

Minutes of PCC Meeting - Monday 13th September 2021

Present: Beverly Watson (chair), Marguerite Barclay, Rob Burch, Ed Gillett, Henrietta Harding, Katherine Hopwood, Robin Holdsworth, Julie Lodge, Simon Moulden, Peter Nicholls, Angela Rose, Jo Smalley, Annie Twidell, Trish Tye (secretary), Andy Wells

Apologies: Rebecca Brown, Rob Crossingham, Simon Doran

1. Approval of minutes

1.1. The minutes of the meeting held on 28th June 2021 were approved.

1.2. We will publish, on the website, the regular times that the church is unavailable for private prayer due to lettings. **Action:** Trish

2. Standing Committee Notes and Approvals

2.1. The notes of 13th July 2021 were noted.

3. Vision Groups

3.1. Finance Vision Group

Beverly presented the six-month accounts.

We have a surplus for the 6 months of £3,634.80 compared to a budget deficit of £2,792.00 – an improvement on budget of some £6,400. The two main categories of expenditure, the Cost of Church Activities and Administration and Running Costs are quite closely in line with the budget figures so it follows that the improvement arises almost entirely from an increase in income over the budgeted figure. The actual total income for the six months was indeed some £6,000 greater than budget (£57,241 compared to a budgeted figure of £51,282).

The greatest difference in income is from church and hall lettings, £11,936 compared to a budget figure of £8,047.

The regular giving sections are also up on budget (£35,909 as opposed to £34,325) but the disparity is much the same as it was in the March accounts.

The transfers to funds (£2,500 for the church and £1,150 for the hall) are not genuine expenses, but transfers to the special funds. The major expenses, when they do arise are set against those funds.

These accounts will be superseded by the nine month, Q3 accounts within two weeks or so of the quarter end.

Rob Burch suggested that the monies being transferred back from the Window and Chair funds, should go into the maintenance funds as they are concerned with the building. **Action:** Finance Vision Group to discuss.

4. Transforming Church Plan

4.1. Focus on Premises

Robin presented an update from the Premises Vision Group.

All Saint's Church is all about its people and the community it serves rather than the building itself. However, our church was built 50 years ago and has received little planned maintenance in that time. Every five years we are inspected by an architect who reports on the state of the buildings to the Diocese.

"Transforming Church" and its goals has given us an opportunity to look more seriously at the building and how in future it could become a focal point in the community. Hence a dynamic plan is drawn up every two years which helps to focus on the building's changing needs. At the same time, day to day issues have to be resolved. You will see from the current plans that it is forward looking and poses some challenging questions.

The upgrading of the Reading Room has just been completed; but will it meet the needs of the community's activities?

Some issues have arisen following the removal of the pews in the church. How and where do we store the excess chairs? Also, the consideration of the potential need for extra toilets which will be accessible for all activities in the church.

We have consulted our quinquennial architect and asked him to design some outline plans to help us with these points. The idea of a three-toilet block will be examined. Similarly, the extension of the rear of the Church Hall will be looked at. This would help to minimise storage in parts of the church e.g. the Chapel. One of the wooden sheds on the field, currently used by Montessori, is being replaced at a cost of around £3k, £1k of which comes from our local Surrey County Councillor.

In the longer term we will be looking again at the Big Picture which may consider improving kitchen facilities and some radical ideas such as finding ways to join the church and hall into one unit. For some of the projects substantial funding will be needed but we are confident that external funds are available.

The Premises Vision Group has six members at present (more volunteers are welcome to join us) and they put in many hours on both day to day problems and considering how to tackle the longer-term tasks. Work mornings have been held throughout the year but we MUST encourage more people to help out on these occasions as the general maintenance tasks are endless.

An ongoing issue has been the subsidence in the Chapel and Library areas. This has manifest itself in structural cracks and alarmingly in the movement of the Chapel window. Continuous monitoring of the crack movements has been taking place over the past two years. The cause of the movements is probably a combination of several things. The clay subsoil is the main candidate. In the dry spells the clay has been shrinking but with water being prevalent it expands. We have just improved the escape of rainwater from the church's roof by replacing a broken underground drain pipe. I have had preliminary talks with an underpinning specialist contractor who estimated that something in excess of £40k would be needed to ensure no more harmful movements.

Of growing aesthetic concern has been the bell tower. We believe that we have stopped the ingress of water through the wooden legs. Unfortunately, the slats are breaking up. Access to repair them presents health and safety problems as does the selection and shaping of the replacement material.

Finally, we need to improve the heat retention in church. With the eco group we are examining alternative heating systems. We are also looking at the glazing in the clerestory windows.

