



LYMINGTON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday March 24th 2022 at 7:30pm in St Thomas' Church

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, Peta Walmesley, David Wansey, Malcolm Ward, Peter Salisbury (Vicar), Mary Hill (Secretary).	
1	Welcome and prayer: The Vicar welcomed everyone and opened the evening with prayer.
2	Apologies for absence: Malcolm Haigh.
3	Proposals for AOB: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting refugees from Ukraine (Bronwen Bridges) • The courtyard garden (Jeremy Vines) Both proposals were accepted on to the agenda.
4	Corrections and approval of January meeting minutes. DB highlighted a minor correction and then the minutes were approved.
5	Matters arising – there were no matters arising.
6	Chairman's Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) pMap. The Vicar suggested that the discussion of the suggested expansion of pMap Objective 3 into two distinctive parts (a. Helping people to discover their gifts and vocations and b. Care in the Church community) should be left until the May meeting. b) APCM meeting. The Vicar reminded everyone that two new Church Wardens would be elected at the APCM and encouraged people to put their names forward. He thanked the retiring Church Wardens, David Bridges and Maureen Harris, for all their hard work throughout what has been a very difficult year. He thanked the retiring PCC members (Malcolm Haigh, Barbara Clapper and Ray Shepherd) for their contributions over the year. He thanked Malcolm Ward who was retiring after five years of service on the PCC and recognised particularly his work on updating and managing the Health and Safety of the Church and its members. c) Approval of the PCC Annual Report was proposed by BC and seconded by PW. All agreed.
7	Finance Report AP had circulated the Finance Report prior to the meeting. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Approval of the Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2021 was proposed by MH and seconded by PW. All agreed. b. Finance Committee Terms of Reference. These have been amended to include details of the cash handling procedure. The changes were proposed by AP and seconded by MS. All agreed. c. AP asked the PCC to consider the following account on which the PCC has a holding. <p>Municipal and General Equities Investment Fund for Charities Registered Holder: PCC of Ecc Parish of St Thomas with All Saints Registered Charity: PCC of Ecc Parish of St Thomas with All Saints Client Reference : 0024022274</p>

	<p>Value of holding (December 31st 2021) : £8,481.29</p> <p>The Finance Committee recommended to the PCC that this account should be closed. This was proposed by MH and seconded by DB. It was agreed unanimously that this account should be closed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> d. AP asked for more volunteers to count the collection. e. AP proposed that Gill Maunder, the Parish Administrator who is retiring this month, should be paid for a month beyond her retirement date as she will probably be required to help the new administrator as she settles into her new job. She is also due some holiday pay. This was proposed by DJ and seconded by SP. It was agreed that AP would talk to GM about the final details. f. Total Energies. AP reported that although TotalEnergies, the company that supplies our energy, has undertaken not to provide capital for new products in Russia, it has not yet withdrawn from its existing operations in the country. The C of E has written to TotalEnergies expressing that this behaviour is not consistent with the values of the church and have requested action. However, the C of E is not able, at the moment, to offer Parish Buying customers a viable alternative. Since our contract with Parish Buying runs out on October 1st and they require a 6-month renewal notice, AP wanted an immediate decision from the PCC as to whether we should stay with TotalEnergies or attempt to negotiate a contract with another supplier. After a lengthy discussion, AP proposed that we stay with TotalEnergies and try and persuade them to change their relationship with Russia. This was seconded by the Vicar. <p>The votes were as follows: For: 7 Against: 3 Abstention: 2 The proposal was then adopted.</p>	
D	<p>Buildings and Land Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) DB reported that the Project Manager for the East End Project, Ryan Bunce, had put the project out to tender to four companies. The projected costs ranged from £71,000 to £108,000. After scrutiny, two tenders were considered: Overall Construction £75,000 and Sally Strachey £78,500. The Fabric Committee proposed to the PCC that they should delegate the choice of contractor to Ryan Bunce. This proposal was seconded by the Vicar. All agreed. b) DB informed the PCC that Jim Butt had been commissioned to repair the West End doors. 	
9	<p>Health and Safety Report</p> <p>MW said that there were no updates to report.</p>	
10	<p>Main Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Vicar reported the good news that a new parish Administrator had been appointed. b) There was a redundant photocopier in the office if anyone wanted it. c) The Interregnum. <p>The Vicar said that July 3rd would be his last Sunday as Vicar and that this would be the beginning of the Interregnum. He emphasised that the long-term challenge would be to keep going all the activities that were contained in the Annual Report while in the short term, it would involve making low level weekly decisions concerning the services, preachers etc. He said that it was important to establish a team of people who would deal with communications, writing the Parish Profile, holding interviews etc. He recommended a team of five people, including the Churchwardens. He encouraged people to volunteer to be a member of the team by contacting him or either of the two Churchwardens. He would like a team to be established by July 5th.</p>	

11	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>The secretary reported that Anthea MacAlister, the Safeguarding Officer, had reported that most of the DBS Certificates for the PCC had been processed. She also informed the PCC that there should be a Safeguarding item on every PCC agenda.</p>	
12	<p>Diary Dates: APCM Wednesday March 30th at 7:30 pm.</p>	
13	<p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help for Ukrainian Refugees. <p>The Vicar referred to a document from the C of E called “Church’s responding to the crisis in Ukraine”. It explains the situation clearly and in detail.</p> <p>It describes three broad ways to help: immediate practical help; refugee sponsorship; and longer-term support.</p> <p>The best way to offer immediate practical help is by giving money to the DEC.</p> <p>The best way to sponsor refugees is to sign up directly with RESET, or indirectly via the Sanctuary Foundation, and wait to be matched to someone coming from Ukraine. You need to offer at least six months accommodation at no charge, and you and your home will be vetted for safety etc. We can register as a church to show our support but offers of accommodation are handled by RESET so the most important thing is for individuals to register and get the vetting process started.</p> <p>The best way to offer longer term support is by registering as a Welcome Church, something we have already done.</p> <p>The Vicar suggested we act on all three fronts:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) An immediate donation to the DEC. AP proposed that the Church donates £5,000 to the DEC. DT seconded and all agreed. 2) Publicise on our website and in our news sheet how people can register with RESET. This was agreed. 3) Publicise our status as a Welcome Church and offer people information about what this means. This was agreed. <p>BB asked about Corporate Sponsorship but it was not clear at the moment how the Church could act as a sponsor. MH had attended a Zoom session from Welcome Church which gave her more details about the Ukrainian refugees and how we can help once they arrive in Lymington.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JV asked about the condition of the courtyard garden as it was looking rather scruffy. DB said he would investigate the situation. 	
	<p>Date of next meeting: Thursday May 26th at 7:30pm in St Thomas Church.</p>	
	<p>The Vicar concluded the meeting with a prayer.</p>	