

All Saints Church, Kingston upon Thames

Parochial Church Council Meeting

Monday 20th March 2023, 7.30pm at All Saints Church

Minutes

Present

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

1. *Opening Prayer*

Joe opened the meeting with a special prayer for the feast day of St Joseph.

2. *Apologies*: Philip Davies, Yvonne Fitzpatrick, Jeremy Jeffreys, Keith Long, Peter Reddell, Philip Walker

Minutes of the last meeting (17th January 2023) – the minutes were agreed with one change: under **Safeguarding** it should be ‘Alex Crook’ (not ‘Alice Crook’).

3. *Matters arising*. There were no matters arising.

4. *2022 Accounts*.

The provisional accounts for 2022 show a small surplus (income: £313,033; expenditure £287,229) thanks to the windfall payment from Kingston College. One result of this is that we were able to transfer a further £20,000 into the fabric fund. Alastair is happy to answer any further questions in relation to the final accounts in due course.

The adoption of the 2022 Accounts was proposed by John Dewhurst; seconded by Paul Thompson. The proposal was accepted unanimously.

The meeting recorded its thanks to Alastair for his careful management and to all who have contributed to this.

5. *2023 Budget*.

The Budget for 2023 was examined and approved by the PCC Standing Committee meeting of 20th February 2023.

The 2023 budget shows a deficit of just over £30,000. We can make up some of this from an increase in rental/hire fees; the remaining deficit should be covered by the £20,000 increase in planned giving. So far we have received 3 new pledges and 8 uplifts in existing planned giving

The following items were mentioned.

1020 **Union Street rental**. There was a possibility that we might be able to use the premises to house the Parish Office but this has subsequently been decided against. Other options will be examined.

1901 **Parish Support Fund**: there is a small increase to the amount pledged in 2022.

2050 **Administrative support**: an amount has been allocated for additional help, especially for the improvement of communications.

2120 **Assistant staff (ministerial)**. This covers the possibility of engaging a curate for half a year. This has not yet been officially agreed but is on course to proceed.

2401 **Heat, light and water**. The reduction in expenditure reflects the projected cost saving of six months of LED lighting.

2320 **Church repairs/Maintenance**. The upgrading of the lighting will be funded from the fabric fund, plus grants.

2360 **Communications.** There is an allowance within this figure for website development.
2350 **IT.** This is new to the budget this year and will cover communications, Church website and IT support.

1801. **Giving to good causes.** It was suggested that we should be more focused in our giving to good causes. Perhaps select our top five partner organisations with whom we wish to work and then do some fundraising. We could also invite speakers from these organisations to address us at Sunday services with a specific collection in aid of that cause. Liz and Joe will get together a small group to examine this.

The Quinquennial Inspection will take place later this year – we do not need to make an allowance in this year's budget for any work resulting from it. Planned expenditure includes: upgrade of lighting (£67,000); organ repairs (£21,000); audio-visual equipment in Heritage Gallery (£6,000 plus).

Church Accounts. Amounts stand as follows: Parish Clerk Account (payment of bills, etc): £2,081; current account: £38,018; deposit funds: £66,172; Assistant Priest's Residence Fund: £102,362; general reserve: £58,975; Saxon Kings embroidery fund: £25,453; fabric fund: £72,039; Bells fund (carillon): £4320 remaining.

The meeting recorded thanks to Alastair and to Jonathan Gillard for their work in preparing the budget. The budget was accepted unanimously by the meeting.

6. Update on building projects.

Faculty applications in progress: for the lighting upgrade; the A/v (Heritage Gallery) – this needs a more detailed survey and quote from suppliers; café lease; organ repairs. There was positive feedback in relation to the lighting, following a visit from the Diocesan Advisory Committee.

Pigeon wires replacement. A quote of £10,00 has been received; we are seeking a second quote. (This was included in the 2018 Quinquennial inspection.) At the same time, the solar panels and roof gulleys could be cleaned and slipped roof tiles fixed.

Lightning conductor. This needs to be updated as the related legislation has been changed making our conductor no longer compliant.

Smaller projects. These include:

5G aerial on vestry office roof. BT/EE can no longer supply these – we may need to switch to a broadband supplier who can.

Peter Eugene Ball sculpture. This will be collected by William from Jim Bates in April when Jim is to visit Birmingham. The faculty application needs to be restarted for the positioning of the sculpture above the door to the Bell Tower.

7. Events – caretaker role and revision of hire rates.

There have, so far, been no applicants for the events caretaker role.

Hire rates have been increased by 20% across the board. There will be further increases for events where we incur costs.

8. Coronation plans.

Saturday 6th May: we may screen the TV coverage of the service in the café area in Church.

Sunday 7th May: various town centre events have been planned culminating in a Service of Thanksgiving with the new Bishop of Kingston, Bishop Martin, as the guest preacher. The Church bells will be rung at the end of the service.

There will be a fete in the Church grounds with traditional fairground rides; catering will be supplied by Iain Nevill; cream teas by Sarah.

Volunteering day: the Council will support a volunteering day on 8th June – Joe is liaising with them. There will be speakers to talk about the coronation and connecting with Saxon Kings and fundraising for embroideries. The next 3 embroideries should be ready in July with a service of dedication planned for September.

9. Bereavement Café.

We feel that a need exists in Kingston for a Bereavement Café and it would be a good fit for us. We already have the space, the café, the central location and listeners. Ideally, it would take place once a week, early afternoon. Princess Alice Hospice provides training (booked for 19th and 26th July in the Heritage Gallery).

10. *MAP consultation – initial feedback.*

Summaries of the feedback from the Public Surveys were circulated to the PCC before the meeting.

These will provide a basis for the initial work at the Away Day to begin to formulate a Mission Action Plan for the next three years.

The meeting recorded its thanks to Sheila and Paul for their work in carrying out surveys in the café and to Pippa for producing the summaries.

11. *Any other business.*

Outcome of email voting: this was circulated prior to the meeting and approved at the meeting.

Motion – organ work: labour costs are to be added, resulting in a total cost of £21,000 (we can claim back VAT); the meeting was unanimously in favour of proceeding with the work.

Motion proposing the appointment of Ptolemy Dean to carry out the Quinquennial Inspection: the meeting was content with the proposed appointment of Ptolemy Dean. The PCC Secretary will send the official letter on behalf of the PCC to commission Ptolemy Dean to carry out the inspection.

Joe closed the meeting with a prayer, followed by the Grace.

Next PCC Meeting. The next meeting of the PCC will take place on **Tuesday 23rd May**