



## LYMINGTON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday July 28<sup>th</sup> 2022

at 7:30 pm in St Thomas' Church

Bronwen Bridges (BB), Pat Cashin(PC), Brian Cox (BC), David Hanks (DH), Maureen Harris (CW), Daphne Johnston (DJ), Marion Lewis (ML), Andrew Payne (AP), Sylvia Pepin (SP), Mo Penrose (Church Warden: MP), Clive Rigden (CR), Christopher Stroud (Church Warden and Lay Chair: CMS), Celia Swan (CS), Peta Walmesley (PW), David Wansey (DW), Peter Salisbury (Vicar), Mary Hill (Sec) (MCH), Parish Administrator (PA) .

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| 1 | <b>Welcome and prayer:</b> MP began the meeting with prayer.   |
| 2 | Apologies for absence had been received from Andy Clapper, Michael Standage and Jeremy Vines.  |
| 3 | AOB. A report on Churches in Lyminster /Christians Together was proposed by ML. All agreed.  |
| 4 | MH made 2 corrections on the Minutes of the May PCC meeting: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. AC reported that a shared leadership for Messy Church had been put in place.</li> <li>b. Barbara Payne had taken over the DBS certification role of the Safeguarding Officer.</li> </ol> The minutes were then agreed unanimously.  |
| 5 | There were no matters arising.   |
| 6 | <b>Finance Report</b><br>AP referred everyone to the Finance Report which had been circulated prior to the meeting. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Accounts overview. AP reported that the Church had just received a legacy of £50,000 in addition to the accounts shown on the report.</li> <li>2. The Parish Hall Trust (HBC) was closed earlier in the month to save the £60 per year charges. The balance of £16,227.77 was transferred to the PCC Treasurer's account. In addition, quarterly dividends from the PCC CBF account will be paid directly into the PCC Treasurer's account as a contribution towards Parish Administration costs.</li> <li>3. Vistas café has donated £500 to Oakhaven Hospice in memory of Jenny Stott.</li> <li>4. The work on repairing the glass doors is due to take place on 15<sup>th</sup> August (cost: £1,847.61 + VAT).</li> <li>5. The Finance Committee has approved to reimburse Tops Nursery £16,000 for costs that Tops has already paid on the Church's behalf. A further sum of approximately £1,600 for legal costs is also expected.</li> <li>6. The Finance Committee recommended that the Church pays for the renewal of Food Hygiene Certificates as required for volunteers who work in the kitchen. This was proposed by CS and seconded by MH.</li> <li>7. The Finance Committee recommended that the PCC approve a proposal from AC for up to £500 for a drum box and keyboard for the Worship Band. This was proposed by DT and seconded by SP.</li> <li>8. The Finance Committee recommended, after discussions with Revd. Richard Morrison, that we should adopt the policy whereby a collection can be taken in church at funerals (e.g. a plate at the back of the church) if it is made clear the cause the proceeds are going to and that all the money raised becomes the responsibility of the funeral director. This was proposed by CR and seconded by BB.</li> <li>9. CCLA. AP thanked PCC members who had already forwarded their personal details to him as Trustees of our charity.</li> </ol> |