So much to do, But we are driven by the need to make our Church a safe, comfortable and inviting place for the whole community to enjoy.

5. Vicar's Report

Beverly reported on events since Standing Committee:

- We have finished part 7 of the Pilgrim Course and started the final part 8. The course will have run for 48 weeks in total.
- We held a Youth Group BBQ that nine young people attended. It was a good bonding session. We're following it up with a Pizza Night next Sunday.
- The small groups are all up and running. One high point was the Young Adults BBQ on 7th August.
- On 14th August we had Lydia & Sam's wedding, only the 2nd wedding in Beverly's time here. It was a true All Saints event and Beverly gave her thanks to everyone involved.

- On 5th September we saw our first Thanksgiving service in 18 months, followed by the church family picnic.
- The new term has now started and Children's Church is open once again, starting with 12 attending a launch breakfast.
- "Worship Weekly" is the theme for this term. If we all worshipped each week, we would see 150 adults and 50 children in church. Beverly is encouraging the PCC and all leaders to lead by example.
- Planning ahead, we have the Autumn Fayre next Saturday, Queen Eleanor's School assemblies and Dray Court services.

6. Approvals

6.1. Permission to Officiate – Dave Barclay renewal

Proposal: The PCC of All Saints Guildford supports the Vicar, the Revd Beverley Watson, in her request that Mr David Barclay be given Permission to Officiate as a Lay Minister (Reader) in this parish between now and 30th November 2022

Proposed: Beverly Watson; **Seconded:** Henrietta Harding; All in favour

6.2. Lay Pastoral Visitor's Course – Carolyn Nicholls

Proposal: The PCC approve Carolyn Nicholl's attendance at the Lay Pastoral Visitor's Course starting on 16th October.

Proposed: Henrietta Harding; **Seconded:** Julie Lodge; All in favour

6.3. Summary of email approvals

Trish presented a summary of PCC decisions made by email since the last meeting for minuting purposes. See Appendix A.

7. Safeguarding

7.1. Update

Julie reported that training was ongoing and that we're awaiting more courses to be made available. Safer recruitment going well with the help of Carolyn. Joanna Brown has been safely recruited in record time!

8. Meeting Format

A discussion was had concerning the format of future meetings and whether they should be held via Zoom or in person.

It was decided that Standing Committee meetings would be held on Zoom, with PCC meetings being held in person, in the Reading Room. We might choose to hold a PCC meeting via Zoom in the case of inclement weather or if restrictions return.

9. Dates of future meetings

PCC time away – 25th September 2021, Willow Grange 11.30am after Big Questions

Standing Committee – 12th October 2021

PCC – 15th November

PART 2 (*Confidential items*)

(none)

Minutes approved on 15th November 2021

Signed:

Note: The [Parish Safeguarding Handbook](#) is referenced here for your convenience.

Appendix A

PCC Decisions via Email

These PCC decisions have been made via email in the period 8th July to 25th August and will be minuted at the meeting held on 13th September 2021. *Note: we have 17 voting members of PCC.*

Date: 8th July 2021

Proposal:

To hold a Young People's BBQ on Saturday 25th July, 5.30-7.30pm. A Risk Assessment will be written.

Proposed by: Children & Young People Vision Group

For: 13; Against 0.

Date: 8th July 2021

Proposal:

To take a group of young people to the Youth Event with the Archbishop at Christ's College, Guildford on Sunday 26 September at 7pm.

Proposed by: Children & Young People Vision Group

For: 13; Against 0.

Date: 18th August 2021

Proposal:

To hold 'Comedy & Carols' with Paul Kerensa as our Christmas Event:

- The 'Myrrh' option of Paul plus 1 additional supporting act (£600)
- We charge £12/adult and £7/under 18 (ticket to include a drink and mince pie)
- We would aim for 120 ticket sales (subject to risk assessment)
- We would sell additional drinks at the interval from the Reading Room (Temporary Event Notice required from the council, £21)

Proposed by: Events Vision Group

For: 11; Against 0.

Date: 25th August 2021

Proposal:

To support Andy Wells in an application for a place on the Occasional Preacher Training Course, and subsequent authorisation as an occasional preacher (Attendance does not guarantee authorisation)

Proposed by: Beverly Watson

For: 12; Against 0.

Date: 25th August 2021

Proposal:

To support Ellie Wells in an application for a place on the Occasional Preacher Training Course, and subsequent authorisation as an occasional preacher (Attendance does not guarantee authorisation)

Proposed by: Beverly Watson

For: 12; Against 0.
