

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, HERTFORD
Parochial Church Council

Meeting held on Wednesday 7th July
At 7.30 pm by Zoom

1 Apologies

Rev Jo opened with prayer and a Bible reading and after taking apologies for absence from Wendell Newbold, Dorothy Toyn and Andrew Belfield.

2 Discussion

Rev Jo introduced Rev Harry Steele Church Development Officer, Diocese of St Albans who facilitated a discussion with members. Notes from this and a link to a Diocesan website, Mission-tree were circulated separately to members as not all were able to share in this for various reasons.

Rev Jo and members thanked Rev Harry for his presentation, and all agreed that it had been very helpful. He then left and the business of the PCC followed.

3 Minutes of Previous Meeting

Accepted with no amendments.

4 Matters arising from the Minutes not covered by the Agenda

There were no matters arising.

5 Health & Safety report

Dorothy Toyn had reported that Richard Toyn had nothing to report, but she would advise us to be cautious as restrictions are lifted.

Rev Jo agreed that we would look carefully at all guidance including Church of England guidance which is coming out soon.

Helen Briggs spoke about individual responsibility influencing other people and Martin Penny pointed out that we wear a mask to protect other people.

4. Safeguarding

Andrew Povey Richards had nothing to report.

5. AOB

Climate awareness day on 11th September

Fiona Earle has asked about the possibility of getting quotes for solar panels for the church roof.

Colin and Janet Bird said it was a long and complicated problem and not just a matter of getting quotes. Surveys would need to be done and permissions sought before we could consider getting quotes.

Colin pointed out the main cost challenge for church is heating not electricity.

(All our energy is currently purchased through the C of E Parish buying scheme under which all electricity is green energy coming from renewable sources)

Churches are going to be encouraged to change from gas boilers within the next 10 years in line with the Diocese's net Zero policy.

Colin suggested that we need to look at possible projects for going forward.

Martin pointed out that the cost of solar panels, although it may seem low, needs to be looked at carefully, particularly the need to ensure the roof tiles are in good condition. He suggested looking at the floodlights inside the church and the possibility of changing to LEDs

Lisa Meakin has been looking at fund raising and speaking with fundraisers working in the charity sector. She has a lot of ideas which it would be good to investigate.

Colin pointed out that we need to encourage people to think about leaving legacies, particularly encouraging people to think in terms of leaving the church a percentage of residual estate. We have had two such legacies recently.

Colin said that he was very pleased about the outcome of the gift day on 4th July which raised £17000. Although the number of people giving was relatively small, they showed great generosity. He expects that there may still be more people who have given online, but he will not have details until the bank statement comes.

Climate awareness day – Nerine said we have some amazing people who are supporting us, and there is also another group holding an event two weeks later and so hopefully people in Hertford will be made fully aware of the situation.

As we have no further dates arranged for meetings this will be addressed as soon as possible. Rev Jo said that we should try to vary days of meetings to take account of clashes for some members. It was agreed that as we had said that we would look at the results of PCC research in July we should try for another meeting within the next few weeks to enable us to look at the way forward.

There being no further business Rev Jo closed with a blessing.