

Worship Vision Group Meeting Notes – All Saints Guildford

Tuesday 10th March 2022

Members in attendance: David Barclay (LLM), Alison Moulden (LLM), Henrietta Harding, Sue Hemingway, Beverly Watson (chair), Martyn Whiteman (Occasional Preacher), Marguerite Barclay, Annie Twidell **Apologies:** Richard Hemingway and Katherine Hopwood

Beverly proposed that the secretarial duties should be shared on a rotational basis. Martyn agreed to take notes of the current meeting.

1. **Notes and action points from last meeting, 18th January 2022** There were no observations

2. **Looking back: Update and Review of Sunday Services since 18th January 2022**

Rosemary Bailey's (27th January) and Pam Parke's funerals (1st March), the funerals had been special, and it was appreciated that Beverly had made comment that their membership of All Saints had been significant for both of them.

Jubilee Tea (6th February), this was a well-attended service and had been sensitively led by David.

Baptisms x2 (13th February), there was considerable discussion about these two services. Clearly there had been a difficulty in respect to one of the services where many more people had attended than had been anticipated, or indicated. A suggestion was made that additional chairs could be left in the foyer, for use if there were more than already provided for in the main building. Alison made the point that as many couples were not getting married nowadays that the baptism of their first child was very important for them and that often large numbers of family would be invited. Beverly confirmed that she would seek to make more pointed inquiries about who would be attending and the numbers. Although it was suggested that perhaps when there would be large numbers it should be in private, this should be balanced against the fact that it is a way in which people are introduced to the church and, perhaps more importantly, it is a time when we welcome the child into the church family and make various commitments to them.

Duncan Myers visit (27th February) preached very well referring to the invasion of Ukraine in a very sensitive way.

Ash Wednesday Service at St. Mary's Quarry Street (2nd March). It was appreciated that a number of clergy had been involved in the service, which has been reflective and inclusive.

4pm Sunday services: there is a core commitment to this service and there have been some significant services. Each month there is a special service eg the Ukrainian Vigil this week.

New contacts: Toddlers had brought two or three families to the church and Phoebe had introduced a family, including her school friends, who had attended the last three Sundays.

3. **School Services in Church and at school:** Assemblies (now known as Collective Worship) resumed 'in person' from 21st Feb; Beverly led on Shrove Tuesday in school. Easter Services planned for QE (29th and 31st March in church, 10.30am). Beverly had found that there was a new expression of faith at the school and they were currently undergoing an inspection with regard to their Christian "distinctiveness".

There was a termly Faith day for each year group, with which Beverly was involved. Also the team of clergy supporting the school was now extended to include the minister/vicar at URC and Saint Nicholas. There was also a person who had previously been a primary teacher named Anna Shaw, who was also assisting. This had spread the load very considerably and Beverly was encouraged by this.

There was the possibility of a Toddler Group Easter Service.

Annie suggested a further approach should be made to Onslow who, together with Toddlers, would be asked to advertise the Mothering Sunday service.

Annie offered to make an approach to the **uniformed organisations**.

4. **Dray Court:** Beverly reported that monthly 'in person' services had resumed, with an Epiphany Service on the 19th January, and a focus on St. Cuthbert on the 23rd February. Numbers are much lower than previously but people are gradually starting to re-gather after Covid.

Annie commented that it was very important that people of that age group could feel that they owned the service by taking part. We distributed flyers before the last service and are doing so in March.

5. **Messy Church:** Proposed date of 23rd January 4pm at All Saints – did not take place, due to lack of a dedicated MC team. Beverly propose that MC is put 'on hold' for now, which was agreed.
6. **Prayer:** Training morning for Intercessors took place on the 29th January. Martyn reported that two intercessors had been recruited following that, one working with Richard and the other himself.
7. **Library:** Beverly reported that ideally we needed a librarian to take an overview of the library (Sue Hawkins does day-to-day maintenance). **We need to think and pray about that**. Annie suggested it needed a **job description** and it was commented that the person involved needed to be a self-starter and proactive. Beverly had approached a number of people but without any positive response.

If we have **surplus books** maybe we can make them available to a parish in another area of the Diocese, with the consent of the Diocese.

8. Looking forwards:

- a) **Worship Rota for March and April 2022:** Taken as read, with the addition of a vigil after the Maundy Thursday Communion (from 9-10pm) for those who might wish to stay
- b) **Worship Rota from May to August 2022:** Town chaplain preaching later in year. The Preaching group will discuss whether to preach from the lectionary during Trinity or do a series.
- c) **Use of the chapel for worship:** to be discussed further, consultation with members needed before any action, explaining the reasons for change, if any.
- d) **Wearing of robes in Services:** to be discussed further, again with consultation needed. Beverly reported, however, that she had recently consulted with the choir who had indicated that they did not wish to revert to wearing robes.
- Beverly will prepare a paper** for our next discussion on this topic covering the historical, spiritual and current purposes for the wearing of robes.

9. **Worship Space:** Safeguarding Team will review Covid restrictions on the 8th March, for PCC approval on the 14th March. Wine is now being served at Communion again, in individual glasses; this is a temporary measure and will be reviewed at a later stage, when the threat of Covid has passed.

9. Courses:

a) **Lent Course 2022:** *Discipleship Explored* – a challenging 8 week course delivered via zoom, from 9th February to 6th April, omitting 2nd March (Ash Wednesday). 35 people taking part, with three break-out groups in place.

b) **Parish Retreat Morning:** 12th March at Willow Grange – **postponed due to Covid**

10. **Church Wardens:** Henrietta reported that there was good commitment for intercessions, but ideally we need younger people being involved.

11. **Safeguarding:** nothing to report

Date of next meeting: **5th May 2022, 5.30-6.45pm via Zoom**