

**Distribution:**

Mr K Croxton- Chair M& O Mrs V Hughes – co opted PCC Mr M Roskell -PCC

Mr M Evans – Church Warden Mr T Jones- PCC (Chair of Fabric) Mrs P Stanton- Saringer- Deanery Synod

Mrs P Fox- Deputy Warden Mr A Miscampbell –co opted PCC Mr H Stolze- PCC

Mrs P Mason-Evans -PCC Mr H Morten-PCC,Head of Finance

Mr J Grinyer- PCC Mrs R Newell- Deanery Synod

Mr M Hailey- Church Warden Mr R O’Connell - PCC

Mr P Hirons –Dioc/Deanery Revd. W Pearson - Gee - Rector Notice Board

Synod Mrs L Piper-PCC Staff Team

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mrs H Grimditch , Mr B Roskell

**MEETING OF:** Buckingham PCC

**DATE & TIME:** 15 September 2020 at 7.30pm, on Zoom

**PRESENT:** Revd. W Pearson- Gee (Chair), Mr M Evans, Mrs P Fox, Mrs H Grimditch, Mr M Hailey, Mr P Hirons, Mrs V Hughes, Mr T Jones, Mrs P Mason-Evans, Mr H Morten, Ms K Pellereau, Mrs L Piper, Mr B Roskell, Mr M Roskell, Mrs P Stanton-Saringer, Mr H Stolze.

**Item (ACTION)**

1. **Opening Prayer**

The meeting opened with a prayer led by Revd W Pearson-Gee

**2 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Mr J Grinyer, Mr A Miscampbell, Mr R O’ Connell**,** and Mrs R Newell.

1. **Approval of minutes of PCC meeting held on 7th July 2020**

Harry Morten proposed and Paul Hirons seconded the approval of the minutes as an accurate record

of the meeting held on 7th July 2020. All agreed.

1. **Correspondence**

None

1. **Nomination of AOB**

**6 Conflict of Interest.** None

**7 Service Pattern Change -11th October – update.** Prayers have been answered with no real criticism to do with the new service timings as yet. Will concluded that we should keep going with this proposed service pattern change as there were no show-stoppers. The new Family Service at 11 will be on a trial period but initial feedback to the new time has been positive, including that “it’s a service that members can easily invite friends to.”

**7.1** Sunday 11th October will be Harvest and the launch of the new service pattern. The 9am Parish Communion service will be taken by Will with Kate taking the 11 am family service. This arrangement will trial for at least 6 months and at the next PCC meeting we can try to agree a date on which the PCC will make a decision on how to end the trial.

**7.2 Children and Youth Provision (Kate):**

Fuel ( 14-18yrs) is meeting in the church socially distanced on a Wednesday evening, this is going well.

Information on ‘How to Keep Children Safe in their groups’ has been compiled by Jade and Jacob to ensure that the children and parents of those attending feel safe. Jayde will invite younger children that are now due to meet with her on a Sunday evening and the parents of these children must then sign their children up for the group until Christmas. It is imperative that exact numbers are known with only 15 children plus volunteers allowed.

This Way (The Younger Youth) will start in the evening service too at 5pm**.**

**7.3** On October 11th there will be a family service, then two more all age services getting children and families involved in the services with readings and prayers. On November 1st Children’s groups will restart during the morning family service at 11am , including the group for younger youth. Will asked if there could be provision of children of the choir at 9am and Kate said this is ‘work in progress’. Mrs V Hughes asked if priority could be given to non members’ children at services if new families turn up? Kate explained it was very difficult with the new legislation. If the group doesn’t already have 15 in then new/ visiting children can join, but If the group does already has 15 then it’s no as children should all stay in their ‘designated bubble’. All very difficult with the new legislation and not ideal! The first messy church will be in November. (**KP)**

**7.4** There will be a baptism service on Sunday 18th October at the 6pm service.

**7.5 Re the 8am Book of Common Prayer Service**:

The 6 people attending this service haven’t been in touch to comment but there is a question as to how viable the 8am service will be with a 9am service as the team that sets up for the 9am needs to be in by 8.30 which impinges upon the 8am timeframe. Mrs P Stanton Saringer said that many people would be pleased that there would be an opportunity to have communion at 9am instead of at 8am.

It was proposed that the 8am service should continue to be in ‘suspended animation’ until such time as the new pattern of worship is confirmed. This was proposed by Mr M Roskell and seconded by Mr M Hailey. All agreed.

