

St John's Church, Hove
Minutes of the Parochial Church Council meeting
Monday 22nd November 2021

Present:

Earl Collins (EC) – Vicar	Barbara Bush (BB) – Church Warden
Tom Savage (TS) – Secretary	Mary Thomas (MT) – Church Warden
Andrew Maynard (AM)	Chi Ho (CH) - Treasurer
Isla MacFarlane(IM)	Trevor Beattie (TB)
John Browne (JDB)	Erica Cheung (ECH)
	Sue Davidson (SD)

1	Opening Prayer	Action
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2	Apologies Lisa Godfrey (LG)	
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3	Notification of AOB TS wished to discuss the website.	
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4	Minutes of Meeting on 20 Sep 2021 & Actions from the Previous PCC Meeting The PCC accepted the minutes with no amendments.	
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All other actions completed or covered on agenda items below.

5	Finance <u>5.1- Management Information</u>	
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MT asked what would remain in the Quinquennial fund (currently £11,663) after paying for the Bell works. TB advised that a further c.£6k of costs would need to be incurred to cover the remaining Bell works, after the £3k grant received and £1k grant expected, BB asked if we were happy to use the Quinquennial fund to cover this cost, or if the PCC wished to fundraise. Several PCC members were in favour of fundraising. Using social media, approaching local businesses and setting specific fund raising goals were all methods supported by the PCC.

JBD pointed out the Trinity Trust funds should not be allocated to the Bell costs if the Church is to fund raise for these costs. BB requested the Trinity Trust funds be ringfenced for the Quinquennial costs. CH to action this.

5.2 - 2022 Budget Update & Joint Deanery Treasurers Meeting

MT referred to the recent Hove Deanery Treasurers meeting, where the Diocese stated it's goal for Parishes to contribute 80% of PMC costs by 2024. The target for 2022 is 70%, currently the Church has pledged £23k towards a PMC cost of £49k, 47%. MT asked if the PCC would agree to a further £1k contribution for 2022, and careful consideration of how this could be not only sustained but increased in coming years.

CH advised that currently the Church has £49k in Unrestricted Reserves, well above the 3 month contingency that is required, so that his proposal would have been to increase the 2022 contribution by more than £1K. He also stated that relying only on these funds to meet increasing PMC costs would put the Church in a precarious situation. A serious fund raising effort will be required to meet increased PMC costs year on year.

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TS requested a forecast from CH to illustrate the impact on reserves and deficit of using just the Unrestricted Funds to meet PMC costs to 2024. **CH**

Post-Meeting Note:
Following the circulation of the forecast by the Treasurer, it was agreed that we pay £25k for 2022. CH to update 2022 Budget and advise Church House of revised pledge. **CH**

6 Buildings and Finance

The report was accepted as presented.

7 Covid Arrangements

EC asked that the previously agreed Covid arrangements be revisited by the PCC. The decisions made below will be reviewed at the next PCC (Jan 2022).

The PCC discussed at length the impact of retaining or removing these measures, and the PCC's responsibilities in respect of the congregation. In particular the track and trace register that has been kept for each service was felt to be cumbersome and largely redundant due to the current government legislation. The PCC voted to keep all existing Covid arrangements as they are, apart from:

- Track and Trace register not to be used.
- Social Distancing seating area not to be retained.

These votes were made unanimously apart from disbanding Track and Trace register (1 abstention) and keeping One Way System (7 for, 4 against)

BB asked the meeting what it would expect to see if the Church was notified of a positive case amongst the congregation. It was highlighted that, as we will be without Track and Trace, no action is possible as we will not know who was in Church on any given day.

Post-meeting note;

1. It was agreed that the Church of England Guidance needs to be reviewed and the Risk Assessment updated as a result of this discussion. A member of the PCC will be required to complete this.
2. Following the PCC meeting the Government announced changes in legislation in light of the Omicron variant. To date none of the changes impact the decisions made by the PCC under this agenda item. The PCC will revisit these decisions if required by national or Church of England guidance.

PCC

8 Deanery Synod

The reports of the two latest Deanery Synod Meetings were accepted as presented.

9 Mission Action Planning

BB referred to the priorities agreed at the last PCC and drew attention to the report of good progress being made against them. EC has agreed with BB a date in January for the MAP Group to promote the MAP to the

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whole congregation. JBD asked if local advertising could be used for Church events e.g. Facebook groups. MT confirmed that the Website and local Facebook groups had advertised the recent concert and would be used for future activities.

The immediate actions requiring support from the PCC are the Christmas Raffle and Services.

10 Commissioning a new Lay Minister

The PCC agreed unanimously to the proposed commissioning of Sue Davidson as Lay Minister. The commissioning will be conducted on the fourth Sunday of Advent.

11 Cornerstone

LG was absent so EC updated the meeting on the appointment of a new Diocesan representative on the Cornerstone Board.

EC, MT and BB agreed to meet informally with that representative, Katherine Prior, following her appointment. There were no further updates.

EC

12 Safeguarding

There were no incidents or updates to report. Certification was up to date.

13 AOB

TS thanked ECH for her artwork and advised the website was now fully updated ahead of Advent, and social media channels sharing details.

TS to circulate 2022 PCC dates.

Posters to be displayed outside the Church from the beginning of Advent.

TS

BB

The meeting ended with The Grace at 8.45pm.