

## Worship Vision Group Meeting Notes – All Saints Guildford

21<sup>st</sup> October 2021, 5.30 – 7pm via Zoom

**Members present:** Beverly Watson (chair), Carolyn Nicholls (Secretary), Martyn Whiteman (Occasional Preacher), David (LLM) and Marguerite Barclay, Katherine Hopwood, Annie Twidell

**Apologies:** Ryan Harding (moved to Clapham), Alison Moulden (LLM), Henrietta Harding. Also Richard and Sue Hemingway as their Zoom was not working properly.

**1. Notes and action points from last meeting, 19<sup>th</sup> August 2021** - none

**2. Looking back: Update and Review of Sunday Services since 19<sup>th</sup> August 2021**

Special Services: Service of Thanksgiving for the gift of a child (5<sup>th</sup> September), and a Baptism (26<sup>th</sup> September); Children's Church reopens (12<sup>th</sup> September); Memorial Service for Nick Farbridge (20<sup>th</sup> September); Five children admitted to Communion (26<sup>th</sup> September); Harvest Services (10<sup>th</sup> October); St. Luke's Day (17<sup>th</sup> October).

Baptism: MW asked about preparation of the parents and godparents. BW explained that she met with the parents and asked them to share and prepare with the godparents.

Admission to Communion: KH concerned that children were out for the prayer of preparation and just came back into church for the communion. She suggested a special service to make it special and memorable for the children. BW holds preparation course for the children, and that Children's Church was focussed on Communion that Sunday. MW was concerned about the implications for Children's Church. **Action:** BW to discuss with Jeanette Whiteman

St Luke's day service: DB pleased with how it went and was received

The current morning worship pattern at 10am (2 Communion per month, and 2 Services of Morning Worship per month) has now been in place since Sept 2020. Sara Truman has said she values the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday non-communion service. Some choir members miss the formality when no communion. KH says the choir appears fresher and more focussed when only twice a month. MW asked about Choral Scholars. BW felt it was not hugely successful and will not continue/resume unless special request by Jeremy.

Review of Tea Time Church: BW asked if it was useful, and should continue. MW said yes, until Christmas, then review again. Felt it provided a good training ground for new preachers. Ellie Wells will start with 4pm service. It was noted that it was a useful and informal introduction to All Saints. Also very important for several regulars.

**3. School Services in Church and at school:** QE Harvest Festivals in church (12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> October, for years 3+4 and then years 5+6); Montessori Harvest Festival in church (14<sup>th</sup> October). Beverly took 2 Assemblies in school (21<sup>st</sup> September and 5<sup>th</sup> October), led a Year 5 Faith Day on the 18<sup>th</sup> October, and also a 'Prayer Space' for each year group in November (other clergy – Neil Roberts from St. Nicolas, and Wayne Hawkins from the URC also now involved at QE). Give thanks for so many children, and also teachers are now involved and engaging in the assemblies, and for the new support from Neil and Wayne. Thanks to AT for help at the services in church Onslow Infants more cautious but would like to come to All Saints for their Christmas Service.

**4. Dray Court:** Service re-opened on the 15<sup>th</sup> September, with 'Songs of Praise' and Harvest Festival on 20<sup>th</sup> October but with lower numbers than usual. Remembrance Service planned for the 17<sup>th</sup> November; Carol Service on the 15<sup>th</sup> December. Thanks for a good team and special thanks for Dinah who lives in Dray Court. Need to work to build up numbers again and encourage newcomers.

**5. Messy Church:** Planned for 21<sup>st</sup> November at All Saints (4pm). Onslow Infant not ready to restart Messy Church just yet. Messy Church may take place within the Toddler Group at Christmas.

6. **Prayer:** Plans in place to recruit and train new Intercessors (Henrietta/Martyn/Richard Pointer) – awaiting HH. KH suggested may be easier to involve families if they could pre-record intercessions when less pressure, and timing easier to manage. **Action:** BW to discuss with HH

CN asked that Prayer co-ordinator role and managing prayer requests needs further thought and clarity. **Action:** BW and CN to meet. MB asked to be involved where it has impact on pastoral care.

7. **Looking forwards:**

- a) **Worship Rota for October to December 2021:** Note that Alison Moulden will be out of action for some time, following a knee operation. BW covering for her as needed.  
Altogether Worship team is low as Rosemary Woodcock has stepped down. AT suggested Alice may be suitable.
- b) **Plans for September onwards:** 'Worship Weekly' focus for all church members – some response. Attendance particularly low over last 2 or 3 weeks. Some people still cautious over Covid risk. CN suggested that BW might consider a hybrid/zoom service once a month over the winter months.
- c) **New musical worship leader needed for first and third Sundays** (Beverly and Julie to cover during the interim) Ellie Wells is interested but too young, but will help with choosing suitable music. Andy Wells is willing to manage the admin, and Katherine with the musical direction.
- d) **Christmas Services:** Timing of Services on Christmas morning agreed to have a single service at 10am with BCP Communion available on 19<sup>th</sup> at 8am and Midnight Mass at 11.30pm on 24<sup>th</sup>.

8. **Worship Space:** Further easing of Covid restrictions during Services for October and November. Covid precautions will remain much the same, although there is provision for extra rows, agreed by safeguarding team. Ticketing will be used for the Paul Karenza evening. VG members all suggested ticketing for all the Christmas services. **Action:** BW to discuss with the Central Team

9. **Courses:**

**Pilgrim Course:** Part 8 (Church and Kingdom) finished on the 6<sup>th</sup> October, meaning we have completed all 48 weeks of the Course. 20-25 people took part, and numbers remained fairly constant over all 15 months. There was very positive feedback.

**After Pilgrim:** BW proposed that we consider an occasional 'Theology Night', using material from the St. Paul's Cathedral Resource Hub <https://www.stpaulsresources.co.uk/>. This could take place in church over a glass of wine, or via Zoom. This was discussed and general agreement to have occasional discussion although felt that there was real value in regular and consistent teaching. Concern was expressed by DB that regular Wednesday meetings negatively affected the Sharing and Learning group. Several other courses were possible to start in the New Year. KH suggested asking church members. Action: BW to consider way forward. CN asks that all Worship VG members pray for clarity for the way ahead.

**Occasional Preachers' Course:** Andy Wells and Ellie Wells completed the course on the 16<sup>th</sup> October.

10. **Church Wardens:** nothing to report

11. **Safeguarding:** nothing to report

**Date of next meeting: Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> November 5.30-6.45pm face to face in the Reading Room if Covid situation allows.**

Carolyn Nicholls, 5.11.2021