

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, MALDEN
Registered Charity No.1145155
Minutes of the 753rd meeting of the Parochial Church Council
At 7.30 p.m. on
Tuesday, November 1st 2022
In the coffee lounge

PRESENT, Rev Michael Roper as chair, Anthony Pullen, Rev. Milly Broome, Mike Broome, Liz Pullen, Richard Burkett, Marilyn Burkett, Margaret Barrington, Lynn Sanger. Chris Benson, Barry Eaton, Deborah Harris

In attendance: Sally Pusey (secretary) Alastair Harris (Treasurer) Geoff Little

7549 1 – Apologies from Sally Josolyne

7550 2 - NOTICE OF ESSENTIAL AOB
Ripple Energy, Legacies update, funerals.

7551 3 - MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING
The October minutes were checked and signed.

Geoff Little gave a presentation about ~Ripple Energy~ who produce clean energy from wind farms in to the public sector. At the end of the presentation it was agreed by the PCC to set up a working party to look at and review this information and any interested parties are asked to speak to Geoff.

7552 4 – VICARS REPORT

-Worship survey is now finished. There were a further 6 more people who replied but in total there were only 2 under the age of 50 who replied. This was no surprise but equally not much help either. There was a complete lack of response from the under 40s.

-The PCC will be co-opting people to help with certain tasks. They don't need to become members of the PCC but will be able to contribute. To do this we need to survey the talents of the congregation. The PCC and leadership team need to think about what tasks we need extra support for.

-We may do a possible play week in the school holidays but this will be looked at by people outside of the PCC.

-“A Church near you” website Fr Michael has updated and will continue to do so.

- The remembrance parade services are always well attended with lots of children and parents and we need to continue our hospitality at these types of services.

-At Christmas we will have a yew tree decorating competition.

7553 5 –PERSONS TO TAKE ON SPECIFIC TASKS

-Live streaming – Who can we ask to help?

-We need more help with cleaning, flowers, children’s ministry.

Someone to look after the robes and altar frontals. We need more servers and children servers.

What do the congregation want to do? We need to send out something to the parents of Malden Parochial asking “What would make you want to come to church more often?”

7554 6 SAFEGUARDING

Sally P and Marie to look at the DBS spreadsheet and make sure everyone is up to date.

7555 7 – FINANCE – USE OF RESERVES

September- the giving was fairly stable. There was roughly £4,850 this month.

Heritage days took in over £100 and there was also organ practice fees.

Expenditure – fire extinguisher maintenance and servicing of the clock and bell.

Gift aid for September is yet to be claimed.

Running costs “Currently year-to-date we are running an overall surplus of £4,798 in running costs. However, after allowing for known costs that will arise between now and year-end, including lane repairs, oak tree removal and quinquennial inspection fees, an overall deficit in running costs for the year of £4,000 is currently predicted.”

Mike B is speaking to Mr Gloag about the repair to the church path.

Budget-There is a revised budget schedule. Since the draft shared at the last meeting there have been 2 changes. The added expenditure of a new overhead projector and a change in the gas and electricity utilities charges.

Our energy provider was contacted on the 7th September and Alastair was given some figures which he put in the budget.

Then Total Energy sent post with very different charges which were a lot worse than we had originally been told on 7th September.

	<u>Actual to 30.09.22</u>	<u>Charges for year from 01.10.22</u>	
		Quoted on 7 th September	Confirmed by letter in late October
<u>Electricity</u>			
Daily Standing Charge	53p	71p	71p
Charge per kWh	15p	16p	35p
<u>Gas</u>			
Daily Standing Charge	98p	5.4p	£6.21
Charge per kWh	2.07p	7.71p	8.57p

The change in the budget was an increase in £2,750 in energy costs. **If** we qualify for the government energy bill relief scheme the electricity will be capped at 21.1p and

the gas at 7.5p. £7,653 is the best estimate for our energy costs in 2023. It could be lower but hopefully won't be higher.

The PCC thanked Alastair for all his work on the budget and the PCC agreed the budget.

'The Administrator/Secretary, Choir Director and Organist were asked to absent themselves temporarily owing to conflict of interest. The Council reviewed, discussed and agreed increments to the administrator's salary (in line with the figure proposed in the budget), the Choir Director's and Organist's fees (again, in line with the figure proposed in the budget), and the 'non-statutory' service-related (Funeral, Wedding & Blessing) fees charged for verger, bell ringer, sexton, heating, (each of these subject to a £5 increase), organist and renewal of vows (no change to these).'

PGS update- There have been 7 new joiners since the 10th October.

The finance committee are going to look in to how to move forward with the PGS roll out.

Reserves-Our reserves will need to be spent to start the restoration project. Good news is that we have received a grant from Marshall's charity for £20,000 for the restoration work.

7556 8 – ST JOHNS HALL-HALL COMMITTEE REPORT

The committee are still looking in to replacing the forecourt. There are also 4 large windows in the hall that are in a bad state of repair and they are going to be repaired. The committee are putting up the prices of hiring the hall.

7557 9-SCOUT HEADQUARTERS AGREEMENT RENEWAL & PRE-SCHOOL LICENCE UPDATE

We have given permission to our solicitor Russell-Cooke to prepare the pre school licence.

7558 10 – -RESTORATION PROJECT

The money in the restoration fund is now getting low. **Chris B** and **Mike B** will be having a meeting when the Quinquennial report comes in to see if there is anything that has been flagged up that we didn't already know about.

The work so far has been to look at what needs doing and we now need to sort out the funds to begin to do the actual work. However we can't go out to tender until we have the funds in place to proceed with the work. The £2000 legacy we have been given will be put in the restoration fund.

7559 11- COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE/ST JOHNS WEBSITE

Sally J has produced an internal calendar to be shared with selected people. It will be discussed how to make it available to people who will find it useful.

The committee are also putting a tick list together that can be used to make sure that what's going on in church can be advertised in all the relevant places.

The committee minutes will follow.

7560-ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mike B has received a large pack of information about legacies from the C of E. We need to raise awareness of legacies within the congregation. The Church of England are currently offering a free online will writing service.

Barry E Spoke about the possibility of people's future funeral wishes being known and kept at church to help their families when they pass away. This was thought to be a good idea and Liz and Tony Pullen talked about doing a grave talk.

We closed with prayer

The next meeting will be on the Tuesday December 6th at **7.30pm** in the coffee lounge.