



LYMINGTON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday March 25th 2021

at 7:30 via Zoom

Present: Bronwen Bridges, David Bridges (Churchwarden), Barbara Clapper, Brian Cox, Bill Gulland, Malcolm Haigh, Maureen Harris (Churchwarden), Daphne Johnston, Andrew Payne, Sylvia Pepin, Ray Shepherd, Michael Standage, Celia Swan, David Wansey, Malcolm Ward, Peter Salisbury (Vicar), Mary Hill (Secretary) Jonathan Cook (Guest).	
1	Welcome and prayer: The Vicar welcomed everyone and opened the evening with the Collect for the Annunciation of the Virgin Mary.
2	Apologies were received from Malcolm Haigh.
3	AOB: Malcolm Ward requested a discussion about the Parish Magazine. This was approved.
4	Approval of the Minutes of the last meeting on November 26 th . These were approved after two minor corrections were made concerning the Eco Report.
5	Matters arising: The date of the Climate Sunday has been moved forward from September to July 25 th
6	<p>Chairman's Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Vicar began by announcing the sad loss of Caroline, Lady Johnson who died recently. He said that she would be sadly missed and gave thanks for all that she had done for the church, especially latterly as a Churchwarden. The Vicar thanked the three members of the PCC who would be resigning at the APCM: Bill Gulland, Michael Standage and Mary Hill. He especially thanked BG for the time he had spent on the PCC both as Churchwarden and as a member. The Vicar also thanked MS and BG for their considerable work as members of the Fabric Committee. There will be the election for three new members of the PCC at the APCM on April 21st and MH said that she would send out the nomination forms to all PCC members. The Vicar said that there was also a vacancy on the Deanery Synod. MH thanked all those who had contributed to the PCC Annual Report for 2020 and asked for it to be approved. This was proposed by the Vicar and seconded by Daphne Johnston. All agreed.
7	<p>Health and Safety</p> <p>Malcolm Ward reported that he had continued to make sure that the current restrictions imposed by Covid-19 were being followed and that there had been no problems as yet. The doors to the bell tower would be left open for the first Sunday service on March 28th and for the following services to allow for extra ventilation. A risk assessment had been undertaken for climbing the tower and adjustments to the hatches providing access to the roof had been made. Safety precautions were in place to fence off the area under the tower near the War Memorial in preparation for essential work on the roof.</p>
8	<p>Buildings and Land Report</p> <p>Fabric Committee.</p> <p>The Fabric Committee had circulated a quote from Ryan Bunce & Co (Chartered Building Surveyors/Project managers/Land Agents) concerning the remedial repairs needed to the east and south elevation of the external walls of the church. The Churchwardens and the Fabric Committee asked the PCC to authorise the appointment of Ryan Bunce & Co as project manager</p>

of works required at the east end of St. Thomas Church to stabilise the gable ends, to reconfigure the drainage of rainwater from the roof, to install a snow-guard along the south edge of the chancel roof, to re-point stonework where cement based mortar has been used, to renew rotten stonework, and to carry out works required on the masonry of the bell tower, the woodwork of the cupola and the drainage of rainwater from the tower. Approval of an initial budget of £5,000 was requested. It was made clear that this money would enable the Fabric Committee to understand the full nature of the work required and to get an idea of the eventual total cost of the repairs. Bill Gulland proposed the motion of authorising the initial budget of £5,000 to enable the project to be defined and the costs to be estimated. Celia Swan seconded the motion. All agreed.

All Saints.

Jonathan Cook was welcomed to the meeting to give his report. With the start of the building works at All Saints, Tops Nursery needed to find temporary accommodation for the summer months. They had not managed to find anywhere so were considering using a double-decker Playbus parked on the grounds. Since it states in the lease that the tenant (Tops Nursery) is not permitted to use the property in any way that causes nuisance or annoyance to the neighbours, an emergency meeting with the churchwardens was held and it was agreed that Tops should be informed that they could not go ahead with the Playbus solution. Further plans for temporary accommodation for the pre-school would be discussed at a management meeting the following week.

Professional advisers had advised the Management Committee that work needed to be undertaken on the trees in the Quiet Garden as the area had been neglected for many years. The PCC was asked to approve the appointment of Barnes Tree Surgeons Ltd to carry out the work. The quote was for £1,782 plus a contingency amount of £200. This was proposed by JC and seconded by Daphne Johnston. All approved.

9 **Finance Report.**

- The full accounts for the year ended 31st December 2020 had been circulated. Andy Payne reported that the church has made a loss of £11,945 due to the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic. He proposed that we approve of the 2020 accounts. This was seconded by Maureen Harris. All agreed.
- AP had also circulated the Finance Report for 2020 which is included in the Annual Report.
- The PCC was asked for approval to close two redundant HSBC accounts: HSBC 40-30-36 51450603 Lymington PCC St Thomas' Renewal Appeal and HSBC 40-30-36 61095455 Trustees Lymington Parish Hall. This was proposed by Daphne Johnston and seconded by Barbara Clapper. All agreed.
- **Contactless Card Readers.** In response to questions about purchasing card readers, AP had circulated details of the different types of products available, their costs and appropriateness for our needs. Traidcraft already has a card reader for sales and AP thanked Brian Cox for his help in explaining the benefits of using this type of system for selling items. It could also be useful, for example, at Vistas Café. Using a card reader for receiving donations at church services presents different challenges since regular churchgoers mostly contribute through the Parish Giving System, standing orders or the envelope system. A *GoodPlate* (a plate with an incorporated card reader) could be used for passing round at regular services as well as for donations at weddings, baptisms and for visitors etc. After general discussion on the issue, it was agreed that we needed more information from churches using this technology and AP and Daphne Johnston agreed to carry out further research.

10	<p>The Good Samaritans Group. The PCC was asked to approve the Terms of Reference for the Good Samaritans Group. This was proposed by the Vicar and seconded by Sylvia Pepin. All agreed. The Vicar also asked that David Fenton be approved as Chair of the Good Samaritans. This was seconded by Barbara Clapper and all agreed.</p>	
11	<p>Main Business: "St Thomas Church after Covid-19" In order to begin to answer the important questions about what we have learned as a result of the pandemic and how we see the church in the future, the Vicar divided the members of the PCC into groups of three and asked them to consider questions they would like answered when making decisions about future plans. He asked members to look at the nine areas related to the six Core Values of the church listed on Page 4 of Annual Report. After time for discussion, each group reported back and the Vicar recorded all the questions that arose. He then asked MH to send the list of questions to the coordinators of the nine areas who would then respond with comments, answers etc. Their responses would then be considered at the next PCC meeting when decisions on priorities would be made.</p>	MH
12	<p>Correspondence. There was no correspondence to report.</p>	
13	<p>Diary Dates: APCM April 21st at 7:30</p>	
14	<p>AOB: MW expressed concern about the future of the Parish Magazine since Nigel Mussett was retiring as editor. The Vicar reported that, as yet, there was no replacement for NM and everyone agreed that he would be difficult to replace as he has done an excellent job. It was hoped that a new editor could be found.</p>	
15	<p>Date of next meeting: Thursday May 27th at 7:30</p>	
16	<p>The Meeting closed at 10:00 pm with a communal prayer.</p>	