

Minutes of the PCC Meeting (on Zoom) Wed 16th November 2022.

Present: Andrew Povey-Richards, Lisa Meakin, Andrew Belfield, Martin Penny, Rev.Jo Loveridge, Mary Penny, Linda Dye, Helen Briggs, Colin Bird.

1. Apologies were received from Verity Tranter and on behalf of Nerine Chalmers.
- 2 The Minutes from Sept 28th were approved.
- 3 There were no matters arising.
- 4 Sustainability: There was nothing to report, but PCC plan to meet as soon as there is.
- 5 Finance: Colin reported the deficit being on course to be £20-30k by the end of 2022. Future energy price rises are unavoidable. The Vicar introduced and explained that she proposes to enlarge the “Vicar and Warden’s Hardship Fund” in response to the anticipated greater needs of the community. This fund has provided small sums for the Vicar to disperse to anyone in need, and now it will become a restricted fund administered in confidence by the Vicar and Officers of All Saints. After Jo proposed the new Hardship Fund, Colin seconded it and PCC approved it unanimously.
- 6 Hall - our gas contract will be renewed in Dec, coming into the Church of England Parish Energy Basket, thus providing some protection from the anticipated 10-fold rise from British Gas. The Hall is making a profit (before the energy price rises come), and PCC thanked Mario Jorge for his stewardship of the hirings.
- 7 Fabric. We await reports regarding the Quinquennial Inspection and the damaged windows. The Home Office have prepared a report which recommends the erection of protective acrylic sheets and cameras to provide security.
Q. How can we move forward from the unsightly broken windows soon knowing that prices are rising. PCC appreciates the running repairs done by our Work Party but from outside the broken windows are likely to encourage more. A We will remind the Archdeacon.
Sound system. The research is moving forward.
Memorial Garden: A generous offer from friends and family of someone commemorated there has been received. This would be a repair and seal to the part of the wall that has crumbled with the other parts being cleaned and sealed to match. All plaques will return to their former places. Janet Bird will enquire as to the need for permission, given that the work is to be a repair. PCC approved the proposed work and expressed their gratitude for the unexpected and generous offer received. Mary will communicate this to our Work Party.
Church lighting: The bulb replacements (LED) to the chandeliers are completed to great effect.
- 8 Events: The Church will be hosting an Art Sale, a Bring and Sing Messiah Part1, a Christmas Fair and many schools’ events.
Nearer Christmas a popular Big Band will return, Hertford Choral will promote their concert, and our Service of Lessons and Carols will start at 7.00pm to allow for the transmission of The World Cup Football Final that afternoon.
In the New Year a Green Talk/ coffee and lunches event will start at 11.30. Janet will inform Wendell Newbold who does our publicity.
- 9 Health and Safety. Nothing was reported.

- 10 Safeguarding: There was nothing to report. We need to adopt a Policy concerning the Recruitment of Ex-offenders. Martin offered to send a sample one to Andrew Povey-Richards. Andrew will also prepare procedures regarding allegations. Q. Where is the poster that provides telephone numbers for use in cases of Domestic Violence. A. Martin immediately sent the Diocesan 24hr no. so that it can be displayed.
- 11 AOB: Nerine Chalmers who is still in hospital after a serious traffic accident, has decided to step down from her role as Churchwarden, and Jo asked all members to consider the next step.

The “soft” launch of Friends of All Saints, a Ukrainian Evening, took place in Oct 2022.

The new Bishop of Hertford joins the Diocese in Feb. 2023.

The meeting ended at 8.45 with the Grace.

Dates: 2023: Jan 11th March 29th APCM on April 23rd, New PCC May 10th.