



Minutes of the meeting of the Parochial Church Council

9th September 2021

Present:	Jonathan Ward, Rector	Sybil Andrew
	Marc Bassot (via Zoom)	Bill Derham
	Lenka Ellmann	Sarah Fletcher
	Richard Ford	Sarah Morgan
	Sally Munns	Martin Pinnell
	Jeff Seabrook	Penny Seabrook
	Amber Stockdale	Louise Stockdale
	Jeremy Tagg	Philippa Tagg

1. Apologies for absence/Prayer

Apologies were received from Annette Pinnell and Karen Williams. As Agata has moved away, she has resigned from the PCC.

Jon opened the meeting by reading some verses from Philemon. We then had a time of shared prayer.

2. Minutes of the meetings held on 7th and 28th June

These were approved and signed. There were no matters arising not on the Agenda.

5. YPFE

a. Report from Amber

Amber's report had already been circulated to the PCC. Thanks were expressed to Amber for all she did during lockdown especially maintaining contacts, much was unseen and maybe not recognised.

Some comments were made about the importance of our ministry to Babies and Toddlers and how to cater for them in the future – perhaps a poster indicating the chapel as a friendly area. Amber said how difficult it had been to ask for support when she hadn't been able to see possible helpers for this age group during the pandemic.

Jon said there was some uncertainty regarding our human resources – an uncomfortable question – and the picture coming out the other side of C19 was not clear. This raised challenges around training, mobilising and equipping and how we enable people to catch a vision for stepping into these roles. It was pointed out that our work in the area of young people was stronger than it was 2 years ago especially with the 14+ age group

b. Appointment of Families' Worker

It was disappointing but not altogether surprising that we had no responses to the advertised role. Three other churches in the diocese also seeking to appoint had experienced the same outcome. The diocese had indicated that it was not because of our JD /the pay being offered – ours was one of the most thorough and professional and offered a good pay level.

We considered the reasons for the lack of response, including the nature of the post, our local situation, as well as the wider recruitment challenges at this particular point in time. There was discussion as to how we might proceed and ways we might adapt the role to widen the net.

It was agreed that Jon will have a conversation with the diocese, to ascertain whether they have any further insight into the situation. The PCC agreed it would be wise to let the dust settle and revisit how we wish to proceed in January.

Jon and Amber will have discussions next week concerning oversight of our current groups and leaders.

Regarding financing of the role, the situation will be explained to those who still give specifically to the Families Worker role, rather than into General Funds.

3. Finance update

The PCC had received the Sub-Committee's report for the period 6th June to 6th September 2021. It was explained that "Sum Up" referred to online giving. Sunday collections should be resumed shortly preferably in a non-contact way.

Parish Pledge – it was agreed that we will propose the sum of £85,000 (an increase of £2,000).

4. Sunday services

As from this Sunday, 12th September, it was agreed that there be 2 services – 8.30 a.m. (a reflective communion service with readings/sermon from the Lectionary – the blue books will be used), and 10.30 am till noon at the latest – much like our pre-Covid 10.00 am service.

Coffee will be served 10.00-10.30 (the old rota will be re-instated and Jon will make sure the coming Sunday is covered). We will still be asked to wear masks and observe social distancing. We will look to reinstate Prayer ministry at some juncture. Young people will not be asked to wear masks but they will be invited to sit in the choir stalls. Risks will be discussed with their leaders, also whether they were comfortable with this arrangement. It was agreed that live-streaming is not appropriate for us. An online service will still be posted with some music added.

A question was asked as to whether a weekly newssheet would be reinstated – which is particularly helpful to visitors. Jon explained that he could see the arguments for this, but currently doesn't have the capacity to produce one weekly.

6. Teams Update

Jon spoke on this. The Prayer, Mission and Care Teams continue as before, Youth was covered by Amber,

the Communications Team is redundant – Dan has moved on and Alexandra has just given birth to her second child, Barbara and Martin have stepped down from the Worship Team but we have a very strong music group.

Jon explained that a leadership discussion on the future of Teams will have to come. In time, decisions will have to be made as to whether we want to lay the original vision to rest, adapt it, etc. Currently, the existing Teams were operating okay and it was felt that this discussion was best had when we have emerged further out of the situation of the past 18 months.

7. Wardens' Update

Bill and Jeremy are meeting with the lighting team tomorrow to finalise. They are generally satisfied with what has been done. There are pigeons in the roof and the benches outside need revarnishing. The wiring from the organ is OK and the wiring to the organ has been replaced. Jon felt that the lighting generally was very effective. Redecoration of the church will happen in due course.

8. Safeguarding

There had been no incidents so it was just business as usual, updating DBS clearances and doing risk assessments for venues where the youth groups will be held.

9. Inclusion/Diversity Team update

Penny reported, with regret, that Agata would be leaving the team – (great insights and wonderful note-taking). She had met with the Architect with regard to the possibility of an accessible toilet. Some suggestions had been put forward for a larger extension by the back door to provide more toilets and a better kitchen. The archdeacon of Croydon is meeting with Penny next month to see the situation re the toilet, also to see the church for the first time and hear about the Inclusion group in which she is very interested. Penny has also been in touch with the Torch trust about caring for people with sight problems before and after services.

Penny has asked that information re Events be passed through the Inclusion group.

10. SJs Update

Jon reported – the team consists of Richard Cienciala, Jeremy and Felicity. Margaret helps with administration. There are 2 posts to fill in the team – one to monitor regular maintenance of the premises; one to replace Heather – to cover the mission and vision for the centre.

Jon will think on this – **please pass on any ideas to Jon.**

Jeremy reported that activities are starting up again – home group, prayer meeting, hearing aid clinic, Amber CPC. Contact will be made to those who used to use the centre – e.g. police. There will be a new Monday afternoon session for those who are lonely – can this be dovetailed with the foodbank drop off? Jeremy will speak with Hazel who brings food from St. Francis on a regular basis.

The screen requires someone to oversee the updating.

11. Any other business

People find the dishwasher in the kitchen very difficult to use – Dawn had been taking cups home to run through her own dishwasher. Bill will investigate.

12. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on 23rd November 2021.

Signed

Date