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**Parish of the Resurrection, Alton**

**Meeting of Parochial Church Council – Thursday 9th February 2023**

**All Saints Church Hall - 6.00 pm**

**Present:** Revd Gordon Randall (GR) Chair, Alan Armstrong (AA), Sarah Neish (SN), Angie Briggs (AB), Derek Gurney (DG), Clive Muller (CM), Helen Walters (HW), Robin Kemp (RK), Matthew Bayliss (MB) Craig Stolten (CS)

**Apologies:** Revd Wendy Burnhams, John Vivian, Lisa Hillan, Tori Hewitt, Revd Andrew Micklefield

**In attendance:** Ellie Elder (Assistant Parish Administrator)

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|  | | **Action** |
|  | **The meeting opened with prayers.** |  |
|  | **Conflicts of interest**  None. |  |
| **1** | **Minutes of the last meeting – 10th November 22**  Agreed.  Matters arising:  It was decided that the PCC does not need a replacement for Elspeth Mackeggie Gurney but that a discussion is needed about having another Deanery Synod member on the PCC. |  |
| **2** | **PCC Groups**  Executive Group: This had not met for over six months. The next executive meeting will be incorporated into the next PCC meeting in order to sign off the budget. 3rd April is the next scheduled date.  Local Church Groups  *St Lawrence* – Vandalised glass was replaced but then within days more glass panels were broken which will need to be replaced. Repair is in progress. Simon Goddard is instructing a company called Sunrise to carry out the work. CM painted the POD. CM to look into restarting the St Lawrence monthly working party. Reported that lighting had been completed bar one minor issue for CM to sort.  *St Peters* – Work on the roof will begin after Easter. As suggested by the tree surgeon, ivy has been removed from the chestnut tree, cut right back so should now die off. Ivy was also cleared from the beech tree. The working party continue to meet three times a year.  *Church of Holy Rood* – In March the vestry will be stripped back to remove the bees which have taken over a lot of the area. New shelving has been put up in the cupboard in the main church. HW looking at costings of new efficient boilers. The church wall needs repairing as is falling down and has an ivy issue. A quote of £3000 a year to maintain the wall has been received but agreed this is too expensive. DG to send HW and AA some information on Community Assets grants. HW to contact Simon Goddard about the fabric issues for his guidance and advice.  *All Saints* – A lighting survey has been carried out and a plan is in place. CM to follow up.  **Finance & Admin Report**  *Induction pack*. AB to give HW her copy of the Churchwardens Handbook. PP/EE to check if churches still need log books. Agreed that the Executive Group will be in charge of sorting out the induction pack. Note for this to go on the next Executive Group’s Agenda.  *Utility Contracts* Colin keeping track of energy accounts. Figures currently suggest we should switch energy contracts to a new 12 month contract with a cost saving of £30,000 with no penalty clauses for leaving our current 12 month deal. **Agreed:** Once CS and CA have confirmed the figures they can go ahead and switch contracts without further PCC discussion.  HW would like to have a discussion on using a Green Energy supplier on a future agenda.  *Budget*. Draft budget had been circulated for all to read. CS to discuss with CA some of the projected figures in the budget as some costs seem unusually high eg St Lawrence hall from £500 to £7000. MB emphasized that this figure needs to be accurate as Busy Bees will be paying the majority of this amount. Churchwardens advised to thoroughly read the budget and challenge any figures in the budget before 8th March where the budget will be signed off.  *Policies:* Office to create a process for policy review date reminders. HW suggested that everyone should take responsibility for a policy. Agreed that Executive Group to take responsibility for certain policies. RK to take on the Children & Communication policy which is due for review in March 2023.  PCC members to take the Environmental Policy away to read and reflect on and bring back as an agenda item for a future meeting.  *Administration Review*. Agreed that a smaller task force would be set up to lead this. Action: Exec Group to nominate MB to lead the group at the next meeting on 3rd April.  HW is having an in-person meeting with Bishop David about additional funding/hours resulting from Andrew becoming Area Dean. Anyone is welcome to accompany HW. Clerical wellbeing needs to be a priority.  *Community & Outreach:* Merry Opera to take place in April but still negotiating prices. Lent lunch donations to go to Karamoja. Travelling Gap lunch in Beech will remain on 15th July. Away Day date still needs to be finalized. Martha will be running games and a stall at the Alton Village fete on 15th July and will need volunteers. The wine event has been cancelled. | CM  HW  DG  CM  HW  CA/CS/HW  CS/CA  AA/SN/AB/CM/JV/HW  PP/EE/RK  All  HW |
| **4** | **Charitable Giving for 2023**  This will be put on the agenda for the next meeting as running over time. |  |
| **5** | **Eco Church**  PCC agreed that we should invite a member of the Eco Church team to the next PCC meeting to brief us on Eco Church progress and will help PCC in agreeing the Environmental policy |  |
| **6** | **Update on Busy Bees Lease**  **Busy Bees:** MB received an email from the solicitor stating that the Parish Centre has a restricted covenant that the building can only be used for Ecclesiastical purposes. This means that we can only set up a three year hire agreement NOT a lease. The risk with hire is Busy Bees could claim security of tenure. PCC agreed that a three year hire agreement was the only option so would pursue this and continue to maintain a good relationship with Busy Bees. | MB |
| **7** | **Review of Christmas**  Everyone agreed brilliant turnouts at all the Christmas Services. Need to cater for extra Christingles next year as St L ran out this year. Special mention that Sue Dell’s Christmas party was a great success. |  |
| **8** | **AOB**   1. **Deanery Synod** It was confirmed that PCC are invited to attend Deanery Synod meetings. MB to share agenda so PCC can ask to add to the agenda and can input ideas. Next one is on clergy wellbeing. DG to email ToR to PCC. **Action:** put Deanery Meetings on agenda of PCC meetings 2. **Frequency of PCC Meetings** PCC proposed to increase the number of PC meetings to 10 a year (excluding August and December). Proposed that every other meeting has a focal point for more in depth discussion such as Eco Church, Mission donations. 3. Same Sex marriage blessings in church. RK suggests this should be discussed at a future PCC meeting. 4. Keith Arrowsmith Oliver submitted a burial plot request. He thinks this was brought to PCC in 2016 but cannot see evidence of a faculty application so is submitting a new one. He has a grave plot number already. PCC agreed request. | MB/DG |
| **9** | The meeting concluded with prayers at 7.45 pm. **Date of next meeting – 8th March 2023** |  |

**EE 13/02/23**