



## MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

held on **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2020** at 7.00pm via Zoom

**Present:** The Revd Sean Semple (Chairman), Anne Morris, Janet Cooper (Churchwarden), Freda Davies, Bryan Jones, Roy Milnes (Treasurer), John Setchfield (Churchwarden), Keith Richards, Mark Sanderson (Deanery Synod), Paul Eward (Deanery Synod), Peter Reynolds, Rachel Lewis (Secretary) and Tim Waters

**1. Opening prayers**

The Rector welcomed everyone and then began with a prayer.

**2. Apologies**

to receive and accept apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Christine Cattnach, Caroline Pascoe and Cllr Rob Taylor.

Fiona Barnaby has tendered her resignation from the Deanery Synod and therefore also the PCC.

**3. Chairman's welcome**

The Rector had already welcomed everyone.

**4. Co-option of Mrs Tiffany Jackson to the PCC**

to co-opt Tiffany, our curate, to the PCC

Proposed: The Rector

Seconded: Paul Eward

Unanimous

**It was resolved to co-opt Tiffany Jackson to the PCC**

**5. Closed Churchyard**

Cllr Taylor had sent his apologies and said that he had nothing to report.

**6. Minutes of the last meeting** (circulated prior to the meeting)

to approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Proposed: Tim Waters

Seconded: Janet Cooper

Unanimous

**It was resolved that the minutes of a meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2020 be accepted as an accurate record.**

*7.05pm John Setchfield joined the meeting*

**7. Mission**

- i) to receive a report from the Rector and agree the proposals contained in it
- a) The PCC received the report.
- b) Proposed: The Rector  
 Seconded: Mark Sanderson Unanimous  
**It was resolved** that St Mary's Vision Statement – "growing, inclusive, intergenerational churches inspiring faith, hope and love in our communities" be adopted as the Vision Statement of the Ross Benefice. Walford PCC had agreed to the adoption of this vision statement, and at their next PCC meeting, Brampton Abbots would be asked to consider also adopting it.
- c) Proposed: The Rector  
 Seconded: Bryan Jones Unanimous  
**It was resolved** to use "The Ross Parishes" as the public name for the benefice, and for websites, email addresses etc to reflect this rebranding.

7.15pm *Keith Richards joined the meeting*

- d) Members looked at various pictures of the proposed logos and after discussion a final draft would be brought to the next meeting for approval.
- e) Proposed: The Rector  
 Seconded: Freda Davies Unanimous  
**It was resolved** that Digital Ministry become a distinct PCC portfolio, convened by Mark Sanderson, and for a budget to be created for it.
- ii) to receive a report from the Intergenerational Missioner  
 The report was noted. Members were pleased with the way so many activities had been continuing digitally in spite of lockdown.

**8. Finance**

to receive a report from the Treasurer

The report was accepted.

The Treasurer highlighted the importance of planned giving, especially the Parish Giving Scheme which ensures there is an income whether or not people can come into church for services.

Digital giving was discussed together with the use of the PayPal button which is being used more and now gives an option to specify what the money is for (e.g. a particular fundraising event). It is hoped further research will ensure that Gift Aid is being added by PayPal where appropriate. It was agreed to put a QR codes in the church to encourage visitors to give using their phones.

Fundraising was down on previous years, mainly due to the Flower Festival not having taken place.

The Budget report showed a deficit for the first half of the year.

Richard Jones, the Diocesan Parish Giving Advisor, will be running a meeting for treasurers on 13<sup>th</sup> August (via Zoom) to discuss the Parish Giving Scheme. Roy Milnes, Paul Eward and Mark Sanderson hope to attend.

The Treasurer would check that a streaming license had been added to our existing CCLI licence.

**9. PCC Structure**

to receive and consider a report from the Rector

A 2020 Vision Implementation document had been circulated prior to the meeting. It outlined a realisation of our vision following the APCM, by asking PCC members to each take on one of nine aspects of mission described in the document. Each PCC member would support, encourage and monitor the implementation of their key mission focus area with others in the church and report back to the PCC on progress, needs and opportunities.

