

St. Simon's Church, Waverley Road, Southsea, PO5 2PW Tel: 023 9282 9440:

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MINUTES- PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING [PCC]

DATE: 15th March 2021 TIME: 7.30pm VENUE: **Virtual via Zoom link due to Covid 19 restrictions**

ATTENDEES:

1. Hugh Mason (**HM**) - Deanery Synod rep 2020 – Vice Chair [in absence of a Priest in Charge]
2. Paul Jenkins (**PJ**) - Church Warden
3. Fran Sherren (**FS**) - Church Warden
4. Oyin Alonge (**OA**) Director of Finance
5. Gail Chipperfield (**GCh**) Treasurer
6. Michael Piper (**MP**) Chair Fabric Committee - *Apologies*
7. Linda Jenkins (**LJ**) Secretary
8. Gerry Lightup (**GL**)
9. Jerry Brown (**JB**)
10. Pat Jolly (**PJo**) - *Apologies*
11. Bethan Fogell (**BF**)
12. Elly Mulvany (**EM**)
13. Louise Roulston Thomas (**LR**)
14. Lorna Sandland - Deanery Synod rep – ex-officio (**LS**)

In attendance: Andrea Grainger- Children's Ministry (**AG**); John Bazeley -Safeguarding Officer (**JBa**); Craig Fisher (CF) Church administrator

VISITORS: Archdeacon Jenny Rowley and Andrew Hargreaves (Harbour Church)

Quorate [33% or more of lay members] YES

AGENDA ITEMS

	ITEM	SPEAKER	COMMENTS
	Welcome/prayer	Hugh Mason (Chair) [HM]	
1	Apologies	Linda Jenkins (Secretary) [LJ]	
2	Minutes from 16/11/20	Hugh Mason(Chair) [HM]	Minutes for approval
3	Matters arising + Action tracker	Hugh Mason(Chair) [HM]	SEE: Action tracker update(includes Administrator advert) see below
4	Welcome Archdeacon Jenny Rowley + Andrew Hargreaves (Harbour Church)	Hugh Mason [HM]	
5	Finance report :items for decision	Oyin Alonge [OA] ,Gail Chipperfield [GCh]	OL to give presentation;
6	Fabric Committee Report	Michael Piper [MP]	Items for decision to be taken
7	Safeguarding update; incident/safeguarding concerns	John Bazeley [JBa]	Report for noting
8	Children's ministry update	Andrea Grainger [AG]	Report for noting
9	Health and Safety Report	Paul Jenkins [PJ]	Report for noting
10	Feedback from sermons + vision for future	Hugh Mason(Chair) [HM] + PJ	
11	AOB Christian Aid Week	Hugh Mason(Chair) [HM]	To be notified to PCC secretary in advance

