



Minutes of the meeting of the Parochial Church Council

held on 24th May 2022

Present:

Jeremy Tagg (Chair)	Sybil Andrew
Jackie Barter	Marc Bassot
Julia Cernoch	Lenka Ellman
Sarah Fletcher	Sally Munns
Martin Pinnell	Jeff Seabrook
Penny Seabrook	Philippa Tagg

1. **Apologies** were received from Richard Ford, Annette Pinnell and Louise Stockdale. Jeremy opened the meeting in prayer.

2. **Welcome to new members** – Jackie Barter (Churchwarden) and Julia Cernoch were welcomed to the PCC.

3. **Minutes of the PCC meeting held on 29th March 2022 and matters arising.** These Minutes were approved.

- * **Endowment Fund** - the original paperwork had not yet been located.
- * **Churchwarden** – thanks were expressed to Jackie Barter for stepping in to fill this role.
- * **Maintenance plan** – not yet circulated to the PCC.
- * **Damp wall** – not yet resolved – Jeremy will look into this with possibility of decorating next year.
- * **Wheelchair Access** - sign not yet in place.
- * **War Graves** notice – Jeremy had circulated information and a picture of where it would be placed on the railings by the lychgate. Approved by diocese, no finance involved. Thought will be given as to possibility of indicating where these graves are to be found around the churchyard. The PCC agreed to go ahead and confirmed the location by the lychgate.

Action: find paperwork re Endowment Fund; circulate maintenance plan to PCC (Bill); damp wall (Jeremy); wheelchair access notice (Penny); war graves notice go-ahead.

4. **Standing Committee** – the following were elected to the Standing Committee – Jon Ward, Jeremy Tagg, Jackie Barter, Lenka Ellmann, Martin Pinnell, Sally Munns – proposed by Philippa, seconded by Julia.

PCC Vice-Chairman - Jeremy Tagg elected, proposed by Sybil seconded by Julia.

5. **Finance**

The Finance Sub-Committee's report for the period 16.03.22 to 23/05.22 had been circulated to the PCC, the amount of £943.30 to CCLI for the licence for sound and video being noted.

It was confirmed that monies put in the plate are accumulated monthly and put in the safe before being banked, envelopes go directly to Margaret. We were still not praying over the offerings every week and we agreed that our giving is an important part of our worship. It was suggested that information might be put up on the screen re different ways of giving. Should there be a more obvious notice by the plate? In the meantime, it was decided that it is up to the leader of the service to determine this. The leaders and preachers will discuss this at their forthcoming meeting on 9th June.

6. Churchwardens' update

The Quinquennial will take place on the 22nd June – Sherry Bates together with the 2 churchwardens.

The spotlights in SJs will cost £220 to replace.

The Archdeacon's Visitation will take place in Croydon Minster on 22nd June, 8.00 pm. PCC members are invited.

7. Safeguarding

Sarah Fletcher reported. The Diocese has a new Safeguarding Advisor. DBS checks now have to be undertaken every 3 years instead of 5 – there is some leeway but this involves a lot of work for our Safeguarding Officers! Currently priority is being given to Carrotty Wood (agreed). Information sought for **2019 Self-Audit check** (Sarah has info for 2018). It was verified that there is no C of E update on Safeguarding. It was stressed that checks had to be made at the appropriate level.

Action – Jeremy to check re paperwork on 2019 Self-Audit. Sarah and Michele to work on this item.

8. Inclusion/Diversity Team update

The team continues to find the best way to support youngsters with issues.

At this stage the PCC widened their discussion and the following issues were raised.

Sunday morning meetings for young people – venues need to be flexible depending on numbers; what do young people want; more volunteers needed (Angela about to start new job so her availability will be limited in future) – there was little response from congregation re support; Covid had affected regular attendance; there are other opportunities – e.g. Messy church at St. Mary's; what about uniformed organisations? (Guides would no longer attend parade service).

It was agreed – the team leaders will discuss issues raised; the Diversity team will talk with special needs families.

Action – Journey Together team leaders to discuss issues raised; Diversity team to talk to special needs families

Other comments/suggestions –

Update training for Welcomers

Notices to be up on screen (right font/background important – ask Bill for advice – service leaders will discuss at their meeting on 9th June)

Update information on noticeboard outside

Update all noticeboards in church – better in porch than in baptistry area
More information to be put on website
Information re 8.00 am service to be communicated to everyone (email/churchsuite) – possibly outside too
Is info at SJs always up to date and available? Marc will talk with Jeremy about this

Communication generally needs to be improved so membership is kept fully informed.

Action – as appropriate on issues above

9. Any other business

Could the church be open on some Sunday afternoons this summer? Jackie will discuss with her home group. Volunteers will be needed.

Facemasks – information to be in church and on website. It was confirmed that the 2 rear pews in the north aisle will be reserved for those wanting to wear masks (welcomers to make sure other people don't sit there) Could Margaret be asked to produce some laminated cards?

Coffee - Home groups no longer had sole responsibility for this – others are encouraged to volunteer.

Vision Homes – Jeremy has spoken with Giles Underhill. The plans which included the church hall project have been rejected by Bromley Council – it would seem that more social housing is needed on the site (less profit margin for developers). One thought was to gift an area to the diocese for St. John's to develop. Was there a community use obligation? Martin will look on the planning website and inform the PCC accordingly.

Action – Jackie to discuss with home group opening of church on some Sunday afternoons; information re face masks to be updated; Martin to look on planning website & inform PCC.

10. Next meeting – Tuesday 19th July, 8.00 pm – venue to be confirmed. This will be a discussion meeting, one item being the issue of a Youth Worker.

Signed Date