

**Parish of the Resurrection, Alton**

**Minutes of Parochial Church Council – Monday 13th June 2022**

**The Church of the Holy Rood, Holybourne - 6.00 pm**

**Present:** Revd Andrew Micklefield (AM) Chair, Colin Aiken, Treasurer (CA), Alan Armstrong (AA), Matthew Bayliss (MB), Angie Briggs (AB), Derek Gurney (DG), Robin Kemp (RK), Sarah Neish (SN), Lisa Hillan (LH), Clive Muller (CM) & Helen Walters (HW)

**Apologies :** Revd Wendy Burnhams, John Vivian, Tori Hewitt, Elspeth Mackeggie-Gurney, Revd Gordon Randall

**In attendance:** Sue Hubbard (Minute Secretary) Philippa Penfold (Parish Administrator)

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|  | | **Action** |
|  | **The meeting opened with a reading and prayer.** |  |
|  | **Conflicts of interest**  DG – Resurrection Furniture. LH – The King’s Arms. Noted. |  |
|  | **Welcome to new Church Wardens**  Helen Walters and Clive Muller recently elected as Church Wardens were welcomed to the meeting. |  |
| **1** | **Minutes of 21st March 2022**– agreed as correct record and signed by Chair |  |
| **2** | **Matters arising**   * The Baptism policy agreed and on website. * 2 new card machines had been ordered and new QR codes in place. Suggestion of highlighting to wedding parties for orders of service and/or on Parish Matters to improve profile. * EMG had met with Tony Willman and Will Nesbitt to prepare for the organ restoration. It had been agreed to next seek a view from external consultants. | AM  EMG |
| **3** | **Election of Vice Chair, Hon. Treasurer and Minute Secretary for PCC**  The following were duly proposed and seconded, and then appointed:  Derek Gurney – Vice Chair  Colin Aitken – Hon. Treasurer  Sue Hubbard – Minute Sec |  |
| **4** | **PCC Groups**  Executive Group  This group needed a new Chair. It acted as a Standing Committee, was a Church Warden forum and dealt with Buildings in particular.  Local Church Groups  One for each church building, responsible for looking after fabric and maintenance.  Admin. and Finance  Needed more hands. DG nominated HW & EMG, who had both accepted to join the group to work alongside CA, Peter Johnson, DG, TH and AM  Community Outreach  Consisted of RK, WB, AM, SN, BN, HW  Worship and Spiritual life – comprised Ministry team, also covers Pastoral Support group  Children youth and families – Robin Lees, RK, LH, Sue Burrows – reports into PCC. Noted: Safeguarding on PCC agenda every time & also each group. Others can be called in on specific things from time to time, e.g. Safeguarding Officer.  Brief report from each local church group:   1. St. Peter’s. The painter may not be able to fulfill the contract due to staff shortages. Ready to respond on service patterns. 2. St. Lawrence. Discussion on timetable for review of service patterns, as it needed to be dealt with in a timely way, whilst giving people the opportunity to reflect and respond. **AGREED** that people should have the opportunity to respond/discuss and that the timescale of the 12/9 PCC meeting was in place. MB requested sight of appropriate statistics to support the decision making, i.e., declining or growing numbers. 3. AS. Ready to respond on service patterns.   Brief Report from Admin and Finance:   1. A meeting had been held last week. The Treasurer had issued a full report dated 13th June to the PCC on the current position. The monies in the account were fairly healthy at this stage. Noted that the VAT claim had been submitted. 2. DG was pleased that CA was continuing as Treasurer. 3. MB raised the issue that the final accounts had gone to the APCM without being first seen by either Admin and Finance or the PCC. This had been due to delays by the external examiner. 4. There should be an annual up-lift to fees and charges. 5. Noted that banking of cash was problematic, (bank closures and cash non-acceptance) 6. Policies are now completed, thanks to Peter Johnson, who had also commenced the confidential process of reviewing administration. | Church  Wardens  Parish  Admin    SN  AM  DG/CA |
| **5** | **Talking Jesus Report**  The Report (published every 5 years) is undertaken by Alpha, the Evangelical Alliance, Hope Together, Kingsgate Community Church and the Luis Palau Association. AM felt it was a really good basis for discussion as it comes from good organisations and asks good questions. He particularly pointed to the summary at the conclusion of the 38-page document.  A broad ranging discussion took place, some of the key points were:   * 53% of non-Christians know a practicing Christian, (fewer than in 2015) * 48% of the population describe themselves as Christians * Whether we are catering for the needs of our population, and especially the needs of black and ethnic groups. Should we connect in a more dynamic way? * Following on from this, what do we know about our population? What percentage is non-British white? * What is the appeal of Church here, in some countries it is part of their life in a different way to here. * The need to focus around families and the young. (should we consider Messy Church or similar). Is the issue more about families than race? * A high percentage of people (75%) who are Christians, were so in their childhood, which makes the young people focus more important. * The