There was some discussion and concern that some people might be put off joining the PCC. However, in the main, members felt that this concern was outweighed by the potential it offered to the church.

We need to establish how many places there are on the PCC and create a final list of the various portfolios. Anyone one with an interest in a particular area should talk to Sean.

**10. St Mary's Church building works**

to receive a report on progress from John Setchfield

Work on phase 3 has now begun and is on schedule. The final job remaining from phase 2 (completing the infilling of the metal grills) has begun and should be completed shortly.

There was disappointment that the Town Council had not agreed to pay for the renewal of the paths to the north and west of the church by the church's builders and concern as several people had fallen due to potholes. The builder had quoted £15,000 to carry out this work. It was suggested that the PCC write to the Town Council again with details of the urgent repairs needed in order that some work could be done. It was agreed to get a quote from the builder to refurbish the path from the Chancel Door to the North Door to link the two new areas.

The Rector thanked Janet and John for their time in meeting up with both with the architect and the builders.

**11. Church Cleaning Strategy**

- i) to note that Janet Cooper will have a discussion with the volunteers who have offered to help with cleaning the church to agree a strategy for church cleaning for the next six months after which time it will be reviewed.

Not enough volunteers had come forward yet to be able to maintain sufficient cleaning. Janet was unsure if everyone had read the newsletter where her plea for volunteers and/or contributions towards the cost of cleaning could be found. It was agreed that the congregations would be reminded of the newsletter in the notices on Sunday morning.

There were some who felt that we should not be considering volunteers but paying for professional cleaning and finding a way of raising the necessary funding. There was also concern that we should not refuse offers of help from people who were wanting to clean the church as part of their mission.

It was also suggested that perhaps the cleaning be split between volunteers and a professional, with each taking on specific tasks (e.g. volunteers doing intermittent cleaning, especially while Covid is still active and a professional undertaking regular specific tasks).

- ii) to agree that, in the event that the group feels that a professional cleaner should be brought in to help, the PCC gives authority to the Standing Committee to engage a suitable person, bearing in mind that the cost will be a minimum of £10 per hour and a maximum of £80 per week (to include equipment and materials) for a cleaning firm to do all the cleaning.

Proposed: Janet Cooper

Seconded: Freda Davies

13 in favour, 1 abstention

**It was resolved** to authorise the Standing Committee to employ a cleaner/cleaning company for a maximum of £80 a week if the volunteers agree that they are no longer able or that they require some additional help to clean the church.

## 12. Fund Raising

to receive a report from the fundraising committee

The report was noted.

## 13. Friends of St Mary's

to note that Laurence John will be giving a live streamed organ recital in St Mary's on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30pm with donations going directly to St Mary's.

Thanks were expressed to the Friends for organising this event.

John Setchfield reported that we were still waiting for final approval of the faculty for the floodlights. The consultation period had expired with no comments and the Chancellor had been notified of this.

## 14. Safeguarding

to receive a report and agree any actions arising from it

The report was noted

## 15. Health and Safety

to receive a report and agree any actions arising from it

The report concerned issues in the Church Hall.

i) Proposed: Rachel Lewis

Seconded: Tim Waters

Unanimous

**It was resolved** to authorise the Standing Committee to agree to fund a replacement kitchen window sill in the hall once it received an estimate for the work.

ii) Proposed: Bryan Jones

Seconded: Roy Milnes

Unanimous

**It was resolved** to approve the expenditure of £216 for replacement elements in Hall heaters.

iii) Proposed: Bryan Jones

Seconded: Freda Davies

Unanimous

**It was resolved** to authorise the Standing Committee to accept the best quotes for the scaffolding/painting of the Hall window frames.

iv) Proposed: Peter Reynolds

Seconded: Tim Waters

Unanimous

**It was resolved** to give Bryan Jones a permanent float of £250 for minor repairs to the Hall.

## 16. Date of next meetings

The APCM will take place on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September at 7.00pm in St Mary's Church

The meeting closed at 8.32pm with the Grace