

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Distribution: |  |  |
| Mr K Croxton – Chair M & O | Ms V Hughes - co-opted PCC | Revd W Pearson-Gee – Rector |
|  | Mr T Jones – PCC (Chair of Fabric) | Mrs L Piper - PCC |
| Mr M Evans – Church Warden | Ms B Jeremy-Deanery Synod  Mr R O’Connell - PCC | Mr M Roskell – PCC  Mr B Roskell- PCC (Head of Stewardship) |
| Mrs P Fox – Deputy Warden  Mr J Grinyer - PCC | Mrs P Mason-Evans - PCC  Mr H Morten - PCC (Head of | Mrs P Stanton-Saringer – Deanery Synod |
| Mr M Hailey – Church Warden | Finance) | Mr H Stolze - PCC |
| Mr P Hirons – Diocesan/ Deanery Synod | Mr A Miscampbell - co-opted PCC Ms R Newell – Deanery Synod | Staff Team  Notice Board |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **MEETING OF:** | | | Buckingham PCC | |
| **DATE & TIME:** | | | Tuesday 17th November 2020 at 7.30pm via Zoom | |
| **PRESENT:** | | | Revd. W Pearson-Gee (Chair), Mr M Evans, Mrs P Fox, Mr J Grinyer, Mr M Hailey, Mr P Hirons, Mrs V Hughes, Mr T Jones, Mrs P Mason-Evans, Mr A Miscampbell, Mr H Morten, Mrs R Newell, Mr R O’Connell, Mrs L Piper, Mr B Roskell, Mrs P Stanton-Saringer, Mr H Stolze, Mr David Squibb.  Mrs H Grimditch (Secretary) | |
| Item |  | | Action |
| **1** | **Opening Prayer** | |  |
|  | The meeting opened with a prayer led by Revd W Pearson-Gee. | |  |
| **2** | **Apologies for Absence** | |  |
|  | Michael Roskell gave his apologies due to work commitments and Will for Beth Jeremy. | |  |
| **3** | **Approval of minutes of PCC meeting held on 15th September 2020 and Matters arising** | |  |
|  | Mr Mike Evans proposed  Mr Paul Hirons seconded.  The minutes were approved as an accurate record of the meeting held on 15th September 2020. | |  |
| **4** | **Correspondence** | |  |
|  | None | |  |
| **5** | **Nomination of AOB** | |  |
|  | Thank you to Mrs P Mason Evans for her service to the PCC. | |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **6** | **Welcoming New Members:** The most recent members to the PCC were welcomed by WPG, Deputy Warden Mr David Squibb (PCC) who spoke to the Committee of his delight to be back and Mr Gerry Causer and Beth Jeremy (DS Reps;) Gerry, recently retired from being a policeman for 30 years, spoke of how different it all is now compared to his last time of serving on the PCC. All are looking forward to serving on the PCC. | Action |
|  |  |  |
| **7** | **Introduction to new members on how the PCC and SC function** |  |
|  | Will Pearson-Gee introduced the rest of the Committee to Gerry and David and described the roles that certain members hold within the PCC. |  |
| **8** | **Proposal for Pastoral Reorganisation:** |  |
|  | Looking at the papers circulated with the agenda Will talked to the committee through the latest Diocesan Proposal for the reorganization of the parishes and confirmed that the parish of Radclive is still the responsibility of BPC. |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| **9** | **Side Chapel Project** – agree or not to concertina screen – Tim Jones |  |
| **9.1**  **9.2**  **9.3** | Tim was able to update the committee on the current scene in the side chapel and show us all some photos. He explained that there are a lot of electrical cables everywhere, the panelling has been cut in half, a shelf will go on top of this shortly and the current plain window will be taken out and replaced by the stained glassed window from the kitchen. However, in taking part of the panelling away the workmen uncovered some deterioration of the lime plaster behind the panelling in the far right hand corner. This has been caused by unknown damp in that corner but apparently this corner is notorious for being the most impacted by weather and so it should be no surprise really that moisture has come in from the damaged stonework outside. This in addition to the historic water damage caused from a (now repaired) leaking gutter over the flat roof above makes it all the more obvious, but such a discovery will of course add to the cost.  There has been a delay with the moving of the stained glass window as the gentleman responsible for this has been ill in hospital on heavy medication. Tim is still keen to wait for this particular gentleman as he mended the burglary- affected window so well.  Paul Hirons asked where the plaque would be going but Tim and others said this has yet to be decided, ‘work in progress’. Tim pointed out that many things had been found down the back of the panelling including an old photo of the church which someone has since taken away to reframe so it can be displayed again. | TJ |
|  |  |  |
| **9.4**  **9.5** | The Concertina Screen will cost some £2000 and could be delayed if money was tight. Tim suggested that if we now have to pay more with regard to the damp corner we could delay the creation of this screen for a while if cash flow is an issue- although this would not be ideal.  Harry reassured everyone that there is money in the legacy pot and the stonework estimate is less than expected. PCC agreed to commission the screen and proceed as planned.  WPG thanked Tim profusely for his massive input into all the work done to date. | Action |