age group 18 to 24 are happier to share their faith with others than was the case formerly. How are we being encouraged to show our faith? * Should we consider how we have changed things in the past year following the work of the Futures Group? Any change may require training, willingness to be outward-looking and flexibility. * Growth tends to be taking place in Pentecostal and Evangelical churches, although accepted that Covid may well still have an effect. * The King’s Arms was felt to be working well on this agenda. (Should we have an intern?) * People may not go to Church because they don’t understand it. Therefore, they need to be introduced to the church in a different way, e.g. coffee groups, etc. * Perhaps we should be providing variety, not everyone wants a communion service. * It’s important to keep churches open, as many people visit, often young people. Should we consider more welcoming documentation, e.g. prayer cards. (a screen may be more user-friendly) * Should we thinking about Christianity in less conventional terms, i.e. how do modern-day issues like Rwanda relate?   **AGREED:** All these issues interrelate, and should be fed into the service pattern discussion, as should the discussions from the Futures Group. |  |
| **6** | **Youth children and family worker**  AM had issued a report on the future of the Youth, Children and family worker role, that included:   * More time was needed * What support/supervision does this role require (LH not now line manager) * Would we have financial support to enable more hours to be funded \* see below * Noted that relationships are good * Should a fixed term contract be agreed. * What partnership arrangements should be made with Kings Arms? * £26,780 would need to be found for a 35 hour a week contract   \*Finance could be obtained from:  Grant from RF - £10,000 (what was the basis for this?)  Combination of funding from Marshall Trust and St. Lawrence Trust - £5,000  BLS/Rural Ministries Charity - £5,000  POTR/Parish Mission Action Plan Fund - £6,780 = £26,7808  It was felt that it was an important priority. Consideration should also be given to the person in this role being on the PCC to support the views of young people.  **AGREED**   1. To look at the ways we could improve our support and management of Martha, including more clarity on the role (Job description), where she could get help with skills and to clarify accountability. 2. The Children, Youth and Families group should work through how they would support Martha, e.g., who was her line manager, etc. 3. AM would check the employment law position, for a 1 year contract with the opportunity of extension. 4. Given that the King’s Arms would need a quick decision on the way forward, an Extraordinary PCC (single item) would be arranged for **Tuesday 28th June at 6.00 pm** to make a decision on moving forward. Prior to that AM/LH/RK would meet. 5. The complete plan would be put to the PCC at its September meeting. |  |
| **7** | **Busy Bees and the Parish Centre proposal**  Matthew Baylis had circulated a full report prior to the meeting that included an Executive Summary, details of the current arrangements with BB, the draft financial proposal that had been discussed with them, their response and a Proposal for the PCC review. There were a number of factors, but it was noted that the basis of the discussions had been how both parties could work together to ensure an arrangement that benefitted both. The issues included:   * How cleaning would be organised * How utilities would be paid * Security of tenure * Use of the hall by parish events * Signage * Car parking entitlement * Lease arrangements – a 3 year lease was suggested * Business rates   **AGREED:**   1. Discussions would continue discussions with the recommendation of a lease for 3 years (multiple hire agreements run the risk of security of tenure), that BB would have exclusive use between 8.00 am and 5.00 pm on weekdays, (excluding the shared areas), and exclusive use of car parking during these times. 2. POTR would have exclusive use of the building and car parking from 5.00 pm on a Friday to Monday at 8.00 am. 3. There would be an increase in rate in year 2, then again in year 3. 4. BB would pay for utilities each month, a set amount based on days of exclusive use. 5. BB would undertake the cleaning, but following any use at the weekend by parish groups, they would be responsible for their cleaning.   Thanks to MB for his work on this item. |  |
| **8** | **Move of Parish office to All Saints Hall**  Philippa Penfold had circulated a report to the PCC in advance of the meeting, that included costs, a detailed proposal and issues such as storage space, cleaning, roof space, telephone, and the actual move. The detailed action plan with costings was included.  **AGREED** that this project would continue as per the proposal.  Noted: that the lease with the Butts Church was with their solicitors, but since they are already paying £1,000 a month, there was no urgency on the matter.  **The meeting concluded with prayers at 8.30 am.** |  |

**APCM** next meeting currently scheduled for 12th September.

**Note further dates:**

10th November 2022

16th January 2023

8th March 2023

25th April2023 (APCM)

SH/14/6/2022