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|    | <p>10. The PA had agreed to reboot the card reader regularly. More than £3,000 has been collected since the installation of the card reader last August.</p> <p>11. AP reported that there are now QR codes in the church linked to a new website page on the Give a Little site. This means that donations can be made by 'phone.</p> <p>12. Church Mission Fund. The Finance Committee recommended that we pay £126,084 for 2023 as requested. This was proposed by AP and seconded by CMS. All agreed.</p> <p>13. AP is currently getting quotations from Parish Giving for a fixed price energy supply. Since time is of the essence for fixed price contracts, AP suggested that we subcontract any final decision to the Standing Committee. This was proposed by CS and seconded by PW.</p> <p>14. The Finance Committee recommended that we give £3,500 to each of our good causes: Mission to Seafarers, The Leprosy Mission, Mission Aviation Fellowship and Restored Lives. This was proposed by CS and seconded by PW. All agreed. The total charitable donation, therefore, would be £ 14,000 for the four charities plus the £5,500 already donated to Ukraine by the PCC and to Oakhaven by Vistas café.</p> <p>15. Security. AP reminded everyone to that all confidential information that is kept both on mobile devices and on PCs at home must be protected by password, pin etc.</p> <p>16. The Finance Committee recommended that there should be people in the church who have undergone Health and Safety training so as to prevent accidents or problems. It was agreed that this should be part of the job of the H and S officer when elected. This was proposed by DH and seconded by PW. All agreed.</p> |  |
| 7  | <p><b>Building and Land Report.</b></p> <p>AP reported that an invoice for the second payment for the high level work at the East End of the church had been received making the total cost of the project £70,354 + VAT (the VAT is reclaimable). DJ said that it was possible that the Friends of St Thomas could contribute approximately £25,000 towards the project but this was yet to be confirmed.</p>  |  |
| 8  | <p><b>Health and Safety</b></p> <p>MP reported that there had been a minor accident in the church the previous week and that as a result a black bar had been installed on the staging step up to the lectern to prevent such accidents in the future.</p> <p>This event highlighted the urgent need for a Health and Safety Officer to be appointed and CS asked for someone to volunteer to take over the role and ascertain whether special training might be necessary.</p> <p>There was a general discussion on whether the staging was necessary and this will be discussed at the next PCC meeting.</p>  |  |
| 9  | <p><b>Safeguarding</b></p> <p>CS asked for a volunteer to be the Safeguarding Officer.</p>  |  |
| 10 | <p><b>Vacancy Committee Update</b></p> <p>CS reported on the meetings of the Vacancy Committee when the Terms of Reference had been agreed. MH said that she would circulate this document. Further meetings had taken place when the Parish Profile was discussed.</p> <p>The meeting with Bishop Debbie and the PCC is scheduled to take place on September 20<sup>th</sup> 2022 at Lymington Infants School at 7:30 pm. The Bishop will chair the meeting and Gary Philbrick (Area Dean of Christchurch) will also attend.</p>   |  |
| 11 | <p><b>Lymington Pennington Cooperation.</b></p> <p>The Churchwardens had circulated a document concerning the possibility of collaboration between St Thomas' and St Mark's Pennington. Since Pennington had already indicated that they would like to explore further collaboration with St Thomas', the churchwardens were advised to see whether the PCC would prefer to remain as a single parish or explore some form of collaboration with St Mark's Pennington.</p> <p>The voting took place and included postal votes from absentees.</p>   |  |

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|    | <p>The question was as follows:<br/> Option A: We would like St. Thomas' to remain an independent parish.<br/> Option B: We would like to explore collaboration opportunities with St Mark's Pennington, either through a united Benefice arrangement or as a combined parish.</p> <p>The result:<br/> Option A: 2 votes<br/> Option B: 17 votes<br/> There were no abstentions.<br/> Therefore Option B was agreed.</p> <p>CS emphasised that this vote does not indicate what the arrangement might be or how the structure might work except that the new Vicar recruited would be the Vicar of the United Benefice or the combined parish. The new Vicar would also be key in recruiting the associate for Pennington.<br/> The PCC is meeting with Bishop Debbie on September 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm. and there is the possibility of an open meeting with the congregation after the Bishop's meeting.</p> |  |
| 12 | <p><b>AOB</b><br/> ML had met with contacts from Churches in Lymington, now called Christians Together, and asked for someone to represent St Thomas at the meetings. CS volunteered to be the representative and CMS thanked her.</p>  |  |
| 13 | <p><b>Correspondence:</b> There was no correspondence to report.</p>  |  |
| 14 | <p><b>Diary Dates:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting with Bishop Debbie on September 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm at Lymington Infants School.</li> <li>• Solent Music Festival September 19<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>.</li> </ul>  |  |
| 15 | <p><b>Date of next meeting:</b> Thursday September 22nd 2022 at 7:30pm at St Thomas' church.</p>  |  |
| 16 | <p>CMS closed the meeting with a prayer.</p>  |  |