

ST MARY MAGDALEN, KNIGHTON

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

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

Present: Revd Adrian Jones (Chairman), Revd Matthew Gough, Amanda Beck (Treasurer), Sian Howard (Churchwarden), 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, Josh Crick de Boom and Michael Kirk.

21/64 PRAYERS AND REFLECTION

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

21/65 HEALTH AND SAFETY

The PCC considered a proposed revision of the parish's Health and Safety Policy. This had been drafted based on the criteria used by the insurers and was intentionally a brief, high level document. The previous policy, last reviewed in 2015, was regarded as too detailed. It would give rise to subsidiary documents covering specific areas where necessary, and the actions relating to them. It was noted that Mr Britton had commented on the draft.

The PCC agreed with this approach. It was agreed:

1. That a separate policy document should be created to apply to the Parish Centre.
2. That this draft should be amended to take account of Mr Britton's suggestions.
3. That the Vicar should consider the issue of volunteer members of the parish using their own equipment in the church.

Action: AJ

21/66 PIONEER WORKER

The PCC was reminded that it had previously – before the pandemic – planned to appoint a pioneer worker, whose role would be to suggest, develop and implement new ways to engage with the large local population of children and their families, who were not currently being reached. This would be a strategically important commitment, and it had been suggested that a subgroup should be established to put flesh on the proposal and make detailed recommendations. The PCC agreed that more time than was currently available should be given to a wider discussion at a future meeting.

21/67 MUSIC IN THE BENEFICE

The PCC resumed discussion of the future provision for music across the Benefice (minute 21/56 refers). At issue was whether the Benefice needed a single Director of Music, who should hold the position if so, and how it should be resourced. A distinction could be drawn between the week-by-week requirements of each church at their services (these might be different in each), and the provision of choral music across the Benefice at holy days and other special occasions. Revd Dr Stephen Foster had voluntarily met some of these needs and was willing to retain an active role; but it was not reasonable to expect him to cover the whole range single handed, in combination with his other responsibilities elsewhere.

After discussion it was **agreed**:

1. That the Vicar should communicate with the St Mary's choir that their contribution at the Eucharistic service at 10.30 was greatly valued, and they should be encouraged to resume their activities.
2. The PCC wishes to see a structure supporting joint working of the two choirs and the wider Knighton Parish Singers, but does not at this stage wish to see the appointment of a specific single Director of Music, whether paid or unpaid.
3. A broader discussion of the future of music in the parish should be held in the Autumn, engaging with interested parties beyond the PCC.

The Vicar would meet Stephen Foster to discuss these matters further.

Action: AJ

21/68 ACTION LIST

The PCC reviewed and updated the action list. The amended version would be presented at the next meeting.

Action: NS

21/69 APPOINTMENTS

The following had agreed to continue in their roles and their appointments were approved:

1. Sidesperson organiser: Sue Ardley
2. Electoral roll officer: Eileen McKellican

The Vicar would review the list of Eucharistic Assistants.

Action: AJ

21/70 ECO-CHURCH

Revd Matthew reported that the Task Force was to meet shortly. Six areas had been identified for 'quick wins'.

21/71 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the PCC meeting held on 8th June 2021 were approved. With reference to minute 21/61, it was noted that the Council had agreed to anchor the benches in the churchyard at their expense. The assistance of Cllr Whittle in arranging this was noted.

21/72 SAFEGUARDING

There had been no matters to report.

21/73 HEALTH AND SAFETY

Issues relating to the smoke alarms were referred to the Buildings Group.

21/74 BUILDINGS

Revd Matthew reported that enquiries into providing broadband in the church had so far produced no realistic and attractive options.

Mr Oldershaw expressed concern about the lack of street signage directing people to St Mary's.

21/75 SOCIAL COMMITTEE

The PCC received the minutes of the meeting of the Social and Fund-raising Committee held on 21 June, and noted the forthcoming Ride and Stride day, when the church would be open.

21/76 BOOKSTALL

The PCC approved in principle an offer from Cllr March to provide a small movable bookstall in the churchyard. This would be for a trial period, and subject to email agreement as to the location.

21/77 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would be held on 16 September 2021 at 7:30 pm.

The meeting closed at 9:26 pm with Grace.

Chairman