

**Minutes of the Parochial Church Council Meeting of St John's Church,
Ben Rhydding, on Monday 1st June 2020 via zoom**

In attendance: Rev Peter Willox, Karen Oxtoby, Caroline Elston, Amy Stidworthy, Sylvia Walker, Miranda Armitage, Margaret Beatham, Miranda Armitage, Dawn and Charles Jenkins, Jan Copey, Bill Marwick, Kathleen Balfour,.

Apologies: Lynn Haygarth & Nikki Gibson, Kath Hannam, Suzanne Mills.

1. Opening Prayers

Peter Willox welcomed the PCC to the meeting and opened the meeting in prayer.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from Lynn Haygarth & Nikki Gibson, Kath Hannam, Suzanne Mills .

3. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting in May 2020 were accepted unanimously as a true record of the last meeting. Proposed: Caroline Elston, seconded Jan Cospey.

4. Matters Arising

- i. Peter has not yet finished the pastoral connections list but will do so soon and will put something about this in his next pastoral letter.
- ii. Toilets - Amy asked if it might now be possible to get the toilets done before we unlock the church. The PCC agreed this would be a good idea to have done if allowed.

Action Point - Can Suzanne contact the contractor and Carmel of the diocese to see what is possible?

Peter may have to project manage this as Charles is unable to at the moment.

5. Questions addressed in the breakout groups

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>What have we lost that needs to stay lost?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Travel time through not going to meetings- Agenda's and diaries falling empty or less full- Busyness and being task focussed- The superficial nature of our daily encounters and being time poor for others. | <p>What have we lost that needs to be regained?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The ability to meet together, have fellowship at the end of the service.(In the longer term to sit next to each other, shake hands, hug.)- Pastoral care. Sylvia referred to the elder model mentioned by Amy at earlier PCCs, where one person is responsible for looking out for a few people. Amy stated that she would be happy to help Peter put something together. We have also lost pastoral care for people who are house bound or vulnerable or at the end of their lives, although at the same time Peter has gained opportunities by visiting people with the service sheet.- We have lost the children- The ability to invite people to something.- Connections with some of our church members.- The ability to be serving the community by church being open and providing a building people can use.- Social events- Income from hall hire.- The church's rotas, these will need to be regained when we reopen. |
|--|---|

What have we gained that needs to be retained?

- Multimedia knowledge and technical skill such as zoom and interactive service sheets, recorded readings, talks and prayers and music.
- The ability to send the service sheet out with all the links to enable people to access the whole service and to send this to our friends and relatives all over the world.
- Multimedia church worship in a range of service formats so that people can feel included even if they can't get to the service.
- Creativity; e.g Videos made by our members that can be shared electronically with the congregation which might otherwise not have been made and the inclusion of features such as a virtual choir singing Mozart, and a special blessing sung by church members all over the UK.
- We could retain the ability to project the whole service sheet on the on the screen when we return to church to negate the need for many paper copies, reduce the risk of virus transmission and cut the cost of paper and photocopying.
- The ability to hold zoom PCCs especially in Winter.
- Videos made by our members that can be shared electronically with the congregation which would otherwise might not have been made.
- Quality time, time rich relationships and quality conversations with people we meet outdoors and a slower pace of life.
- Can we make arrangements to meet people on the bench outside church, especially those who don't access the technology or use the

What have we gained that is useful for now but needs to be lost again.

- Zoom is not everyone's favourite platform , you can feel like you are on display, there are other methods of live streaming that don't include showing all the participants. Technology must be seen as an addition not a substitution. It cannot replace face to face interaction.
- It can also be hard to worship as we are used to at church through the zoom platform.
- The technology may not help people with hearing and visual difficulties.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| vicarage garden for Messy Church? | |
|-----------------------------------|--|

- Better relationships with those on our neighbours.

We also reflected on how we might do things differently, such as outdoor worship (on the school playing fields??), not behind closed doors. This would be when we can safely have large gatherings again.

Gaining social spaces by perhaps arranging to chat to people on the bench outside church or using the vicarage lawn for Messy Church etc.

We also felt that with all of the changing advice and guidance on Covid 19 it is now more confusing for people and quite difficult to see clear ways forward. Some of these questions feel a bit too soon at the moment so our thinking will change and develop in time and may be questions we need to revisit.

The meeting closed at 21.15.

The date of the next PCC is Monday 22nd June at 7.30pm via zoom.