

Minutes of the PCC Meeting held on 23rd June 2021

at St. Botolph's Church at 2.30 p.m.

Present were:- David Poppleton (Chairman) Ron Levy, David Branson, Jackie Haylett, William Jolliffe, Colin Nicholson, Chris Kidd-Stanton, Pauline Palmer, Nicky Phillips, and Gill Poppleton.

1 The Chairman opened the meeting with a short reading from 2 Corinthians: Ch. 8 followed by a prayer.

2. Apologies for Absence were received from Beau Mackay and Ann Levy.

3. Minutes of the last Meeting had been circulated prior to the meeting and were approved and signed.

4. Matters arising There were none that would not come up later in the meeting.

5. Correspondence There was none.

6. Reports

a) Finance The treasurer had circulated a financial sheet giving the actual expenditure and receipts from January to May with a forecast for the full year (2021) He reported that he was being cautious in still not including much from the hire of the church except for Crafty Drama and providing only half the quota was paid. The funds at the end of the year over £72,000 included funds set aside for the chancel arch repairs and work on the organ.

b) Fabric There was nothing to report as no work had been carried out since the last meeting, but David P. pointed out that the lighting at the west end of the church was poor and not sufficient for health and safety requirements. He had not been able to source dimmable bulbs so ordinary LED bulbs would need to be purchased and an electrician employed to install them. He guessed that it would cost in the region of £400. The meeting agreed that the work should go ahead.

c) Worship Team The Chairman thanked Chris Kidd-Stanton and the team for the work they had done over the past few months. David P. said that Michael Foster had agreed to take the service on 4th July and Jacqui Messinger would take the Communion Service on 25th July. It was expected that we would join Castle Methodists on 29th August, it being a fifth Sunday. David P. said that he was prepared to carry on with the weekly newsletter until the end of August. After that he thought a monthly newsletter would be sufficient. Chris said it would be something that the Mission and Pastoral Group would be willing to take on.

d) Bookings for hirings The first concert to be held in Church since March 2019 would take place on the 24th June, with all the Covid requirements in place. We now had 17 bookings until the end of the year with November being particularly busy.

e) Deanery Synod There had been no meeting of the Synod since the last PCC meeting

7. Membership of working/committee

Worship Group: Chris Kidd Stanton, Nicky Phillips, Colin Nicholson, Ron Levy and David Poppleton.

Mission and Pastoral Group: Nicky Phillips, Margaret Willoughby, Chris Kidd-Stanton and Jackie Haylett

8. Summer Joint Churches Event This event had now been cancelled.

9. Managing future bookings of the Church David B. said that in 2019 the PCC had agreed in principle for regular groups to steward their own concerts after some training. At the last PCC meeting a group had been set up to investigate how this would work. A document had been circulated of the recommendations to enable to put this into practice. Safety and insurance had to be covered but after training the designated volunteer stewards a church member would open up, explain and talk over requirements, leave a contact telephone number for emergencies and at the end of the event the church member would lock up. In principle this was unanimously agreed.

10. AOB For when David P. was away, Gill was asked to make a list of all the things that had to be done before and after the service. At the next meeting members could offer to carry out the different tasks.

William asked when we would be able to sing in church again. We had to wait for Government announcements.

Chris suggested that after Covid restrictions were lifted we should leave the chairs in semi circles rows. This was felt to be a good idea; however, health and safety requires that the chairs are linked when four or more are together.

David B. said we now had a booking for a baptism this year and two weddings booked for next year.

Colin thought it would be useful to have dates fixed for Harvest and the Carol Service. October 3rd was agreed for Harvest and 19th December for the Carol Service. For Harvest he suggested that we chose a particular charity on which to focus.

Jackie asked what should happen to the Children's Society boxes that hadn't been emptied for some time. It was suggested that individuals should be asked to donate directly or that a red bucket collection could be allocated for future giving and sent as a 'one off' to the Society.

Colin also said that the church needed to be tidied up, particularly the north gallery. He suggested that the old wooden chairs should be sold or dumped and that a cupboard be purchased and placed in the south gallery between existing cupboards to store all the hymn and prayer books that are now in the north gallery.

William enquired as to whether 'The Friends of St. Botolph's' was still in existence. Yes, it was but the pandemic had prevented things from happening. Colin was asked to approach Trevor Exton, the treasurer, as to how the charity status stood.

11. Date of next Meeting This would be Wednesday, 21st July at 2.30 p.m. in church.

12. Closing Prayer The meeting closed with all saying, 'The Grace'.