

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, MALDEN
Registered Charity No.1145155
Minutes of the 742nd meeting of the Parochial Church Council
at 8 p.m. on
Tuesday, 7th September 2021
in the coffee lounge

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

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

The Vicar opened in prayer.

7421 1 - There were no apologies.

7422 2 - NOTICE OF ESSENTIAL AOB
Disciplinary procedure

7423 3 - MINUTES OF THE JULY MEETING
The Vicar made a couple of correction/amendments and the minutes were signed.

7424 4 – DBS UPDATES

The Vicar said there were still outstanding people who needed to be followed up to get their DBSs up to date as soon as possible. Sally will send out the emails to people requiring a DBS with a link and personal ID code and then it will be followed up by either Marie McGuire or Vanessa Spreckley who are both trained up to deal with the applications . It's very important that is done as soon as possible .**Lynn Sanger** to chase up.

7425 5 - VICAR'S REPORT

a) REOPENING – as of Sunday 5th September pre booking was no longer required. Return to 8am and 9.45am services. Singing to recommence with masks shortly. Social distancing and masks still in use. The sheltered service on a Wednesday will remain.

b) LITTLE FISHES –waiting for Ro Kings DBS check to come through. Margaret needs help for the older group before restarting. **Lynn Sanger** to follow up Ros DBS

c) HARVEST FESTIVAL-October 3rd. Scouts have been invited and accepted. There will be anew pattern of worship once a month “Worship for All” on either the 2nd or 4th Sundays. There will also be a Harvest Evensong with Barry playing.

d) BAPTISMS. There have been 3 baptisms so far this year with another 6 booked in. There needs to be a date set for Confirmation preparation.

WEDDINGS there is 1 in October this year and 2 booked so far for next year.

- e) BEREAVEMENT CAFÉ – There is a leaders training booked for this at Princess Alice Hospice on October 1st and 14th. The leaders need to meet before the end of September. A date will also be set for the Decompress Group.
- f) The Vicar would like to make some ore contacts with the Malden Manor estate.
- g) LIVING IN LOVE AND FAITH. Harvey will be leading a discussion group to feed back to the diocese. The vicar wants to find out who is interested in joining this group.
- h) HOME CHURCH-There will be a new camera to be used for the continuation of live streaming of services. OMN news needs more contributors and a new editor, possibly Franklin?
- i) Father Michael has been elected to Deanery Synod.

7426 6 -FINANCE-June and July updates – Stewardship online is dwindling but envelope giving is quite buoyant .Both June and July had 4 services each that had collections. The Plant sales, late donation from the organ recital, some gift aided donations and the votive collections have all helped. Overall 2 pretty good months for income. Outgoings, there were the utilities, ecclesiastical insurance (a new 3 year term started), sacristan supplies (these will last until the end of the year though) , church maintenance (stone in burial of ashes garden) , leavers bibles for MPS. There was a deficit in both June and July but it doesn't include the gift aid recovery Which will help offset some of the deficits but there is more maintenance to come. Worst case scenario at the end of the year could be, £12,000 to £15,000 if the Income and expenditure are as expected.

There was a discussion about moving forward with online banking, sum up machines giving through the websites which were now being more widely used. There are still ongoing issues with Castle Water which Alistair and Richard are working very hard to resolve. They have started a complaints procedure and the

next

step is to decide whether to involve the CCW (water ombudsman) **Alistair Harris, Richard Burkett**

BUDGET – to try to maintain the payments to the Parish support Fund and to look at having a stewardship Sunday on October 12th . We also need a Free Will Giving Officer?

Training will be given for more people to use the Sum Up machines.

The parish support fund is still standing at £72,000 and has been for the past 4 years. The PCC unanimously agreed to keep the parish pledge at £72,000 as recommended by the finance committee.

The fundraising team are beginning to start planning new ideas.

Finance committee next meeting is on September 29th.

7427 7-ST JOHNS HALL REPORT

This report was received by the PCC from Beth Owen.

After a productive meeting an agreement in principle has been made regarding the scout hut with £500 being agreed for the 1st year, something in between for the 2nd year and then £2000 for the 3rd year and going forward.

- PCC voted to accept these terms.
- 7428 8-SECURITY PROJECT
We have had general approval for the new security lighting from the DAC but they have suggested a couple of amendments re the style which they believe is too utilitarianism .Our architect will be asked to show that we have done the best we can but are struggling to find alternative lights.
- 7429 9-BUILDING REPAIR REPORT
The drains report has been looked at and there have been lots of and difficult drains laid over the years which has highlighted we need to do some work on them. Some are blocked and some have collapsed or are full of weeds etc. . we need to engage a drain expert and Mike will ask if the diocese has anyone they would recommend . Than we need to look at a scheme of work and the costs involved. **Mike Broome.**
There are also investigations n to the type of paint used in church to see if its breathable as this may have contributed to the damp problem. There may have been some Victorian paint discovered which we may get looked at and possibly get a survey (hopefully free) from the Victorian society.
The architect is now looking at the next steps in our plan.
- 7430 10-ST JOHNS WEBSITE
Deborah Harris has been tidying the website. The online shop is currently off the website but will be back on shortly.
- 7431 11-AOB
The PCC voted to adopt the new Disciplinary procedure policy.

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

The next PCC meeting would be at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, 5th October 2021.