



Parochial Church Council Meeting
Via Zoom
Monday 1st June 2020
Meeting starts at 7.30pm

2019/20 PCC Members: Ruth Atkin, Jo Beach, Peter Breckwoldt (Chair), Piers Butterfield, Steve Cornick (Treasurer), Eddie Curry, Nigel Day, Nick Elbourne, Noel Harrison, Ruth Hay, Stuart Hull (Warden), Mike Jones, Paula Jones, Louise Leat, Matt Lee (Curate), Keith Loveless, Gillian Mannouch, David Morgan, Richard Ough, Nigel Paton, James Sharman (Warden), Paul Wareham, Clive Wills.

PCC Secretary: Kathy Zeal

MINUTES

1. Welcome and opening prayers PB

Peter welcomed the members of the PCC to the Zoom meeting and read from Ephesians Chapter 2. The meeting was then opened in prayer.

2. Apologies PB

Apologies were received from Jo Beach, Matt Lee and Nigel Paton.

3. Approval of Minutes of previous Meetings

The meeting scheduled for 23rd March was cancelled due to Covid-19 and necessary approvals were actioned by e-mail. David Morgan raised one point on the January minutes which would be looked into.

4. Matters arising PB

a) **Lighting project.**

This would not be progressed until 2021 at the earliest.

b) **Kitchen project.**

A full discussion followed around the kitchen project as presented by Keith Loveless. One major consideration was the need to create storage space for some kitchen items which were not used regularly. The PCC would have to rethink storage at some point, along with associated risk assessments but no decisions could be made at the moment. It was noted that some members of the PCC were not in favour of the project going ahead in full and an upgrade of cooker and dishwasher only was needed. Other members felt that under the current situation we were embarking on a big project which might not get a lot of use medium term. This was duly noted. The general feeling however revolved around the second loan dishwasher still limping along with additional Health and Safety issues and the fact that regarding St John's Pre-School, the best time to do this work was in the summer holidays. It was appreciated that there was a certain nervousness but S&F Committee members encouraged the meeting that the kitchen work is well covered from reserves whilst the lighting, at twice the amount, would have to wait. 10% funding (£4,000) had already been promised from two Trusts and applications were still in progress with a further appeal to be made to the congregation at some point. The members would have to be aware should there be another lockdown, but the vote to progress this Project would be held in the next PCC Meeting.

5. Finance **SC**

a) **Accounts to date**

Stephen presented the accounts to the end of April 2020. Income has held up and is just ahead of budget. Expenses were £2K below budget and £13K for major building works had also not been spent. The end of month projection showed that there is enough money to cover the kitchen project and have 2 months' expenses in hand.

b) **Items over £1,000**

Rothmans £2,160 23/04/2020

c) **Fund Balances & Any matters requiring attention.**

Stephen Cornick produced the bank balances as at 31/05/2020 which showed total balances of £144,764 compared to £128,528 at 30/04/2020.

d) **Financial Outlook – estimated accounts to 31st May 2020 and beyond. **GM****

Gillian had prepared an estimated Income and Expenses Account to 31st May. The actual will be slightly better. Pre-school had paid the church for hall hire and there were a few one-off amounts received. The projected Income deficit on Budget was about £1,500 but Staff costs and utilities were lower so everything was balancing. Once the Staff were back and there was no longer a Government contribution for furloughed employees plus increased utilities for church usage, expenses may exceed income, so there was a need for caution.

Peter thanked Gillian and Steve on behalf of the PCC for all the work they had put in.

6. **Review of streaming of church services and use of Zoom. **PB****

The general feeling was that the services had been well received and much appreciated by many. There had been a few problems in the early days, but this had been sorted by moving to pre-recordings. The inclusion of the children in worship was very much enjoyed. It was hoped that more people from church could be included although the tight time schedule was recognised. It was acknowledged that it was still a struggle for those with young families and that it could not completely reach the needs of the isolated and vulnerable who required Pastoral work.

7. **Moving forward **PB****

- **APCM**

We would have an APCM as soon as it was legally possible, the meeting could not be held over the internet. The time of office for PCC Members would be extended until this meeting but Peter would accept letters of resignation from those who did not wish to do so. Peter expressed his gratitude to the Church Wardens who have extended their time of service, particularly James Sharman who had come to the end of his official term.

- **Ministry and Re-opening the Church – see Paper by Matt Lee. **PB****

Peter commended Matt's paper on St John's Covid-19 reopening phases to the PCC. It was hoped that we could move into Phase 2 in July and introduce more livestreaming of services, possibly with 10 people in the building. Some pre-recording would still be included. It was hoped that we could introduce musicians but not singers, in Phase 3 and allow a small number of people into church but a stringent cleaning regime would have to be implemented. Beyond Phase 3, maybe teas and coffees could be re-introduced.

Some discussion followed regarding the possibility of Homegroups meeting socially distanced in the building and opening for private prayer. The general feeling for reintroducing children was that they would only return when the whole family could come back together and that was not likely to be until Autumn.

8. Sub-committees - reports

a. Standing and Finance – 18th May 2020 NH

Most items discussed had already been covered in this meeting. Financially the news was good so far but was likely to be more difficult in the second half of the year and the Parish Share is bound to go up. There had been some discussion over job descriptions for staff as further roles may have to be introduced in the light of Covid-19, although many had stepped up already and this had been noted and much appreciated.

b. Buildings Management Group – (No meeting) KL

c. Discipleship – (No meeting) ML

d. Outreach – (No meeting) RH

e. Global Action Team – 6th April 2020 DM

The team was very conscious of needs in the current situation, particularly Streetlight. They are in a good place at the moment but are losing a lot of income. The GAT may have to look at the second distribution this year. It had been good to have video links with many Partners at this time. The Gieskes were back and currently quarantining at the Rynnes. They needed a link person with the church. The team was working on providing Partners with information about who was supporting them.

f. Youth and Children's – (No meeting, next 15th June 2020) LL

g. St John's Pre-School – 23rd April 2020 and 14th May 2020 PB

The minutes of the previous two meetings were presented to the PCC. The Committee were meeting 2nd June to discuss opening Monday, Wednesday and Friday and operating with two teams, one with child contact and one who would clean.

9. Activities requiring approval – none.

10. Any Other Business

It was acknowledged that Peter's sabbatical would not take place this year. No further plans had been made to date.

VOTE OF THANKS

The PCC wish to record a vote of thanks for all those who have been contributing to ministry at St John's in these challenging times.

James Sharman thanked Peter with huge appreciation for all he had done and was still doing at this time. This was echoed by the PCC. James then closed the meeting in prayer.

2020 Meeting Dates

(Via Zoom at 7.30pm) 13th July, 28th September, 23rd November

KAZ 09/06/2020