

**MINUTES OF ST GEORGE'S PCC MEETING HELD IN CHURCH  
ON WEDNESDAY 21<sup>st</sup> JULY 2021 AT 7.30PM IN CHURCH**

**Present:** Fr Colin Lawlor (Chair), Chris Gadd (Churchwarden), Rosy Stone (Churchwarden), Candy Williams (Deanery Synod), Tony Rice-Oxley (Deanery Synod), Anne Morgan, Mo Peters, Patricia Byrne, Sue Hodgens, Lynn Winter, Marian Haughton, Linda Smith, Sara Pask (Treasurer), Jane Cook (Secretary)

**Co-opted:** Malcolm Brewer (Hon Assistant Treasurer)

			<b><u>ACTION</u></b>
		<b>Opening Prayer</b> – Fr Colin led the Leading your Church into Growth Prayer.	
1.		<b>Apologies for absence:</b> Andy Jackson (Co-opted), Lynne McNeill <b>Did not attend:</b> Ceri Ward	
2.		<b>Minutes of last PCC meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> May</b> The minutes were signed as a true and accurate record.	
3.		<b>Matters Arising</b>	
		<u>Page 2, Item 5l)</u> – Fr Colin confirmed that the CCTV is up and running again and the screen is now in the Parish Office. <u>Page 5, Item 13a)</u> – a list of suggested architects has been supplied by David Cain. Need to agree who we want to appoint. Jane said the Diocese need it adding to our APCM Place Audit 2021 once it has been agreed.	CL
		<b>Minute from the Standing Committee – 13.6.21</b>	
		A request was received from John Hood for PCC approval to add a handrail to the north side of the Choir gallery stairs at an approximate cost of £125. A minute of this approval was requested to attach to the application. The Standing Committee agreed that this amount be spent and Fr Colin advised the PCC of this.	
4.	a)	<b>Charity Treasurer's Report</b>	
		The figures for May/June as provided by Lynne McNeill, Charity Treasurer, are as follows: <u>May</u> - £194.69 was sent to Christian Aid. <u>June</u> - £26.01 each to Southern Domestic Abuse and Friends without Borders.	
	b)	<b>Treasurer's Report from Sara</b>	
		Our current financial position is mostly within budget, but bear in mind that the budget was calculated to take in shortfalls in income due to us being unable to fundraise at all so far this year. We are still waiting for receipt of Quarter 2's Gift Aid payment from HMRC which, when received, will improve our situation somewhat. David Cavey is in the process of handing Gift Aid admin to Alex our Administrator which is why there is a delay in receipt of this quarter's payment. To keep our heads above water a withdrawal of £6,000 was made from our UTB investment account leaving a balance of £5,896 in that account. It will be possible to pay some money back into this account	

	<p>] should we be in the happy position of not needing it.</p> <p>I have two motions to propose this evening:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Tony Rice-Oxley holds a “Fundraising” bank account which is used to collect donations etc from Church raffles, sales, auctions and bonus ball. This account is useful to collect monies then pay them over in one amount. However, using such an account that is not officially a Church bank account may cause problems in respect of the collection of gift aid and also one of transparency. I propose that we bring this account into the overall Church sub-accounts and that two signatories will be required on withdrawals. The signatories will be Tony R-O, Jane R-O and Jane Cook. Proposed by Sara Pask, seconded by Mo Peters and agreed unanimously.</li> <li>2) We have a Church sub-account called “Bank/Cash Bookstall” which was to receive funds from the sale of greetings cards etc. Lynn Winter who was responsible for the account is no longer selling the cards and has asked that the sub-account be closed and the remaining balance of £66.92 be donated to the Portsmouth Diocese Inter-Diocesan West African Link. Proposed by Sara Pask, seconded by Mo Peters and agreed unanimously.</li> </ol> <p>Mo said she can see that these accounts are visible but asked Tony if the ACT one is mainly for his protection. Tony said he collects money for each child’s birthday of £10 and once the child finishes full time education this is passed to ACT to give the child a start in life. Tony said it is not a church run function and he would not want it to be accountable, it is a private arrangement between him and ACT and has been running for around 12 years.</p>	<b><u>ACTION</u></b>
	c) <b>Fabric, Finance and Quinquennial Committee Report</b>	
	Chris said the minutes are self explanatory. He drew attention to the fact that he and John Johnson have shared the cost of a permanent card reader which will be located at the back of church for people who come in to church to use.	
5.	<b>Other Committee Reports</b>	
	a) <b>Pastoral Committee</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Now that we are allowed to meet Anne will organise a meeting. Linda said she is on the Pastoral Committee but with restrictions has not really met anyone yet. Fr Colin asked if she would like to explain about the Bereavement Group. Linda said the Charity closed down with Covid so it was a good opportunity to start one at St George’s. A coffee morning is held once a month for bereaved people and this is a social event. She also runs every 2 or 3 months a support group and ran the first one a few weeks ago. There is a different subject for discussion at each meeting, this one was guilt. She is running a memorial cream tea on 23<sup>rd</sup> August in the afternoon open to the public and people can bring photos of their deceased loved ones and they will display them on the stage. Entry is £2. As this is a church group they do not pay for the hall but will make a payment as a donation. Hope to have a big Christmas coffee morning.</li> </ul>	

