

**MINUTES OF PCC MEETING ST JAMES CHURCH
BULKINGTON
Tuesday 14 09 2021**

Present:

Rev Charles (Chair), Chris Catlin: Rachel Cooper: Ian Corden: May Davis: John May:
Graham Nuttall: Sybil Randle: Rachel Partridge: Ken Sleeman Sue Turner

1. Opening prayers

2. No apologies

3 Declarations of interest:

There were no declarations of interest

4. Minutes of meetings held on 6 7 2021

The minutes of the above meeting were unanimously accepted as a true record.

5. Matters arising:

(a) Sound System

The contract has been awarded to MGD and it is anticipated that work will be undertaken in October, taking 2 to 3 days. A second hand iPad can be purchased at reduced cost if needed.

(b)

Logo

The final brief will be delivered to the graphic designer who is undertaking this work free of charge and it is anticipated that we should have the proposed design by October.

(c) Pastoral Group:

A meeting is being held on 26 09 2021

(d) Toddler Group:

A meeting is being held on 16 09 2021 to take the plans forward.

(e) Restoration of Bells:

A successful meeting was held between Church and Bell Ringers' representatives to advance the situation. Since then and after informing the insurance company of the movement of the tower, an inspection has taken place by the Architect who undertook the last Quinquennial inspection. The outcome is there is deflection of the tower, not movement. No cracks of concern were detected and an investigation by a specialist structural engineer is recommended. The insurers have insisted that ringing ceases until the matter has been investigated. The Bell Ringers are being kept informed.

6. Vicar's Report:

Please find this attached.

7. Reports from Sub-Committees:

(a) Buildings Sub-Committee

The Minutes from the meeting held on 31 08 2021 had been previously circulated.

Faculties are being submitted for the additional cremation plots, remembrance bench and memorial plaque and Graham will organize the printing of the plaque.

Disposal of soil from graves:

This will be addressed with the Undertakers. In the meantime Sue will arrange for the residual soil to be removed.

Crumbling stone work:

It is noted that there are areas on the external church stonework which is crumbling. It was agreed that the Quinquennial inspection, which is due in 12 months' time, will identify the areas affected and recommendations will be made at that time.

Hedges:

Chris detailed some past history related to the maintenance of the hedges which had been carried out by Keith Farndon. However, Chris will speak to Keith to see if he would be willing to undertake this work again. The Remembrance Garden was discussed and it has been agreed that this area needs to be cleared. t Michael Whitehead will be approached to ask if he knows the history of this area.

Church Wall:

It was unanimously approved that this would be repaired/restored to its original state.

Sandra Jones, Margaret Wilkins and Mr Hardy have carried out a significant amount of work in the churchyard and a letter of thanks will be sent to show the appreciation of the PCC.

(b) Worship Sub-Committee:

It is anticipated that this Committee will be meeting shortly to discuss Christmas/New Year worship.

© Finance Sub-Committee:

The financial situation is ahead of where we expect to be but our forecast wedding fee income during the next quarter of £6000 is likely to be considerably less. Four weddings are booked and it is unlikely to have any more at this stage of the year.

£22,000 has been paid towards the reduced Parish Share of £40,000 that was applied for earlier this year. (Full amount £52,642). That application will be considered by the Diocesan Board of Finance this month. Even if agreed, it may be difficult to pay the remaining £18,000.

In order to generate more income it was suggested that fund raising events be organised

Photocopier

A brand new photocopier has been ordered as the lease on the existing one has expired. Exit fees on the old lease of £990 have been negotiated down to £350 plus VAT which includes the collection and return of the old machine. Monthly costs for the new copier on a three year lease will remain at about the same as at present but service costs have been fixed for the whole term.

8. Church Noticeboard:

It is acknowledged that a revised/new church notice board is needed. Some discussion took place on this and it was agreed to defer a final decision until the Logo is finalised.

9. Review of Sunday Worship:

It was agreed that we would go back to serving refreshments after Worship on Sunday mornings and the decision to wear masks would be with those participating. Rachel will organise a rota.

Rev Charles had asked for comments on three questions he had circulated. There was a valuable discussion and the overriding aspects of what we have missed during Covid restrictions were the attendance of our regular worshippers and the fellowship we have enjoyed in the past. Through the Pastoral Team it is hoped that we will be able to contact those of our regular worshippers and find out their reason for not returning to Worship at this time.

10, Safeguarding update:

There was nothing to report

11. Any other business:

Church Wi Fi

Graham detailed the options and it was agreed to opt for a 4G router but David Cooper's opinion should be sought on this.

Eco-Audit:

An Eco-Audit to help reduce costs is being offered and this has been arranged for October.

12. Date of next meeting:

16th November 2021

13 Closing prayer

The meeting close by the sharing of the Grace

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