	ACTIONS [collated on tracker]
Welcome, reading and prayer - HM	
1.Apologies Michael Piper [MP] + Pat Jolly [PJo]	
2.Minutes from 18th January 2021 Minutes – Approved with proviso to amend title– signed as true copy HM	LJ amended heading to MINUTES COMPLETED
3.Matters arising from minutes 18/01/21 + Action tracker update No matters arising. NB: Action tracker items completed will be removed from action tracker items outstanding Action tracker items completed except those outstanding on tracker below <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2a) JBa to follow up meeting Bob mason re: pastoral visiting policy • 2b)JBa looking out for leadership safeguarding training when available from Diocese • 3) H & S policy received from PJ -on agenda OA will present finance report - on agenda ACTION COMPLETED • 6) TOR finance/income generation group led by GL – on agenda under finance ACTION COMPLETED 	
4. Welcome given to Archdeacon Jenny Rowley [JR] & Andrew Hargreaves [AH] JR outlined her wish to help us consider the difficult times St Simon’s had been through in last few years and offer support to this church, which she acknowledged was not a problem church but a fantastic, thriving, and growing one. She felt now was the opportunity to have an honest look at the past ,work through things, not to repeat the incidents of the last few years but to do what St Simon’s does best which is to grow in impact and in number. She felt Andrew Hargreaves [AH] was well placed to help us as he has experience in the process of reconciliation work and can walk this journey with us. She invited PJ to share the ideas gathered from the congregation on the two questions: -What is it about St Simon’s that is special and precious to us and maybe to God as well? -What matters to us about our congregation? PJ explained that these questions arose following the deanery consultations about the future for the Parish and the mission dialogue across four churches in Southsea: - St Simon’s, St Jude’s, St Margaret’s and Harbour Church. The responses from St Simon’s congregation so far (approximately 30) could be considered as 7 recurrent headings with sub sets of views:- St Simon’s is special due to its:- <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Welcome - inclusivity, diversity in terms of ages, backgrounds and faith backgrounds too 2. Spirit and ministry - prayerfulness; strong commitment to biblical teaching; discipleship 3. Community - sharing God’s love particularly with the vulnerable and those on the ‘fringes’ e.g. Sunday suppers/Breakthru 4. Caring for one another - generosity of spirit ; encouraging use of our talents; supporting each other in difficulties and learning to forgive 5. Resilience - together in adversity; shared leadership; honesty and willingness to adapt; ability to change and a “can do” attitude 6. Creative church – social activities; using the resources we have both physical and human 7. Desire to grow and be relevant PJ had felt the messages were moving to read and it was a privilege to share them as an important part of building our future from where we are now, particularly in the context of partnership working in the parish. JR thanked us for the responses and felt they were very positive and would be important threads to take up in the conversations she will have with PJ and FS as church wardens next week. AH felt it was lovely to hear the responses which were a very helpful, concise recognition of what we know about St Simon’s. He saw the next steps as a process to lead us through hearing the vision; learning from the past and clearing up the hurt to set us free. He proposed the process would hopefully be concluded by end of June this year (2021). AH suggested a small group of three or four people might meet to support this process. We also could think about holding an evening event focused on this journey for the whole PCC or something for the whole church, recognising we have started a healing process with our recent service in January. AH reiterated the history of events that he discussed with PJ about the last few years, starting with our Priest in charge Susikaran James’s departure onwards with the challenges of the interregnum that followed. Then where we found ourselves at the time of Priest in charge Andy Finn’s arrival, what our expectations were, and how these were managed recognising any gaps. He urges us to think about the nature of the support we offered to Andy Finn as a congregation and what he offered us too. AH feels this is a good time to think about how things might have been done differently and what we have learnt to prepare for future leadership of St Simon’s. AH mentioned the relationship with the Diocese and their engagement with us and us with them, and that he has been given some direction to work at ‘mending bridges’. He mentioned how we might lovingly say to the Diocese something such as “...it would have been helpful if...” AH asked for comments and there was a discussion about how we can build trust in our relationship with the Diocese, and build channels of communication. JR said she was that channel and she was the ‘face’ of the Diocese	

<p>for us and she was ready to build new relationships based on trust.</p> <p>AH invited people to put themselves forward as part of a small group to work on the process of healing. These people offered and were accepted by the PCC to be part of the group: Paul Jenkins; Andrea Grainger; Lorna Sandland ;Louise Roulston;</p> <p>AH said he was very grateful to be part of this and to looking forward to a bright future for St Simon's.</p> <p>HM thanked both AH and JR who left the meeting at 20.12pm</p>	
<p>5.Finance Report – GCh + OA</p> <p>1. OA/GCh outlined financial position. PCC members had received OA's presentation/video explaining accounting system now in place that separates restricted funds clearly from unrestricted and identifying Sunday Suppers income and expenditure and Breakthru monies as separate items. From now on there will be a monthly monitoring of income and expenditure to keep a close watch on the state of church financial position.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Currently the core issue is less income than expenditure.</u> <p>PJ thanked OA for very clear presentation but highlighted that the deficit at end of year will need to be addressed.</p> <p>Discussion of looking at history of past income sources as a potential for future sources of income. OA to consider how to display this in the accounting system.</p> <p>Since access to building is limited under Covid restrictions, it hasn't been possible to make an assessment of what maintenance issues may arise and so potential future costs remain unidentified.</p> <p>Charity giving will start after annual accounts are approved at upcoming APCM (16 May 21) for our existing chosen charities. RE: existing charities, PJ proposed - Bereaved family holidays funds will be paid and any surplus they have because they're unable to go on holiday can be kept by charity for their future use</p> <p>UNANIMOUSLY AGREED</p> <p>Wider consideration of which charities to support next year underway as part of mission work. Church wardens collecting ideas of choices of charities for next year.</p> <p>2. TOR finance /income generation group.</p> <p>Proposal to accept these by LJ; seconded by FS. TOR APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY</p> <p>Under this stream of work need to look at biggest income demand which is heating. HM stated Diocesan decision now to be carbon neutral by 2030. PJ has discussed this with heating engineer, Chris Reading, who assured us the current plan under consideration meets the environmental requirements well.</p> <p>Discussion on fund raising activities and how these need to focus on how they both create income but can also boost St Simon's profile in the wider community.</p>	
<p>6. Fabric Committee Report – MP</p> <p>Report from Mick Walters in MP absence accepted. PJ updated progress with roof repairs. Some challenges raised by DAC re: bat inspection and need for project manager (architect) to oversee repairs. Fiona Hudd has agreed to be project manager and will submit a quote for doing so. GL offered practical help to church wardens as he has building experience.</p>	
<p>7.Safeguarding - JBa</p> <p>JBa had sent report to PCC. He submitted a return as required and within the timescale by Diocese on past incidences.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Once we are post Covid JBa plans to meet AG and review all checks are in place + full review of all posts and needs for DBS - JBa to meet Bob Mason [BM] re Pastoral visiting policy. Few visits undertaken due to Covid. 	<p>JBa post Covid to review DBS/safeguarding arrangements in children's ministry + all posts</p> <p>JBa to meet BM re pastoral visiting policy</p>
<p>8.Children's Ministry - AG</p> <p>1. AG sent report for PCC. Full set of activities in church will restart September 2021 at earliest. May have smaller reopening sooner if restrictions allow.</p> <p>2. BF raised related topic of Youth Ministry and how to signpost our young people approaching senior school age to existing youth provision in the city. Discussion how this might fit well with the ongoing discussions across the 4 churches St Simon's; St Jude's; St Margaret's' and Harbour church on partnership working. Church wardens are keen to maintain these conversations and considerations of joint working, sharing talents and resources and Archdeacon JR may be helpful in this. There is a "One body" city wide group which may be a useful link also.</p> <p>PJ offered sincere thanks on behalf of PCC to AG for all the efforts at keeping children's ministry work alive and creative despite Covid restrictions.</p>	
<p>9.Health and Safety Policy + Report–PJ</p> <p>Draft ready for approval/comment at next PCC. Gaps identified: Need update on First Aiders training and numbers of First Aid trained volunteers and/or staff across all activities.</p>	<p>All PCC send comments on H & S policy to PJ</p> <p>PCC to approve this next meeting</p>
<p>10.Feedback on recent sermons + Vision for future</p> <p>HM has received some positive feedback on the series of 'hard questions' sermons and request for more of the same.</p> <p>PJ re: vision for the future- The items shared with Archdeacon and the ongoing conversations with 4 churches are</p>	

