

LYMINGTON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday May 27th 2021

at 7:30 via Zoom

Present: Bronwen Bridges, David Bridges (Churchwarden), Pat Cashin, Barbara Clapper, Brian Cox, Maureen Harris (Churchwarden), Daphne Johnston, Andrew Payne, Sylvia Pepin, Ray Shepherd, Michael Standage, Celia Swan, Jeremy Vines, David Wansey, Malcolm Ward, Peta Walmesley, 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 Pentecost.
- 2 Apologies were received from Malcolm Haigh.
- AOB. There were two proposals for AOB by Michael Standage concerning work at All Saints and one from Ray Shepherd. These were approved for AOB:
- 4 The minutes of the last meeting on November 26th were approved.
- 5 There were no matters arising.

6 **PCC Matters**

The Vicar warmly welcomed the new members of the PCC (Pat Cashin, Jeremy Vines and Peta Walmesley.)

Election of officers. The following elections were confirmed.

Lay Vice-chair - David Bridges

Standing Committee – The Vicar, Maureen Harris and David Bridges (ex officio); Andy Payne and Michael Standage.

Fabric sub-Committee Chair – Michael Standage.

The position of a Deputy/Assistant Churchwarden was left vacant and the position will be revisited at a later date.

The Key Leadership Roles remain as agreed at the APCM in October 2020.

7 | Chairman's Report

The Vicar proposed and Celia Swan seconded the approval of Mo Penrose in the Bishop's Commission for Mission (Pastoral Care) programme. All agreed.

Mo Penrose then gave a brief talk on her ideas on how the church could support the elderly people who make up a large part of the demographics of our area. She described the work of the Anna Chaplaincy organisation and suggested that it might be possible for us to get involved in the programme in the future.

The Vicar thanked Mo for her presentation and said that the idea would be revisited in the near future.

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8 | Building and Lands Report

- Changes to the Terms of Reference of the Fabric Committee. These changes concerned the relationship between the fabric sub-committee and the PCC (all the members of the sub-committee are approved by the PCC) and details of expenditure. The changes were proposed by David Bridges and seconded by Michael Standage. Agreed unanimously.
- **All Saints.** Jonathan had circulated his report prior to the meeting. He said that next few months will be the busiest in the whole of the project. 90% of the acoustic fence has

been put in and major work will begin on July 23rd when the nave will be cleared and the floor removed. All work should be finished by September 30th 2021.

• **PCC visits.** Jonathan also gave some dates when he said that he would show members of the PCC round the project.

9 Finance Report

Andy Payne had circulated the Finance Report for the first quarter of 2021. He noted that the cost of cleaning was significantly below the budget as we have had no cleaners. There was a need to employ a new cleaner and Maureen Harris said that she would liaise with the Finance Committee to help with finding one. The income was close to budget but the reduction in cash collections was significant and the church is looking at a possible annual deficit of about £12,000.

AP had circulated his summary concerning purchasing card readers. This is a difficult decision for the church to make as the monthly fee for card readers might mean the church would make a loss if cash collections do not recover post-pandemic. There was a general discussion regarding card readers but the conclusion was that the church should wait until the next meeting to see whether the cash income rebounds.

10 Health and Safety Report

Malcolm Ward had circulated his report. The contractors at both All Saints and St Thomas' will be monitored to make sure that their insurance was in place.

11 | Main Business: Response to questions on St Thomas post covid-19.

The Secretary had circulated the responses she had received concerning the Vicar's questions on church opening. The Vicar then divided PCC members into groups of three to discuss the response. He then asked all the groups to look back at the original questions and rate them. After a plenary session it was decided that another meeting was necessary in order to discuss the issues further. The Vicar and the Secretary agreed to collaborate on a date. (Please see the addendum at the end of these Minutes.)

12 | Eco Church.

The Eco Group has investigated the installation of solar panels on the roof of the church and has received an initial quote. The next step is to commission a more detailed report.

The Eco Group asked the PCC to give due consideration to further investigations for the possible use of solar energy.

This was proposed by Maureen Harris and seconded by the Vicar. All agreed.

13 **AOB**

- 1. Ray Shepheard asked the Vicar if he had any information about the news that the Bishop of Winchester is stepping down for six weeks. The Vicar said that he had no further information than what had been reported in the press.
- 2. Michael Standage asked for PCC approval for the cost of moving the font at All Saints from its current position to a new position behind the altar. He had received a quote of £2,800 (incl. VAT) from the specialist company Hoare Banks. He also asked for approval for the cost of up to £3,600 for the work of taking up the woodblock floor. Both expenditures were proposed by MS and seconded by Daphne Johnston.
- 3. MS also informed the PCC of future expenses i.e. underfloor heating at All Saints and stonework stabilisation at All Saints.
- 14 Date of next meeting: Thursday July 22nd 2021 at 7:30 pm.
- 15 David Bridges closed the meeting with a prayer at 9:47pm.

Addendum to PCC Minutes of 17 May 2021

After the PCC meeting of May 27th, two dates for an additional meeting were circulated. Since there was little agreement on a single date and decisions needed to be made as soon as possible, the Vicar decided to ask for an online response on the following two points:

- 1. When do we resume our pattern of three services on Sunday mornings?
- 2. What would constitute sufficient unlocking for it to be appropriate to have a celebration service?

He then proposed two different ways forward for each and asked everyone to reply with thoughts, comments and suggestions.

Question 1: When do we resume our pattern of three services on Sunday mornings?

Answer 1a) From 4th July as originally planned.

Answer 1b) Once we're allowed congregational singing.

Question 2: What would constitute sufficient unlocking for it to be appropriate to have a celebration service?

Answer 2a) Whatever we have by St. Thomas Day, Saturday 3rd July as originally planned.

Answer 2b) Once 300 people can meet in church without masks and can sing together.

Decisions.

The Vicar thanked everyone for their responses and based on majority views, made the following decisions:

- 1. The normal pattern of Sunday services would resume on Sunday 4th July 2021.
- 2. Friday morning communion would resume on July 9th 2021.
- 3. The celebration of St Thomas Day and final decisions about the long-term future pattern of services would be discussed at a later date.