

## Minutes of PCC meeting on May 26<sup>th</sup> 2021 by Zoom.

Present

Rev Canon Jo Loveridge (Chair), Janet Bird and Nerine Chalmers ( Churchwardens) Martin Penny, Colin Bird, Mary Penny, Wendell Newbold, Helen Briggs, Lisa Meakin, and Andrew Povey-Richards.

A reflection was led by Jo.

1. Apologies were received from Rosemary Bolton, Dorothy Toyn, Andrew Bellfield and Verity Tranter.
2. The minutes from March 22nd were received and approved with one minor change.
3. Matters arising; Jo will not be taking a sabbatical (Sept -Dec 2021) and hopes another date will be offered. Q has Jo met with Reg Harman? A Yes and there is a good level of enthusiasm for the future of the Hall. Has a letter gone to Peter Ferguson? A Yes, and he has responded offering continued friendship to All Saints.
4. What is the purpose of the PCC? Jo recommended a video regarding membership of the council and the responsibility we all have as trustees within The Charity Commission. Q Is being a Trustee different from being a member of the PCC? A (from Treasurer) We are simultaneously on the PCC and Trustees (subject to UK Charity Law)
5. Co-options. Approaches have been made but as yet no-one is ready to join. Q What would be the time commitment of a PCC member? A 6 meetings /year, be on a sub-committee, and reading time in preparation. Jo asked members to consider other possibilities.
6. Committees, groups and Lay Chair. A Lay Chair is needed who will join the Standing Committee. Other groups should be Events, (social/ fund-raising), Finance, Hall, Fabric, Worship.
7. Finance and Sustainability. All Saints continues to lose money. Colin reminded PCC that we had transferred funds last year, thus depleting our reserves, and the deficit will run until we can earn money again. A legacy has been received and this is in the Memorial Fund (projects) and we have lost a generous giver for health reasons. Our first fund-raiser, the Plant Sale with Art Club and other stalls brought in £1725. The changing of pandemic restrictions caused the cancellation of bookings made recently for the Church. Q What do we know of financial conditions of churches elsewhere? A. Many are weakened and are using up their reserves. This diocese has trimmed its budget. In some places, the number of priests has been cut and where property prices are lower, legacies are smaller. The situation here at All Saints is that we were already setting deficit budgets and using up our reserves a number of years before the global pandemic brought church closures. A discussion followed regarding our hopes for a sustainable future and information was shared confidentially. PCC approved the plan to ask Alastair Woodgate to offer formal advice as regards land behind the Hall. Colin declared "interest", as he is Chair of the Diocesan Board of Finance.
8. Strategy and Research. Jo reminded PCC that in Feb 2020, before we closed the church, some of us attended a conference run by LYCIG (leading your church into growth) We assessed our reach into the community by the many activities of All Saints to be approx..10,000. She would offered to introduce our contact from LYCIG, Harry Steele to meet the whole PCC as part of our Moving Forward initiative. Some groups have been researching our reach into various sections of the community and will report in July. Lisa and Jo will meet when Lisa has done some research on funding possibilities.

9. Fabric. The bells are nearly ready for use again. A quote regarding Lighting in the tower has arrived and will go to the David Dean and Nerine Chalmers as there may be other electrical jobs awaiting attention.
10. Health and Safety. Covid security is our ongoing concern in the Hall and the Church and is functioning according to the regulations. (An inappropriate hand sanitiser had to be removed from the Church) There was nothing else to report.
11. Safeguarding. There was nothing to report.
12. AOB Communication continues to be a source of concern and difficulty during the pandemic. Jo had produced guidelines based on the C of E guidelines and was asked how they compared with previous guidelines. Martin will research to see if the guidelines we produced 4 years ago can be merged with these.
13. The meeting ended with The Grace at 9.45pm.