

Minutes of PCC Meeting - Monday 28th June 2021

Present: Beverly Watson (Chair), Rebecca Brown, Rob Burch, Rob Crossingham, Simon Doran, Eve Gunn (for item 4), Henrietta Harding, Robin Holdsworth, Katherine Hopwood, Ed Gillett, Julie Lodge, Simon Moulden, Peter Nicholls, Angela Rose, Jo Smalley, Annie Twidell, Trish Tye, Andy Wells

Apologies: Marguerite Barclay

1. Approval of minutes

1.1. The minutes of the meeting held on 12th April 2021 were approved.

2. Standing Committee Notes and Approvals

2.1. The notes of 11th May 2021 were reviewed.

3. Church Lettings

Eve presented a report updating the PCC on hall and church lettings (see Appendix A)

Julie commented that Guildford Dance may well struggle for members as Farnham Dance seem to be more proactive.

Eve confirmed that Prologue Theatre will continue to use the church after their performance that they are preparing for now.

Katherine suggested that it would be good to publicise when the church is booked out, perhaps in the news-sheet and on the website.

Action: Trish

Robin asked about the status of Reading Room lettings. Eve said she is open to bookings and has told people that a new carpet is due. There are one or two bookings in the diary for it.

Robin raised an issue about chair storage and that the chapel is currently out of action. Beverly commented that, being a confined space, it's unlikely that people will want to gather in the chapel for a while. When restrictions are lifted we will likely put more chairs out as we will be able to bring the rows closer. We can also have some stacked on trolleys in the church.

4. Transforming Church Plan

4.1. Focus on Missions

Peter provided an update on the work of the Mission Vision Group.

The main aim of the group is to promote awareness of mission work, locally and worldwide. Peter was, personally, hugely influenced by speakers who had returned from missions abroad.

We are currently supporting a wide range of organisations. The most recent of these was Christian Aid and we raised just over £1,000. We delivered approximately 1,000 envelopes around the parish, some of which came back, some donated directly. Peter has become aware of some new people supporting Christian Aid and church in general and so there were some good outreach aspects to Christian Aid week.

At end of April we held an online meeting with Five Talents which went very well and demonstrated what a huge impact their work has on people's lives.

The group has made a couple of quizzes available on the website and have held a Zoom evening about the work of Clare and Andrew Koens. 20-25 people attended this event. The Koens have since led the prayers in an online service and we'll hope they can join us again.

Peter commented that the Transforming Church Plan doesn't show the detail that's necessary and should be updated.

As a final point, Peter suggested that we encourage intercessors to mention prayer for missionary work.

Andy Wells suggested that there might be principles that we can take and apply to the way that we do outreach in the church. Peter agreed with this suggesting that mission begins at home.

Beverly reminded the PCC that 10% of our income per year goes to Missions. Some of this is local, such as the North Guildford Foodbank and the Bishop of Guildford's Foundation.

Beverly gave thanks to Peter and others in the Vision Group. Peter remarked that the group could still do with more members.

5. Vicar's Report

Beverly reported on events since Standing Committee:

- 'Vicarage garden lunches' have been held to welcome people and to help build confidence as lockdown eases. Some were rained off, but we managed to hold three.

- We finished part 6 of the Pilgrim Course (The Eucharist). People keep coming and we have started part 7 “The Bible” this week. The course has been running for a year now with steady attendance. Beverly has really valued it.
- Year 3 from Queen Eleanor’s have visited to learn about Holy Communion. This went well and involved walking the children through the service. The links to the school are strong and growing. We are holding a leavers service soon for year 6.
- Toddler Group has re-opened and been running for three weeks with attendance growing. Jo commented how well it works in church; it is a lovely space and you can see the children wherever they are. Toddler Group is led by Vanessa Virgo, Carolyn Nicholls, Rosemary Woodcock and Jeanette Whiteman.
- Beverly has been away and so we have had some visiting clergy including Archdeacon Paul Davies.
- Alison has been licensed as a Lay Minister at a very moving service. She will now be able to step up with her leading and preaching.
- Cally Burch will be ordained this Sunday.
- We re-opened Messy Church in the church yesterday where the focus was Noah coming out of lockdown.
- Beverly gave thanks to the Wardens and Trish for holding the fort whilst she was away on retreat and then holiday.
- In family news – there has been one wedding and another to go in August!
- With regard to numbers in church, we are experiencing around 40 at 10am, around 12 at 4pm and a handful at 8am. We’ve a little way to go, but people are gaining in confidence to come back.

Katherine suggested that it might be good to ask some of the congregation to write something for the magazine on how they’re feeling coming back to church.

Action: Trish to raise with the magazine team.

6. Safeguarding

6.1. Approval of Safeguarding Policy

Proposal: That the PCC adopts the Safeguarding Policy as circulated.

Proposed: Julie Lodge; **Seconded:** Trish Tye; All in favour.

6.2. Reporting Serious Incidents to the Charity Commission

Julie explained that the document circulated needed a bit more work from the Safeguarding Team and would be brought back to the next meeting.

6.3. Update

The Safeguarding Team update the risk assessments as rules change. We have learnt that there is usually a two-week delay between a Government change and a Church of England change. Church of England interpretation can be stricter than you might expect. The delay does give us time to reflect though, which is useful.