**10** **Feedback from Diocesan Synod – Paul Hirons- verbal**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Paul attended the Synod Meeting, the address was by the Bishop of Oxford and was very thoughtful, particularly around the area of the importance of a good work/life balance. The Bishop talked of caring for the leadership of the church particularly, with references to a new report on this and other information totaling 200 pages! Vicars going off with stress was talked about and the importance of the responsibility of the congregation looking after the vicar’s wellbeing.  The Budget was talked through by Mr Pilkington, an ex-director of an accountancy firm so he was good on the big picture but not so good on the detail, however he confirmed that giving has kept at a good level despite the bad times experienced recently.  . |  |
|  |  |  |
| **11.**  11.1 | **Sub- groups Reports:**  **a)Standing Committee (WPG)**  Re Furloughing until the 3rd December. There will be some ‘trimming’ ie part time work / voluntary furloughing for some members of staff who cannot work easily without children/ people being in church. Will has been liaising with Vicky and Pam regarding this but some staff have approached Will to reduce their hours for the said period. |  |
|  |  |  |
| **11.2** | **b) Stewardship** |  |

Brian Roskell updated the PCC on the subject of giving and the committee was told that non givers were recently encouraged to start giving through personalised emails signed by Will. (Will has no visibility of the financial figure of who gives what.) So, there is much better news with regard to money coming in since the last meeting. Standing Orders are now ahead of what they were in 2019 which is very encouraging. Gift Aid is £800 more/ month than in 2019 to approximately £5000 per month. We’re currently receiving £1300/ month in one off donations so the finances are only £1000/ month less than the budgeted income for 2020 which is fantastic news. However we are still receiving £4000/ month less than in 2019 due to less income from legacies or the renting out of rooms but the picture as a whole is really encouraging. People are thinking about their giving; we have had 8 new givers, 1 has stopped/ left the church, no one has decreased their giving and 6 people have increased theirs. Thank you to all those who have started giving or increased their giving, this is particularly encouraging when times are tough. Brian will thank all those who have started/ increased their giving personally sending each an email via Church Suite whilst also reminding people to gift aid their giving too. Brian ended by concluding that all of this giving reminds us all of the great things the church does so ‘Be encouraged!’

Will PG responded with “God is good.”