		Linda is willing to train lay people to talk to bereaved people. She ran the training for the charity for about 8 years. Linda said she is also hoping to start a group for people with learning disabilities but this is a work in progress at the moment and may start in January.	<b><u>ACTION</u></b>
	b)	<b>Church Hall Committee</b>	
		Met on Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> July – minutes have been circulated. Tony said a huge amount of things going on and Tony, Malcolm and Glynn Ross are up there on a daily basis. Thanks go to John Hood as well. Tony looking for a new chair next year. Fr Colin thanked everyone who works so hard on the running of the Hall.	
	c)	<b>Mission and Stewardship Committee</b>	
		Fr Colin said he will arrange a meeting in the next week or so.	
	d)	<b>Social and Fundraising Committee</b>	
		Met last Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> July and the minutes have been circulated. Patricia and Rosy agreed to take on Chair between them. <b>Summer Fete</b> – 21 <sup>st</sup> August from 10am to 2pm with 8 definite stalls. BBQ organised, refreshments in the Hall, Chris to source a singer, Sara will deal with the money. Linda has a bubble machine which she will loan. Patricia advised that Ian Gibson said it is too short notice to get raffle tickets printed and the license sorted so cloakroom tickets will be sold on the day. Tony will talk to Ian. <b>Cream Tea</b> – The Vicarage on 19 <sup>th</sup> September – scones, jam, cream, cup of tea and raffle. <b>Shop</b> – pending confirmation of premises will take place 1 <sup>st</sup> two weeks of November. Looking at having a Christmas bazaar first Saturday in December. Fr Colin said thank you to Patricia and Rosy for chairing this Committee.	TRO
6.		<b>Safeguarding Report</b>	
		Sonja is extremely busy in her job at the moment but emailed Jane to advise that she has no safeguarding matters to raise at this meeting. However she would like to arrange to attend a future meeting about the sight friendly church information.	CL/CG
7.		<b>Deanery Synod Report</b>	
		Tony said Fr Colin probably knows far more than him but he understands that “team ministries” have been put on a back burner because they want to consider and reflect on the replies they have received from the churches. The Church of England is facing enormous difficulties with parishes who cannot pay and he suggested “chopping from the top”. Tony understands that all monies will be amalgamated in the team ministry. Fr Colin said this has not been decided yet. Fr Colin has been assured that the tradition of our church is very important and will not change and most people will not notice any difference. There is a lot more discussion and consultation to take place before any decisions are made. The main thing that could happen is that we will have more dealings with local churches.	
8.		<b>Election of Sidespersons</b>	
		Patricia is looking to set the team up again. Several people have said they no longer want to do it. Audrey, Malcolm, Jane, Rosy and Sheilah Hall have said they are happy to do it. Sara also said that she thinks David may be willing. Patricia will produce a list of those that have	PB

