring of the deanery in order to reduce Clergy numbers by about 20%. Howard W pointed out difficulty in that Clergy are not employees of the Diocese. Questions invited about the process. All are encouraged to attend the Zoom meeting and to pray for clarity and wisdom.

9. Teams

- a. Personnel: (*n.b. actual discussion deferred to last business to allow Jane, Lorna, Natalie and Pip to withdraw from the meeting. For full minute please see Appendix 2, separate document*)
- b. Building. Nothing to report.
- c. Ministry Leaders. Nothing to report.
- d. Mission Team. Nothing to report.

HW
DC

10. Safeguarding

Howard W read a statement he had prepared, and an extract from an email from Andrew Robinson Chief Executive of the Diocesan Board of Finance.

HW

11. Health and Safety.

(*Report 21.03.01.docx previously circulated*)
Report noted.

12. Any Other Business: None.

13. Dates of next meeting: 11th May 2021 @ 7.30pm.

Howard closed the meeting with prayer at 9.20pm.