Will commented that working in unison with Rev Jacquie Dove, a BCP communion service was organised somewhere in the Diocese every Sunday, if not in Buckingham then Radclive or Thornborough. Mr P Hirons expressed his concern for the Marlow family at Radclive but had heard they were now attending regular services at Nash.

**8.0 The Clock:**

Mr P Hirons was able to update the Committee about the church’s clock he’d visited just outside Penrith. He had been told by the clockmakers that they were still at a point where the clock could be automated but that the decision had to be made quickly. The firm was encouraging the automation of the clock for longevity rather than being dependent on someone climbing up the stairs daily to wind up three separate weights with the new ‘chime and strike’ system; One for the time, one for striking and the third one for chiming. This needs to be done every night. It would cost approx £6000 to automate it but two people in the congregation have offered to pay for that cost already by leaving funds in their wills.

Mr Jones made it clear that the 6 clock winders don’t want the clock to be automated. Mr T Jones was concerned that Mr Brian Hurst had not been consulted re this new information involving automation and that this was being done without his knowledge and agreement.

Mrs V Hughes asked what the downside of automation was and Will explained that the team still really enjoy winding the clock, but that this team was diminishing in size too. Covid 19 precautionary guidelines would further complicate this as clock winders will have to clean anything they touch going into the tower, anything they touch whilst up there and also on leaving the area.

Will acknowledged that if it weren’t for the two generous donations it would be a definite no but that having the money allowed this move to modernisation. Mr P Hirons proposed that the clock should be automated on the proviso that Mr B Hurst agrees. This was seconded by Mr B Roskell. Mr T Jones abstained from voting. (IN FAVOUR, ON THE PROVISO THAT MR B HURST AGREES) **( WPG)**

**9 Cleaning Job**:

With John Earle on sick leave until November it was suggested that a cleaner could be recruited to cover 6 hours work for 6 weeks to include bins and toilets at an extra cost to the church. Mrs V Hughes asked about paying John furlough/ sick pay. The suggestion was made by Mrs P Fox to furlough John throughout September and October (as he is still partially on furlough anyway) which would release the funds to pay the new cleaner. This was proposed by Mr H Morton and Mrs V Hughes seconded it. All agreed.

**10 APCM – Plan/ Rule of 6 paperwork**

Will announced that the APCM on Tuesday 13th October will go ahead at church (with zoom in place as a back- up if Covid restrictions were tightened.) There will be an update from the Rector but there will be no other normal presentations as such, simply more a box ticking exercise for the Finance and Stewardship representatives. Mrs L Piper suggested that any questions for the committee should be submitted 48 hours before the meeting to aid fluency and this was agreed. The APCM will be headed by Mrs S Dumbleton.

Mrs P Fox told the committee that as the APCM accounts have to be in at the end of October the forms will all need to be prepared except for the names and details of the trustees ensuring they can be sent off the next day. She is onto it. **(PF)**

**11.0 Church Holiday:**

Will confirmed that there will be a staycation next year. High Leigh, Herts, is already booked for 2023 for a parish weekend away.

**12.0 Sub Group Reports:**

**a) WPG:-Staffing**: Ms J Wigley (Jo) is now taking on 20 of Jo Brice’s hours. She has been working full time anyway but will be paid for them now. Jan in the office is now doing 4 hours a week and is working well with Lara. Jayde is partially off furlough, Mrs V Hughes suggested bringing her fully off furlough at the beginning of October. Mrs V Hughes brought up the topic of Olly and the fact that he is out of contract. She didn’t know if we could afford to keep him on having been partially funded by the Curate Fund whilst we were without a Curate. Olly is paid to work 34 hours work each week, this is to be looked into by Harry Moreton. **(HM)**

**Re Youth**: Will explained that Jacob could no longer offer quite as much help for the youth as he had originally thought he could. This is a disappointment but understandable. Kate believes we can keep the youth groups going effectively with her and others’ help. Kate will manage the youth work carefully. **(KP)**

**b) Finance – Mr H Morten**

There is a deficit of approximately £10.000 and £10,000 surplus. Income does seem to be ok, furlough money has been given back and we have had £285 K income. There was a peak in Jan/ Feb pre furlough of £1000 a week/ month.