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **11.3** | **c) Finance Report** | Action |
|  | The PCC considered the finance report. Harry Morten reported that there is a forecast £9000 deficit now (down from £29,000 three months ago) and hopefully by the end of the year there will actually be a £0 deficit. The income is holding up well in the circumstances.  There is essential expenditure that continues, BCP gives its’ parish share of £85,000 annually in addition to our staff salaries although we have benefitted this year from the furlough scheme. |  |
|  | Harry has based the Budget for 2021 on the principle that we will be in church again by then. Budget shows a deficit budget of £13,000. As to predicted/ budgeted income, this is based on tithing on £200,000 in 2019 but Harry has put it up to £220 K for 2021.  Two budgets have been produced. The **slim** budget which is pessimistic. All staff contracts have break dates so we could cut down on staff costs if it came to it but this would not be ideal. In this scenario there would be a budgeted deficit of £37,000.  The **fat** budget allows the church to employ from June a Youth Worker and a families’ worker to oversee ARK and Messy Church from June. In this scenario there would be a budgeted deficit of £20,000.  Harry proposed to the Committee that we do a standard budget as per usual but then in February at the next PCC Meeting our income is reviewed and the decision made whether to choose slim/fat budget from then on.  WPG said lockdown (and the success of the new vaccines?) will dictate this income to a certain extent.  Tim mentioned that the stonework repairs would be in 2021 due to backlog of work.  A decision to adopt this budget was proposed by Harry Morten and Paul Hirons seconded it. All agreed.  Harry added that Judith Bundock has been in touch with the Listed Church Grant people and it appears we can reclaim lots of VAT. | JB |
| **11.4** | **d) Production** |  |
|  | The PCC noted the report provided by Mike Roskell. Mike reported that the Production Team was doing well and have asked for Harry ‘to look favourably’ on their budget to include another camera please. In the absence of Mike, Harry said he would discuss this with him later but he thought it would be possible. | HM |
| **11.5** | **e) Fabric Committee**  The PCC received this fabric report verbally by Tim Jones, with special reference to the Lady Chapel, please see point **9** above.  Voting then took place regarding the recommendation of his Report stating that a resolution be passed, see below:  Resolution: That the contract for the stonework repairs highlighted in the Architect’s Quinquennial Review of 2009 to the sum of £8,390 + VAT be awarded to Tottenhoe Stone Restorations. | Action |
|  | This was proposed by Harry Morten and seconded by Brian Roskell. 20 votes for, 0 against, 0 abstentions. There were 20 out of 23 members present.  The resolution was passed. |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| **11.6** | **f) Mission & Outreach**  There is currently £5950 budgeted to spend and they intend to spend the entire tithe on vital outreach work.  This was proposed by Mike Evans and seconded by Max Hailey.  WPG talked to the Committee about how realistic the booking of a staycation for the church might be in 2021. He has heard already that New Wine has cancelled their 2021 plans and probably Focus will do likewise. These organisations need to pay contractors’ booking fees now and so based on the uncertainty/ risk still regarding Covid they have decided to cancel. He still has his eye on something during the (late May) Bank Holiday weekend, ideally at Stampwell Farm, where there could still be camping and where teaching could take place too. |  |
| **11.7** | **g) Safeguarding**  Will led the PCC through the reports with special reference to Appendix 3 with the befrienders chosen and the three new volunteers agreed on, these are Janey Bowman, Jennifer Stone and Annette Mulcahy.  Lorna Piper proposed that these volunteers be appointed and Harry Morten seconded it. All agreed.  Then the PCC’s review and approval of the parish’s annual safeguarding policies and procedures for 2020-2021 was voted on, with reference to the information in Appendixes 1 and 4.  Max Hailey proposed that this be accepted and Harry Morten seconded it. All were in favour. |  |
| **12.0** | **Rector’s update**  Rev’d Will Pearson Gee reported that   1. Lucia had had an awful crash the previous Monday for anyone that hadn’t heard but was recovering well. Also that Lucia’s mother has had a major operation, is doing ok and that Lucia is nursing her in their home currently. Will commented on what an amazing church we have and that the congregation have shown considerable kindness and love to the whole family. So a big thank you to all concerned. 2. The staff team are in good form. 3. A homeless gentleman is currently in the Church Centre, which is good to be able to do. 4. Christmas planning is underway so we await the news on national guidelines over the period but are hoping for the best.   Will updated the Committee on the numbers of people watching in each Sunday, approximately 50-60 people at the traditional service including a couple from Florida and they had commented ”it’s better than Washington Cathedral”. | Action |
|  |  |  |
| **13.0** | **Any Other Business** |  |
|  | Vicky added a big thank you to Rev’d Kate for her work. |  |
| **14.0** | **Date of next meeting** |  |
|  | It was noted that the date of the next meeting would take place on 9th February 2020 at 7.30pm. |  |