



Minutes of the Zoom meeting of the Parochial Church Council held on 26th January 2021

Present:	Jonathan Ward, Rector	Sybil Andrew
	Marc Bassot	Christine Blackburn
	Bill Derham	Lenka Ellmann
	Sarah Fletcher	Richard Ford
	Sally Munns	Martin Pinnell
	Jeff Seabrook	Penny Seabrook
	Amber Stockdale	Jeremy Tagg
	Philippa Tagg	Karen Williams

1. Apologies for absence/Prayer

Apologies were received from Sarah Morgan and Annette Pinnell. Jon read from Isaiah 43 and then we had a time of shared prayer.

2. Minutes of the meetings of 9th November, 15th November and 8th December, and matters arising.

Minutes of 9th November - we had supported Tim Gaved's studies for 6 years, not 3.
- As Carol Aldrich had moved away, we no longer had a close family link with Simeon & Gemma, but they were good at providing updates on their work.

approved – proposed Jeremy, seconded Martin

Minutes of 15th November - Sally Munns was not present

approved – proposed Bill, seconded Karen

Minutes of 8th December - clarification of payments to Krupa Emmanuel and Masih Das and Sarita

approved – proposed Sarah, seconded Penny

No matters arising not on Agenda

3. Finance

a. **Finance Sub-Committee report** – confirmation that the Collier Trust grant of £2,500 was for the Families' Worker – thanks to Jeff and Jeremy for their contact.

Generally speaking organisations offering grants were more sympathetic towards

supporting work in the community rather than buildings. With regard to the Lighting project, more concern currently was with Covid. SJs and Children were very community focussed and more support was likely there with Christian organisations.

We might need to task people to pursue these applications.

b. Update on Giving - there is constant change going on, for example Dan and Sarah are moving on, Sybil Nundy, a regular giver, has recently died, we are no longer paying for Learning Leadership. We had received responses from about 26 regular givers following the distribution of the 'finance letter', which amounted to about an extra £10k per year in our income.

Christine will post an update in February newsletter when the January figures will be available. All figures will be with the Accountant at the end of the month.

Jon is following up our Mission partners. With regard to Alyssa and her UCCF mission, on-line learning had affected her role. A possible limited furlough for her was under consideration. She still needs our ongoing support and will send regular prayer updates to Jon. Jon will check on the length of time of her appointment.

Action: Christine to post update in February newsletter and Jon check the length of her appointment.

c. Allocations

A letter had been received from Sara Blackburn. In August she will be taking up a position in Belfast as relay worker to support CUs. This will cost £8,000 per year and any support would be welcome. Although Steve Read will no longer be working in Coney Hall, do we still value his work? A number of people at St. John's continue to have contact with him. We have not yet decided whether to make an allocation to the Bible Society for 2021.

These were points to consider for our 2022 allocations.

4. Wardens' Update

There was not much to report. The diocese had been very slow to respond to the faculty application despite us responding to their queries very promptly. Two funding applications were on hold as they needed faculty clearance.

Re communication with Luke, there was no phone number available but Jeremy will try to find another way of speaking with him, or contact the Archdeacon to hasten things along.

Action: Keep chasing on the faculty for the Lighting Project.

5. 2021 & Mission

Jon spoke about re-starting the process of long-term planning, thinking about what the future might look like as we move out of lockdown.

He is encouraging the Team Leaders to consider questions around the future:

What lessons have we learned from the past 12 months?

What online presence do we want to continue?

How do we resource these decisions – HR and financially?

The PCC will also consider these questions and Jon will send out an article to help stir our thinking. He suggested that at its meeting in March the PCC can tackle these matters.

Action: Jon to send out article.

6. Learning Leadership

Dan moving on is a sign of the success of this project. His moving on will leave some gaps especially with publicity but we've already made moves to fill these. Jonny Faint has been asked to consider joint leadership of the Comms Team with Alexandra. Jon asked members to contact him if they have any suggestions of other people who might benefit/enjoy the LL course.

It was noted that Charlotte has been referred to the DDO, as the next stage of her discernment process.

Dan and Sarah have given a generous financial gift to the church. Please pray for them as Dan takes up his new role as Assistant Pastor at the Neighbourhood Church.

Action: Notify Jon with any suggestions of people to pursue LL.

7. Safeguarding

Sarah is now on the PCC and the Safeguarding report prepared by her and Michele had been circulated to the PCC in advance of this meeting. The Christmas newsletter from the Diocese ruled that all PCC members should have the enhanced DBS check – only 1 person was currently not covered. PCC members are trustees. Michele and Sarah respond to all queries by phone or email.

Thanks were expressed to both of them.

8. SJs Report

There had been a certain "treading water" due to the pandemic.

Jeremy had taken steps to save on heating costs. It was agreed that some research might be needed to work out how best use the system that we have. It was desirable to do this before jumping to purchase a second heater, as we don't want to clutter the place if it can be avoided.

A question was raised as to whether the timing could be controlled by WiFi?

Action: SJ's Team to review issues around the heating system.

9. Inclusion/Diversity Team Update

The team's report had been circulated in advance to the PCC.

There is a certain amount of funding available for installing disabled toilets, but it would require an imaginative architect, who has experience with the issues associated with a church building like ours.

There was some discussion around the interim measure of a stairlift. Penny will look into this further.

Penny confirmed that currently the team was focussing on physical disability, but the remit does go wider. It was noted that St Mary's and St Francis are pursuing 'inclusive church' status and it would be helpful to draw on their experience.

Consideration as to how to help shape culture and attitudes will be a task for the Team.

10. Any other business

It was put on record that Dan is no longer a member of the PCC.

Sally said that the leaflet circulated in the parish during the first lockdown with details of help St. John's could give was very useful. Information re help is on the website. It was confirmed that the phone system is still ongoing.

Marc asked that PCC material be circulated earlier – Jon will ensure.

The carol service was well received – thanks were expressed to those who organised this. There had been close to 800 views. Amber's offer to print off materials for children's activities had appeared on Bill's road WhatsApp group.

The meeting closed with a time of shared prayer with thanks.

The next meeting will be held via Zoom on Thursday 25th February, 8.00 pm

Signed

Date