

ST MARY MAGDALEN, KNIGHTON

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting held by Zoom at 7:30pm on
8th June 2021**

Present: Revd Adrian Jones (Chairman), Revd Matthew Gough, Amanda Beck (Treasurer), Josh Crick de Boom, Sian Howard, Michael Kirk, Andrew Oldershaw, David Palmer, Lorna Pollard, Judith Rudd, Bob Rutland, Nigel Siesage (Secretary), David Stanyer and Ida Stanyer.

Apologies for absence were received from Beryl Bonfield.

21/50 PRAYERS AND REFLECTION

The Vicar led the meeting in prayers and reflection on Philippians 2.

21/51 MEMBERSHIP

The PCC recorded its appreciation of the contribution made to its work by Angelica Amoroso, whose period of appointment had recently expired.

The PCC welcomed the appointment of Amanda Beck as PCC Treasurer. On the nomination of Michael Kirk, seconded by Andrew Oldershaw, the PCC confirmed its decision to co-opt Amanda to membership of the PCC for an initial period of one year. (Previous reference minute 21/41).

21/52 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

The PCC approved noted that the following were prepared to continue in their roles, and approved their continuation:

PCC Secretary: Nigel Siesage

Health and Safety Officer: Simon Britton

Safeguarding Officer – both for Children and for Vulnerable Adults: Cora Paul

The following were appointed conveners for groups reporting to the PCC:

Social and Fund-raising: Michael Kirk

Worship and Outreach: The Vicar

Buildings: The Vicar

Spire Appeal: Nigel Siesage (until final closure of the appeal in Autumn)

A Finance Group would meet ad hoc, when convened by the Vicar and Treasurer. The Eco-Church Group (as a body of both parishes) would continue to report regularly, normally through Revd Matthew.

21/53 SPIRE APPEAL AND FRIENDS ORGANISATION

With reference to minute 21/43, it was noted that the Bishop had agreed to officiate at the service at St Mary's on 31 October. This would therefore represent a date for formal celebration of the completion of the spire project, closure of the appeal, and initiation of the organisation of Friends of St Mary's. This would be a matter for more detailed consideration at a future meeting.

21/54 HOLY HABITS

The Vicar initiated a discussion of the areas of spiritual development on which the parish might concentrate as it emerged from the pandemic. The 'holy habits' under consideration were:

- 1: Biblical teaching: How can we become confident with the Bible as well as with our liturgy?
- 2: Fellowship: How can we become 'real' with each other as well as being friendly?
- 3: Breaking Bread: How can we add a strong everyday-faith to our Sunday-faith?
- 4: Praying Together: How can we become 'people of prayer' as well as 'people who pray'?
- 5: Sharing Resources: How can we build relationships based on mutual support - that avoid gossip, criticism and power struggles?
- 6: Serving: How can we become people who look outwards as much as we look inwards?
- 7: Eating together: How can we add acceptance of those who are different, to our warm welcome?
- 8: Gladness and Generosity: How can we add another level of generosity and cheerfulness to our giving?
- 9: Worship: How can we become good at innovation as well as tradition?
- 10: Making more disciples: How can we add confidence and enthusiasm to the strength of our faith?

The meeting agreed that these were generally helpful headings to focus discussion. There were various opinions on which habits merited immediate priority for St Mary's. It was suggested that a gradual approach would be necessary in present circumstances, to avoid overwhelming the congregation. Some sort of audit or mapping exercise might be productive.

It was agreed that as a first step, the issues should be taken to the Benefice ministry team for further discussion.

21/55 SHAPED BY GOD TOGETHER

The PCC resumed discussion of future organisational models in the diocese (previous reference minute 21/40).

Considerable concern was expressed at the limited time provided for consideration of issues of enormous importance to the life of the Church at local level, and the inadequacy of the information on which to form a judgment. It was recognised that these were issues being debated throughout the Church of England, and that the underlying causes – resources, societal and cultural change etc – made it necessary to have the debate.

There was a requirement to provide feedback from our parishes to the Bishop's Council in the summer, so that a model for this diocese could be chosen. Before this, there was a need to hold meetings at which the wider parish community could be informed and consulted. It was suggested that this stage of the process might be facilitated if each model had an advocate, who could set out the case for each. The Vicar agreed that he would try to take this approach into account in preparing for the meetings.

21/56 MUSIC IN THE BENEFICE

The PCC considered a paper by Revd Dr Stephen Foster about the future provision of music as the parishes resumed attendance in person in church, and as restrictions on music making were lifted. The PCC felt that what was proposed could be endorsed, inasmuch as it reflected established practice with regard to the selection of music at the main eucharistic services. There was however a need to consider further how best to manage music provision in the less formal services; and the question of the appointment of a Director of Music (though not opposed in principle) gave rise to a need to define the remit and to some cost issues.

The Vicar undertook to take these points away for separate conversations.

21/57 ECO-CHURCH

Revd Matthew reported on the development of action plans for the Eco-Church project.

21/58 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the PCC meeting held on 8th June 2021 were approved, subject to minor corrections which would be incorporated in the signed copy and the copies placed on file.

It was agreed that the Vicar would review the Action list for updating fully at the next meeting.

21/59 SAFEGUARDING

There had been no matters to report.

21/60 HEALTH AND SAFETY

There had been no matters to report.

21/61 BUILDINGS

With reference to minute 21/47, Mr Oldershaw reported that the Buildings Group had met and had approved the appointment of Oldman and Sons to carry out work on the Memorial Garden and Parish Centre.

Arrangements were being considered to ensure that the benches were in future securely anchored to prevent them being moved around the churchyard by unauthorised visitors.

21/62 MATTERS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION

The following were noted:

At July meeting:

- Proposed Outreach Officer (at July meeting)

No date specified:

- Pastoral care of the church, the clergy and others in positions of responsibility.

21/63 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would be held on 8 July 2021 at 7:30 pm.

The meeting closed at 9:25 pm with Grace.

Chairman