

PCC Minutes of Wed 17th Jan 2024 at 7.30 pm.

Present; Martin Penny, Shirley Glover, Andrew Belfield (Chair), Mary Penny (Sec), Samantha Bowden, Janet Bird (Warden), Linda Dye, Colin Bird (Treasurer), Verity Tranter (Warden).

! Apologies and AOB. Helen Briggs sent apologies. No AOB was declared.

2 Vacancy. Led by Janet. Standing Committee had already met to start the preparation of the Parish Profile and PCC were circulated with their notes. As part of a discussion pre pandemic activities were suggested e.g. Easter Journey for inclusion, and the following Actions were agreed; Wardens will seek advice about placing the finished Profile on the website; there will be some congregational statistics and photos will be included (Martin). Shirley and Janet will edit the document and then recirculate it to PCC. Parish Representatives: Janet Bird and Verity Tranter (our Churchwardens) were proposed by Mary Penny, seconded by Shirley Glover and were duly elected by PCC. The Advert. Standing Committee had met to discuss this, and PCC thanked Janet Bird for time and energy spent gaining first-hand knowledge of the "team" situation in Hertford. We await further information from the diocese. Process: there is an expectation that that the advert will appear in April, and PCC discussed the merits of using the Church Times for it (they have almost 100 current vacancies advertised). Martin penny proposed we advertise in the Church Times, Shirley seconded, and PCC approved that our advert would appear in the Church Times. (PCC understands that the cost will be about £1000 until the position is filled).

3 Finance. Papers were already circulated, and Colin spoke briefly about St John's Hall first, where a new boiler was recently installed. After reminding PCC that our duty as trustees is to the entire All Saints with St John's Hall charity, he proposed to transfer £12,000 from the Memorial Fund to the Hall to restore St John's Hall's reserves to just over £20,000 (comparable with 2022). Linda Dye seconded and PCC approved. Income from the hall continues to improve since the enforced closure during the pandemic. The parish will continue to have a deficit. Any interest from the Memorial Fund will come into our General Fund. The Organ Fund is still depleted from 2 years ago when it supported the PCC. Wedding Fees. The statutory fees are out of our hands and All Saints' fees will remain the same. PCC is grateful to Amanda Irwin for her continued work with the weddings. There was a question about charging extra for heating for events, and this was judged to be still appropriate. As Director of Music, Martin assured PCC that organists' fees were appropriate although lengths of some events are unpredictable. The PCC will not charge for Brian Bromley's Memorial Service thanks to his longstanding service to the music at All Saints.

4 Sustainability. Colin confirmed that although we still have a structural deficit, we are more financially secure. The remaining part of this section was confidential and appears as Part 2 of the minutes.

5 Fabric. Heating for the Church. Since our heating is so unreliable, we must consider how to replace it. There was discussion based on the circulated documents on different ways of heating the church. We are aware that our building is complex and large and contains a historic Father Willis Organ as well as a famous Kemp East Window that must be visible. Members spoke passionately of environmental concerns, and PCC weighed up the many ways we use the parts of our building. We will have a feasibility study to inform us about how infra-red would heat All Saints and explore local grants. CCTV. The two quotes were discussed and after a recommendation from the Standing Committee, Janet Bird proposed, Linda Dye seconded, and PCC approved that we accept the DSAV quote that offered the benefits to All Saints of having access to many cameras remotely as well as Wifi in the building. Contactless Donations. There is a new machine. South Aisle Roof is still awaiting

an investigation. Tower Clock. This is going to receive attention. Tower electricity supply. This has caused the roof alarms to short several times and Lodges are coming to investigate immediately.

6 Health and Safety. There was nothing to report.

7 Safeguarding. There was nothing to report.

8 Minutes. The minutes were approved.

9 Matters arising from the minutes. Q. Could you say more about the “dog charity” some details were put forward by a member. This is not a “dog charity” but a charity for people with dogs whom they are now struggling to care for properly. Nerine and Janet will liase with Tina about a future “warm space” for the group.

Meeting ended at 9.25 pm.