However there is some big expenditure coming up with the fabric of the church. Our £85K legacy money is diminishing rapidly. The biggest saving has been in Lara Burt; although she’s come back half time the church had some money put aside for a part time administrator which covers that.

Jayde Crouch was on a 20 hour a week contract. Her new role will involve setting up Ark and Messy Church once a month and re new school’s work the 6 hours from Jo Brice can be reassigned to Jayde’s work IF we can afford to keep the school’s work going. No recommendations.

**c) Fabric Report - Mr T Jones**

The Chancel painting has been approved and will be hung hopefully early in the New Year. Mr Robert Cummings has covered each bill.

The exterior stonework has been quoted at just under £30,000. An initial £1500 was paid out on emergency repairs just to make the building safe. A further £7000 was then spent out in July.

There is a question as to how far the building work should go. The stonework causing concern needs to be pointed to make it water tight pre Winter and Mr H Morton suggested at this stage that is all that should be done. Mr T Jones confirmed that this could be done and the rest of the project happen in due course.

Work in the Lady’s Chapel has had consent, on the assumption that no adverse comments come in during the Public’s 30 days consultation period. Mr H Morten suggested putting a visual picture up to show what the chapel will look like.

In the kitchen the far corner is sinking and has been for the past 10 years and ultimately needs underpinning. A bore hole has been dug out and the conclusion reached that a new support plate under the kitchen footings at right angles to the rest of the church buildings is needed. This will cost £20-£25 K.

On the inside of the church there are beautiful timbers inside with a gap of 2” between cracks, money needs to be spent on this structural work inside too in the form of “a few thousand pounds.” Mr T Jones will explore the insurance on this and if we can claim. In addition Mr H Stolze will get in contact with insurers. **(TJ) & (HS)**

The 3 year electrical system check has been done and £800 paid for necessary repairs.

The lightning conductor has been passed and repairs to the flat roof at a cost of £6000 have been paid to Burgess building Co.

**d)Production Report - Michael Roskell**

Only a few volunteers have come forward to help with live streaming and so the church may not be able to keep live streaming every service for much longer.

**e) Mission and Outreach – Keith Croxton**

Olly is doing the launch of Alpha this Sunday and has designed a basic discipleship leaflet. Jo Wigley is running a mental health course.

A request has been made to give £200 to prison ministry. People noted this request and agreed.

**f) Safeguarding –Mrs V Hughes**

All DBS’s have been checked and Will was asked if all written risk assessments had been done. Will was able to confirm Yes! Also, that he’d read pages of 6+ rules and that outside he can only speak to one group. Whatever happens on the Green is up to individuals, neither he nor the church are responsible, as it is not church land.

PC Mr M Roskell said that Police will engage and explain to people before giving fines. But absolutely no mingling is allowed outside. People can mingle, in theory, inside the church as part of the service as long as they social distance?!

**g)Brian Roskell – Stewardship:**

The handover to Tracey has gone well. August saw the lowest month’s income for two years. Covid had a massive impact on regular giving and there is a strong likelihood that this will challenge us at the end of the year. We have had 3 new givers, 3 have stopped and 2 have increased their giving.

Brian is keen to mention at the APCM that great things are happening in the church and yet there are still a large number of people who don’t give regularly. He is keen to emphasise that even when not attending, members’ giving is still much needed.

Lara and Brian R are looking at the ‘giving’ area in Church Suite and Mike Roskell will ensure a slide is up at services to give money. Mr P Hirons mentioned that by standing at the back of church at the end of a service he had collected £60 so church wardens should be made aware of this to possibly replicate.

**13.0 Rector’s update**

We’ve had a busy beginning of term and will promote Ollie’s discipleship course. It’s great news that we’re back in church. No great new vision –“let’s just regroup and feel safe.“

The camping weekend was a huge success, not just families came and Mrs P Stanton Saringer said the Sunday had been her happiest Sunday in lockdown.

Coming up is Vision Sunday and Stewardship Sunday.

The forthcoming Remembrance service will be just around the memorial – with social distancing.

**14.0 AOB**

Mrs P Stanton-Saringer brought to the Committee’s attention that a big hole has been dug by Morrisons Building Contractors damaging the Church Centre’s lovely garden area, but the Council have been told and they will look into it.

Lorna wanted to thank all those who have made services possible indoors with the 10 am and 5pm services being described as good.

15.0 Future Meetings: 17th November 2020

19 January 2021

16 March 2021

**Will closed in prayer.**