

All Saints Church, Kingston upon Thames Parochial Church Council Meeting

Tuesday 15th November 2022, 7.30pm at All Saints Church

Minutes

Present

Revd Joe Moffatt (Chair), Alastair Deller (Honorary Treasurer), Roshan Jathanna, Sheila Bryant, Liz Deller, Eithne Fray, Isabel Isaacson (Secretary), Keith Long, Peter Reddell, Lucy Robinson, Samantha Taylor, Paul Thompson, Joni Timmins, Mary Warman.

1. Apologies & Opening Prayer

Apologies: John Dewhurst, Yvonne Fitzpatrick, Philip Walker.

Joe opened the meeting with a prayer.

2. Minutes of the last meeting (13th September 2022) – the minutes were agreed with no changes.

3. Matters arising.

Lighting upgrade – a second contractor has carried out a detailed site survey and can produce the required DAC faculty-ready documentation. A proposal will be brought to the PCC in January 2023. The suggested timetable is for work on the upgrade to start after Easter 2023 (Easter Day is 9th April).

Heritage Room Projector and Screen. This is currently awaiting a faculty to enable work to go ahead.

Peter Eugene Ball sculpture. The offer of the sculpture has been put on hold for now following the proposal that Revd James Bates will gift it to All Saints Church in his will.

4. Campaign for Equal Marriage in the Church of England

On Sunday 13th November, Joe preached a sermon at the 9.30am service on same-sex marriage. This prompted a lot of positive responses from the congregation. It was felt that we now need to identify what we can present to reflect an attitude and approach on which the majority agree. The *Campaign for Equal Marriage in the Church of England* presents the easiest and most straightforward way to give this message. It is not a membership organisation; it is simply a campaign that allows individuals to express their support and believes that the consciences of everyone should be protected. A link to information and posters was circulated to members before the meeting; breakout groups discussed the issues involved and fed back their views to the meeting.

Joe's proposal that we display one of the 'Equal' posters in the church, on the website and via social media, was voted on by the PCC. The proposal was agreed by a majority decision: in favour: 12; against: one.

5. Finance Report

The analysis of income and expenditure for the period: 01 January 2022 to 31 October 2022 was circulated in advance of the meeting. The reports show a surplus at present which it is proposed, if it still exists at the end of the year, will be added to the fabric fund. The salaried staff have not had a pay increase for two years. It was proposed that all 5 members of staff should receive a 5% increase from 1st January 2023 plus a Christmas bonus. This was unanimously agreed by the meeting.

Accounts stand as follows: Parish Clerk account: £8,699; Treasurer's main account: £43,507; deposit account (specific causes): £44,662; general reserves: £58,975; fabric fund: £35,345; Rushmore fund: £51,100. As always, Alastair is happy to receive any queries arising from the finance report.

6. *Draft Budgets for 2023*

Two draft budgets were circulated before the meeting. The first one is a 'standing still' budget – to allow us to continue as we are. The enhanced draft budget looks to be more ambitious and includes aspirations as follows: extra admin assistance, part-time curate, improved parish office.

2120 Assistant staff – this item allows for the prospect of having a curate. This will entail a commitment to training and supervision but would be very beneficial to the Church to enable it to build up a ministry team. Joe has someone very suitable in mind who might be interested and wished to put this proposal to the PCC.

The meeting voted unanimously in favour of pursuing the idea of a curate for the Church and agreed that Joe should start moving forward with this proposal.

The other two issues (admin help, parish office) will be for consideration when the 2022 accounts have been finalised in the new year and Alastair can bring us firm figures.

7. *Vision Development – PCC Away Day in March 2023.* Joe will provisionally book St John the Baptist for Saturday 25th March 2023, 10am – 4pm.

8. *Faith and fellowship – upcoming courses and events.* The purpose of these is to foster faith and fellowship. These are:

Pilgrim Course. This begins tomorrow (16th November) with 8-10 participants – there will be six sessions (3 in November and 3 in the new year).

Confirmation Course for young people. This will be in the New Year run in conjunction with the URC. The Confirmation Service will take place at the URC on Sunday March 12th at 3pm with the Rt Revd Rob Gillion, Bishop for the Arts in Southwark, presiding.

Lent Course. This will take place as usual. Martin Corner and Lesley Charlton are starting to plan this.

Christmas Tree Festival. This will be launched on 17th December.

Unfortunately, it hasn't been possible to organise a Burns' Night event for January 2023.

9. *Relaunch of Children's Ministry.* The relaunch will take place in January. A leaflet will be produced to be handed out to those who come to the Christmas Crib Services to promote the relaunch. Little Saints will also be relaunched – to take place on Tuesday mornings.

10. *IT support/development.* We are now using an IT support firm specialising in IT support in Churches. The firm will upgrade the office software and be on hand to help with IT problems.

11. *Stewardship and Volunteer recruitment.* A push is needed to encourage greater levels of planned giving, especially amongst regular congregation members who currently don't give via this method. A volunteer recruitment drive is also needed. There will be a leaflet describing what is needed for the Church to be successful. It will cover planned giving, there will be a data collection aspect and a section on 'time and talents' (volunteering). The idea of a volunteer fair will be investigated.

12. *Health & Safety and Safeguarding.* There is a meeting next week to carry out a review of safeguarding. Joe is also doing a new safeguarding update course next week.

13. *Kingston Team News*

St John the Evangelist – vacancy. They were not able to appoint after the first round of interviews but, encouraged and supported by Bishop Richard, will be reconsidering one of the candidates.

St John the Evangelist will this month be celebrating the 150th Anniversary of the consecration of their church in November 1872.

14. *Church Life Review & Any Other Business.* There was a reminder that there will be a Christmas Party for PCC members plus partners on Friday December 9th at 7.30pm at the vicarage.

Next PCC Meeting. The next meeting of the PCC will take place on **Tuesday January 17th**

The meeting closed with the Grace.