			<b><u>ACTION</u></b>
		volunteered to be agreed at the next PCC meeting.	
9.		<b>Update by Fr Colin</b>	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I have had some communication with the Diocese who have asked if we would be interested in a Curate next year. This would be a self supporting priest so the cost to us would be extremely minimal. They would live in their own home. It would be a newly ordained priest so we would be a training parish for that person for 3 years. The PCC were all in agreement with this.</li> <li>Across the Church of England parishes, deaneries, dioceses have been asked to offer a course for lay people called "Living in Love and Faith". Not sure whether it will be a deanery or parish course but needs to be in place by end January. Not something I would be prepared to do on Zoom as it needs to be done sensitively. I will be looking to do this at some point.</li> </ul> <p>Mo wondered what the point of it is. It grew out of something that the House of Bishop's wrote but was rejected by Synod. Looking for a way to involve the laity in it. Mo has taken the book to read.</p>	
10.		<b>Discussion on the easing of Covid restrictions</b>	
		<p>Fr Colin said he gave a presentation on Sunday regarding the easing of restrictions and the need for caution and courtesy. For example some people will want to continue to wear masks or still be socially distanced. A pew will be provided so people can socially distance if they wish and cards for people to put on the seat asking for a space to be left between them and the next person. Ventilation is being increased. This went out as an email and is also in the magazine.</p> <p>Mo said if teas and coffees are starting back up in the Hall it may be a good time to start using the holders she bought either to advertise events or advice on various things. Malcolm will look for these. Pew cushions can be put out again and this will be done on Saturday.</p>	MB
11.		<b>Correspondence / AOB</b>	
		<b>• Concerts in Church (TRO)</b>	
		Tony said he wrote a letter to the Churchwardens some time ago about the amount of work involved in organising concerts in church. If he continues to do this he needs assurance that PCC members will help from time to time. PCC agreed to this.	All
		<b>• Restart of Wednesday and Friday teas and coffees (TRO)</b>	
		Tony said he assumes that the Wednesday teas and coffees organised by Linda Wainwright will take place in the Hall. As Slimming World are no longer in the Hall on a Friday he assumes that Friday teas and coffees organised by Audrey Linney can return to the Hall. Norma Kershaw organises the Sunday teas and coffees. Trouble is finding people to do all this.	
		<b>• Restart of Parent and Toddlers (AM)</b>	
		Anne said that Dawn Hyett is proposing to start up Parent and Toddlers in September. She will need a DBS check. If Dawn gets in touch with Fr Colin he can bring it to the PCC for their approval to start back in September.	AM
		<b>• Approval from PCC to remove the following from the Electoral Roll (TRO)</b>	
		Jane read out a list of people that Tony would like to remove from the Electoral Roll. Fr Colin has checked the rules and said a person can be removed if they die, are ordained, ask to be removed or people who are	

		on the electoral roll but do not live in the parish if they have not attended church for a period of 6 months or more unless there is a justifiable reason, such as long term illness. The important point is that anyone who lives in the parish can be on the electoral roll even if they never come to church.	<b><u>ACTION</u></b>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Utilities (MB)</b></li> </ul>	
		<p>Carl Warner of the Energy Group for different organisations working on behalf of all the main suppliers rang Malcolm. Our contract with Total Gas and Power will be up for renewal in the next couple of months. He has suggested renewing our contract on a 4 year basis and not increase zero standing charge. Malcolm is waiting for him to confirm the actual rate they will charge us for the 4 years. Malcolm thinks this will save us some £400-£500 per year. It is part of the Parish Buying Scheme recommended by the Diocese. Chris suggested this should go to F&amp;F but because of the short time Fr Colin asked Malcolm to let him know when he has it in writing and F&amp;F can have a quick meeting to discuss.</p> <p>Mo asked whether it is possible for the church to have solar panels and Fr Colin said this would be a good idea.</p>	CL
12.		<b>Date of Next PCC Meeting</b>	
		Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> October at 8.00pm in church following the 7.30pm Eucharist.	ALL
		Closing Prayer – The Grace	
		There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.45pm.	