

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, MALDEN
Registered Charity No.1145155
Minutes of the 743rd meeting of the Parochial Church Council
at 8 p.m. on
Tuesday, 5th October 2021
in the coffee lounge

PRESENT: The Vicar in the chair, Pauline Armour, Franklin Barrington, Margaret Barrington, Mike Broome, Marilyn Burkett, Richard Burkett, Deborah Harris, Sally Josolyne, Anthony Pullen, Lynn Sanger, Chris Benson, Marie McGuire

In attendance: Sally Pusey (secretary), Alastair Harris (church treasurer).

The Vicar opened in prayer.

7432 1 – Apologies from Liz Pullen, Milly Broome

7433 2 - NOTICE OF ESSENTIAL AOB
None

7434 3 - MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER MEETING
The Vicar made a couple of correction/amendments and the minutes were signed.

7435 4 – DBS UPDATES

Marie reported another 2 or 3 DBSs had been done in the last couple of months. There was confirmation given by Marie that only people in leadership rolls or directly working with children would need an enhanced DBS, everyone else needed a basic one. Marie would liaise with Vanessa and Sally about who needed following up to complete their DBSs.

Sally would check that Ro King had a second person with a DBS to start Little Fishes up again.

7436 5 - VICAR'S REPORT

a. Harvest was busy and went well.

b. Hearts on Fire. Bishop Christopher would like congregations to increase by 5% by 2026. Although we are still waiting for some people to return to church after Lockdown we have new families coming through so could increase the percentage above 5%.

c. Stewardship-We need to increase our regular giving as we are slowly using our reserves.

d. We need to prioritise children and young people in the life of the church and forge

closer links with the local schools. School visits are going up. Malden Manor are coming for a visit and a carol service and we are inviting the local schools to write something for a regular slot in OMN.

e. We need to think of ways to entice people back to church post covid. Christmas is a good place to start to get people involved with planning and thinking about what

we can offer.

f. Fr Michael is making a link with a local mosque so when Kingston are allocated some Afghan refugees we can take an active part in helping to support them.

7437 6 –LAY MINISTRY –Speaker Tony Pullen

Tony spoke about how in the diocese there are approximately 2% clergy and 98% laity and the diocese are looking at ways of empowering the 98% of laity.

In 2016 the Synod formed an advisory group looking at different ways to develop lay ministry. ~~ministry~~. [ministry](#).

Every diocese is being encouraged to use its lay congregation, to give them training because to empower them we need to equip them, Especially now as churches are being put together in teams with less paid stipendiary priests. Lay ministry will become essential.

7438 7-Finances- Alastair Harris

August update

Income-donations were a little higher than normal

Envelope giving down a little (possibly because of the holidays)

Gift Aid quarter 1 came in August

There are regularly 3 or 4 open collections a month

Easy fundraising is trickling in.

Overall income is buoyant.

Expenditure-utilities as expected

Servicing of the organ

Website

Printer charges and new office shredder

Damp investigations

Admin costs

Refurb of stone in garden of remembrance

Servicing of fire extinguishers and clock

We have an £8,500 deficit to date but still awaiting some gift aid but we are still looking at a £12 to £15k deficit [for the year](#).

There was a one off anonymous donation of £15,000 which could not be gift aided.

The PCC gave a vote of appreciation for the donation.

Fr Michael and the church wardens will decide where to put the donation.

The 2022 budget was discussed and will be brought back to the PCC at the next meeting to be formally adopted.

The Archdeacon has thanked St Johns for maintaining the level of their parish pledge.

The finance committee met last week to prepare for the new stewardship campaign

The PCC agreed to appoint 2 temporary stewardship reps who are Richard Burkett and Jane Bransgrove.

The finance committee are to look at a planned giving scheme which is an automated system which will produce the gift aid payments on a monthly basis. The committee are to look at getting approval for this scheme.

Sally Jocelyne has been successful in obtaining £157 from the diocese to get [an additional](#) ~~more~~ devices for sum up giving. We are waiting for the new unit to arrive and then Sally and Richard will be able to train other people to operate the machines.

There will be a formal complaint going in about Castle Water.

7439 8-ST JOHNS HALL- Hall committee report
Received with thanks

7440 9-SCOUT HEADQUARTERS AGREEMENT RENEWAL & PRE-SCHOOL LICENCE UPDATE
The Scout agreement is proceeding well and will be completed soon and the Pre-School licence is still being worked on.

7441 10-SECURITY PROJECT
We have approval from the Archdeacon. It does not require a faculty, it's a list B application. Hopefully [the project will be completed](#) ~~it will be in place by~~ [by](#) the end of this year.

7442 11-BUILDING REPAIR PROJECT
Charles Sheppard our architect is to give us a scheme of [the](#) work that needs doing, ~~broken~~ broken down in [manageable](#) chunks.

7443 12-WEBSITE
The harvest appeal on the website has brought in approx. £150 so far for the foodbank.

There being no further business, Fr Michael closed the meeting with prayer from Chris Benson.

The next PCC meeting would be at 8 p.m. on Wednesday 3rd. November 2021.