7. Approvals made by email

Trish presented the decisions that the PCC have made over email so that they become minuted formally. See Appendix B.

8. Dates and Events

8.1. 2021 Calendar Review

There is a clash in the calendar between the PCC Away morning and the visit by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby.

On Friday 24th September, there is “An Evening with Justin Welby” at the Lakeside Centre, Camberley. On Saturday 25th September, there is a ‘Big Questions’ event at G-Live.

Proposal: that the PCC attend either or both of these events and then we meet at Willow Grange on the Saturday for a reflection on the events and for lunch.

Proposed: Jo Smalley; **Seconded:** Henrietta Harding; All in favour.

Action: Trish to circulate booking links as they become available.

9. Dates of future meetings

Standing Committee – 13th July 2021

PCC and meal at Willow Grange – 13th September 2021

PART 2 (*Confidential items*)

(none)

Minutes approved on 13th September 2021

Signed:

Note: The [Parish Safeguarding Handbook](#) is referenced here for your convenience.

Appendix A

Lettings Report for PCC 28th June 2021.

During the lockdown period we were unable to take any bookings which left meant we were sadly in arrears compared to the amount we were able to take in lettings during 2019.

However, with the transformation of the church itself by the removal of the pews and the flexibility that the chairs have brought us, we have been able to go some way towards rectifying this deficit. As we have been able to let out the church space.

Our main income has continued to come from the Montessori Nursery who for this financial year will account for approximately £16,131 for their hire of the hall. This is an increase as they extended their days to include Fridays this year.

The second biggest account we have is with the Prologue Drama Group, who because of the flexibility the chairs have given us, have been delighted to be able to use the church on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday for their drama groups. The group have proved to be very good customers who are very happy to move the chairs for their classes and always replace them on a Wednesday evening ready for the Thursday morning service as requested. They have also been rehearsing a play, and in order to have separate rehearsals for that group they have been using the church hall every Sunday during May, June and July and this combined with the figure for the hire of the church will bring in approximately £7,124.

These two have been our biggest 'customers' and we do appreciate the income they generate.

In addition to this we have several smaller groups who are currently using the hall. On a Monday we have a Yoga class, and a Brownie pack, Tuesdays is Guides, Wednesdays has been ballet, Thursdays we have a new hirer a Corin Pegden who runs a Karate class. Fridays has traditionally been a Brownie pack, but at the moment they are still not yet meeting in the hall. These groups should bring in around £1800.00. There is some doubt about the continuation of the Wednesday ballet group, they are struggling to fill their classes and have warned me that they may have to cancel their booking. We have also had income from the Apostolic Assembly church group who regularly use our hall, or if that is not available the church on a Sunday afternoon. They have brought in £645 so far this year and will no doubt continue during the rest of the year although they have not booked in advance, so I'm not counting on them.

This means that our income from lettings that we know about should reach approximately £25,700 this year all being well.

On top of this, we are now beginning to get enquiries for private parties which will help as well. However, if the ballet group on a Wednesday do have to cancel it would be very handy if we could find another group who would use the hall.

The Toddler group have now moved to the church itself on a Friday morning. We have had a few more enquiries for the church itself, one from the Guildford Shakespeare Society, but unfortunately, we were asking too much, so they have gone elsewhere. The Guildford Chamber Choir also use us when they can.

The Reading Room has not been usable up until now, but the chairs that were stored there have now been moved to the chapel and the space is clear. It would be very nice when we can replace the carpet, but this relies on the door being water proof, which is being worked on at the moment. We were restricted from using this small space but once we are out of lockdown and the carpet replaced, it does make a very usable meeting room. Although we do have to be a bit careful regarding booking the church space out at the same time, as it could be a bit noisy in the church when there is choir practice for example.

This does mean, however, that the Chapel is now not usable as there are chairs stacked in there. I'm not sure if we are happy for this to continue and look to the PCC for their advice.

The budget for the current year for lettings is £23,000 for the Hall, Church and Reading Room which we are on course to achieve.

Evelynne Gunn
Bookings Secretary

Appendix B

PCC Decisions via Email

These PCC decisions have been made via email in the period X to 23rd June and will be minuted at the meeting held on 28th June 2021. *Note: we have 17 voting members of PCC.*

Date: 21st April 2021

Proposal:

To deliver Christian Aid envelopes to various roads (not all) in the parish. This would be delivery only with instructions to return the envelopes to church, or to donate online.

Proposed by: Mission Vision Group

For: 14; Against 0.

Date: 21st April 2021

Proposal:

To hold a charity car wash and cake sale in the village hall car park on Saturday May 22nd 2 - 4pm.

Proposed by: Mission Vision Group

For: 14; Against 0.

Date: 14th May 2021

Proposal:

To hold an informal get-together on the Onslow Recreation Ground on Friday May 21st and 28th so as to make contact with old and new Toddler families.

Proposed by: Carolyn Nicholls on behalf of the Toddler Group Team

For: 12; Against 0.

Date: 2nd June 2021

Proposal:

To advertise Ecclesiastical Insurance's 'Trust130' scheme.

Proposed by: Trish Tye

For: 13; Against 0.

Date: 17th June 2021

Proposal:

To hold an Autumn Fayre on Saturday 18th September. This is to replace the Summer Fete which we can no longer hold on 10th July.

Proposed by: Trish Tye

For: 11; Against 0.
