

ST MARY MAGDALEN, KNIGHTON

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held by Zoom at 7.30pm on 29 October 2020

Present: Revd Adrian Jones (Vicar; Chairman), Revd Matthew Gough, Angelica Amoroso, Sian Howard, Michael Kirk, Andrew Oldershaw, David Palmer, Lorna Pollard, Judith Rudd, Bob Rutland, Nigel Siesage (Secretary), David Stanyer (Treasurer) and Ida Stanyer

The Vicar welcomed new members to the PCC.

1. PRAYERS and REFLECTION

The Vicar led the meeting in prayers and a reflection on Hebrews 13:8.

2. PCC OFFICERS AND BUSINESS

The PCC received a paper by the Vicar and agreed:

- a) That Sian Howard, as the newly elected Churchwarden, should be Vice-Chair of the PCC
- b) That Nigel Siesage and David Stanyer should continue as PCC Secretary and Treasurer respectively. It was noted that Mr Stanyer had indicated his intention to stand down as Treasurer at the next APCM after many years in the role. The PCC noted the importance of identifying a successor in time to effect a smooth handover.
- c) The members of the Standing Committee should be the Vicar, the Treasurer, the Secretary, the Warden and Mr Palmer.
- d) Convenors of Committees/Groups should be as follows:
 - i) Social and Fundraising: Mr Kirk
 - ii) Worship and Outreach: The Vicar
 - iii) Buildings: It was agreed that the title should be altered for clarification to Buildings Group and Parish Centre Management Committee. The Vicar would continue as convenor for the time being. Mr Oldershaw kindly agreed to act as his assistant.
 - iv) Finance: The Treasurer

The Vicar would encourage members of the parish to participate in committees where their experience would be of value.

- e) Other officers:
 - i) Electoral Roll: Eileen McKellican
 - ii) Health and Safety: Simon BrittonOther existing office holders had been invited to continue and their confirmation was awaited.

The PCC welcomed the suggestion that, in the absence of a second formally elected Church Warden, a small group of parishioners should be constituted to act as a Warden Team.

The schedule of PCC meetings with the principal matters of business at each was received.

3. ANNUAL MEETING AND REPORT

The PCC discussed the recent APCM and Annual Report. It agreed that the meeting had been successful and the provision of participation by Zoom had helped to overcome the restrictions on

personal attendance. The form and content of the Annual Report, following the pattern introduced last year, continued to meet with approval.

4. WORSHIP

The PCC considered in detail a paper by the Vicar reviewing the recent arrangements for services during the pandemic; and looking ahead to the pattern of worship which might be followed after restrictions were lifted.

With regard to the present, members expressed their appreciation of the efforts made by the clergy to provide online access to services – both the recording of actual services from church, and the production of shorter pre-recorded acts of worship. It was recognised that the church lacked the facilities and resources to provide a professional presentation of a full live service, though in their present less polished form they did meet a need within the parish. The shorter services had been well-received and were more accessible. The clergy would continue to keep the options under review, possibly focusing efforts on major events and festivals.

With regard to future, post-pandemic worship arrangements, the PCC recognised the desirability of finding a sustainable pattern which both respected the strengths of the parish's established provision and the preferences of the congregation, and allowed for flexibility to help reach potential new worshippers. This called for subtle adjustments to times and to the modes of some services, within the recognised framework, rather than radical restructuring.

The PCC endorsed in principle the approach suggested in the discussion document, recognising that there should now be full consultation within the parish before firm decisions were made. Exploration of the issues should be initiated through an article to be written by the Vicar for the next edition of the Benefice Magazine.

Action AJ

5. CHRISTMAS

The PCC gave preliminary consideration to the services which might be possible during Advent and at Christmas. It was clear that the range of services could not match those normally offered and that the capacity of both churches in the benefice would still be restricted. This inevitably limited ability to engage with those occasional participants in church life, who normally attended only at Christmas.

It was agreed that a card/letter for distribution throughout the parish (or benefice if St Guthlac's participated) should be prepared, and that this would also be an opportunity to draw attention to the spire appeal.

6. SPIRE

It was reported that the work on the spire had been initiated. Scaffolding was being erected and the contractors were at present confident of meeting their April 2021 deadline. Care would be taken to limit access to the churchyard and to provide safety notices.

The spire group had met to consider possible means of continuing the fundraising effort.

7. MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings of the PCC held on 25 June and 17 September 2020 were received and approved.

A modified summary of action points was received. In view of the long period of time since the list was last reviewed, it was agreed that the Vicar would carry out a full update.

Action AJ

8. HEALTH AND SAFETY

There was nothing specific to report. Mr Britton's continued active involvement was warmly acknowledged.

9. SAFEGUARDING

There were no issues to report.

10. REPORTS OF SUB-GROUPS

Buildings and Parish Centre Management: The new Job Support/Furlough scheme was being used. The new floodlights in the churchyard had been installed and arrangements for the new lampposts were in hand.

Worship and Outreach: There had been one informal meeting recently. The group intended to consider the service on the 3rd Sunday at a future meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.40 pm with Grace.

Chairman