

St Botolph's Church, Colchester
Minutes of the PCC Meeting held on 10th March, 2021
Held by email and correspondence.

The Chairman opened the meeting by email with a welcome to all. A prayer was included. Those participating in the meeting dialogue by e-mail: - David Poppleton (chairman), Ron Levy, Ann Levy, Beau McKay, Pauline Palmer, Cynthia Hancock, Chris Kidd-Stanton, David Branson and William Jolliffe (via post)

1. Members were welcomed with a short prayer.
2. **Apologies for Absence** There were none, all members participated.
3. **The Minutes of the meeting** held 13th January 2021 had been circulated with the agenda and as there was no adverse comment, these were agreed as a correct record and are now signed.
4. **Matters arising** There were no matters arising.
5. **Correspondence** A letter had been received from Bishop Roger, and circulated to the PCC confirming an extension to the 'Suspension of the Benefice' beyond Easter 2021
6. **Reports** (pertinent reports have been circulated to members)
 - a) **Finance** The Report and Accounts for the year end 2020 had been circulated and were approved, subject to acceptance of the accounts by the Independent Examiner
 - b) **Fabric** A short fabric report was approved.
 - c) **Worship Team** The Team are working to provide services commencing on Mothering Sunday, through until Easter. We were also advised that The Area Dean and Ven. Michael Fox are making provision for Sunday services through to July 2021.
 - d) **Bookings** Due to the Covid-19 lockdown, the Church and Hall have had no bookings this year. However, we are starting to accept bookings from June onwards. All hirers are being told that they will be required to conform to all restrictions that are in place at the time of their event.
7. **AMP / APCM arrangements.** The Area Dean, who will be in the Chair at the AMP / APCM, has confirmed that he would like to hold the meetings following morning service on 16th May 2021
The annual report having been circulated was accepted subject to approval by the Independent Examiner.
8. **The Way Forward** Our Church is currently in a Suspension of Benefice, rather than an Interregnum, implying that there will need to be re-organisation of parishes within the Deanery before Clergy are given the responsibility for the Parish. Until this happens we will remain under the responsibility of the Area Dean. The Ven. Michael Fox has offered to lead our communion services on the Second and Fourth Sundays each month, with the Area Dean leading the First and Third Sundays with members from the Christchurch team.

9. **AOB**

a. The PCC accepted a proposal from William Jolliffe, that The Queens 70th anniversary of her accession to the Throne on Sunday 6th February 2022 should be marked with a service of celebration. A further suggestion that the event should also involve the Town, was put on hold to allow enquiries to be made to the Borough Council regarding their views.

b. David Branson raised a query regarding the training of regular hirers of the building, so that they can steward their own events. This being as a follow up from an earlier PCC meeting where it was decided that this could help now that our own stewarding team is somewhat diminished. The meeting agreed that a small team comprising those who had previously stewarded should prepare a 'Training and Reference document' in order to ensure compliance with our obligations in respect of Health and Safety.

The PCC wish to approve the document prior to training taking place. (this can be done via e-mail and post)

10. **Date of Next Meeting** Based on the on-going situation of Lockdown due to the Covid-19, the Chairman suggested that the April meeting should be cancelled. Any matters of urgency would be communicated by correspondence. The next meeting will therefore be on Wednesday, 12th May 2021. Just before the AMP / APCM. This meeting will be in Church at 2.30 pm. if permitted, otherwise the meeting will be by correspondence.

Signed as a true record.

.....date.....