a part of the progress towards planning a future for St Simon's.						
11.AOB 1.Christian Aid week – HM Discussion how door to door envelope collection unworkable in Covid context and also not fruitful recently. Alternatives discussed including potential to fundraise through other ways. Proposal to post online link/ link in newsletter to Christian Aid week materials and invite individuals to donate direct. Several other Christian charities exist which may be good target for mission giving. All this needs to be discussed as part of wider mission planning and as we approve a new list of charities for the coming year. LJ suggested seeking a report from Missions team for APCM. 2. Church website: FS pointed out need to revitalise website. She has a contact and funding to do so and can take this forward UNANIMOUSLY AGREED				HM to source Christian Aid materials such as video HM to collate response to choices of charities+ PCC consider how to integrate these into overall plans for mission PCC to approve new list of charities for next year LJ to contact Mission team FS to make contact for church website update		
MEETING CLOSED 21.18 with LR praying						
DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS (until summer)						
PCC + Standing Committee						
Monday 19th April Standing Committee @6pm						
Monday 17th May PCC @ 7.30pm						
Monday 14th June Standing Committee @ 6pm						
Monday 19th July PCC @7.30pm						
ACTION TRACKER						
	Action agreed	Date action agreed	Who	Completed + date	Outstanding	Comments
1	All PCC send comments on H & S policy to PJ PCC to approve this next meeting	15.3.21	PCC members			Approval next PCC
2a	JBa working on pastoral visiting policy.	18.01.21	JBa		Outstanding	See minutes
2b	Safeguarding leadership training needed for PCC members					
	OA to adjust budget forecast using monthly spread of regular donations and commitments along with separate capital project projections costs	18.01.21	OA	COMPLETED 15.3.21		Present at next PCC 15 th March 2021
	Work on options for income generation/expenditure review with small group to be convened by GL	18.01.21	OA GL JB	COMPLETED 15.3.21		Present at next PCC 15 th March 2021
3	HM to source Christian Aid materials such as video HM to collate response to choices of charities and PCC to consider how to integrate these into overall plans for mission PCC to approve charities for next year at future meeting	15.3.21	HM/CF PJ/FS/PCC PCC members			CF to add to church newsletter
4	LJ to contact Mission team requesting report	15.3.21	LJ			
5	FS to contact person to start church website update	15.3.21	FS			