

St Andrew's Church
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 13 October 2020 via Zoom

Present: Rev Dr Steve Griffiths, Patience Wilson, Paul Edwards, Catherine Holton, Claire Reilly, Andrea Edwards, Dinos Kousoulou, Rex Bourne, Rob Barwood-Symmons, Adele Barwood-Symmons, John Tanner, Paul David, Tony Leach and Laura Bruce

1. Opening Prayer

1.1. The Rev Dr Steve Griffiths opened the meeting with prayer.

2. Apologies for absence received from: Frances Cansfield, Claudia De Rienzo, Illy Duce, Ruth Mackay, Richard Berndes, Emma Oppong-Addai.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 14 July 2020

The minutes of the meeting of 14 July were approved and will be signed at an appropriate time.

4. Matters Arising and Actions and Decisions.

There were no matters arising.

5. Update on Mission Action Plan "Towards 2030"

a). Worshipping Community. We noted that the number attending church for the two Sunday Services in church were steadily increasing. Attendances at all other services averaged 414; an increase on the comparable time last year of 114. The school was planning to have a lower key Harvest Festival Service and it was agreed that harvest should be celebrated, with the congregation being encouraged to donate food directly to the Enfield Foodbank.

It was agreed that attendances at the Sunday Services needed to be kept under review and if need be reconsideration be given to current distancing arrangements

Action: Church Wardens.

b). A Caring Community. The meeting acknowledged the additional workload on Rev Dr Steve Griffiths in dealing with issues arising from the pandemic. He confirmed that the major pressure was dealing with the emotional impact of the pandemic. In particular, funerals were people have not been able to grieve effectively. The Diocese, through the Bishops, were providing the pastoral support needed for Rev Dr Steve, which was beneficial.

There were no additional points raised in connection with regard to: A Welcoming Community, An Interactive Community and A Discipleship Community.

c). A Located Community. Steve reported that the proposal to include the land in front of the Church with any redevelopment of the Market Place was still being discussed with the Council. It was possible that the Council did not fully understand the complexities of obtaining permissions to undertake any alterations. This may result in the area not being included in the Council's and Trust's plans.

6. Finance Report.

6.1 Q3 Management Accounts. The accounts were presented by Laura and Rev Dr Steve Griffiths. The position on Income at the end of Q3 - 30.9.20 - was that there was a surplus of £15,461. The Kedleston Group had paid the rent for the Parish Centre and a £10,000 grant had been received from the Council. The funds borrowed from the Reserve Account would be repaid in Q4.

The issue of rent payment from the Accountancy firm located in the car park was raised. Rev Dr Steve confirmed that this had been investigated and there was significant confusion over the legal status of the lease. It was agreed that when time permitted, advice would be sought from the Diocesan Legal team. It was noted that in the meantime the Accountants were paying for the car parking spaces. Laura reported that the Flat had been let to the Kedleston Group at £1000 per month.

Expenditure continues to be closely controlled; this has resulted in an overall position of an improvement over the budget of £22,542.

6.2 Draft budget for 2021. Laura presented the proposed budget for 2021. The main discussion was in relation to the PCC's contribution towards the Common Fund. Dinos reminded the meeting that the PCC had previously committed to increasing the contribution once the financial positing allowed.

Following extensive discussion, it was proposed by Laura and seconded by Dinos **“That the PCC should continue to pay the Common Fund at a rate of £60,000 pa and make an additional contribution of up to 10% of any surplus in the accounts. The exact amount to be agreed at the first meeting of the PCC each year.”**

This was agreed unanimously by the PCC.

The issue of church cleaning was raised as no cleaning was taking place. The PCC agreed in principle to hire a commercial cleaning company to undertake cleaning on a weekly basis. Catherine agreed to obtain estimates for this to be undertaken and let Laura know what should be included in the 2021 budget.

Action: Catherine and Laura.

The meeting thanked Laura and Steve for all the work that has gone into preparing the accounts and budget and agreed to confirm the 2021 budget at the December meeting of the PCC.

7. Restoration Project. Dinos presented the report from the Restoration Steering Group. The Group had met on 3 occasions and investigated likely Lottery funding and the need to generate additional funds through fundraising and bids to other Charities and Trusts. It was likely that an additional £1,000,000 pounds would need to be raised to match fund any Lottery funding. There should be a significant contribution from letting the Parish Centre. The Steering Group would be using Zoho Project management software and following the RIBA work planning tool kit.

The PCC were asked to agree to the principle of engaging an architect to assist the Steering Group reach stage 1 of the RIBA process, delegating the decision to appoint to the Finance Committee.

The PCC also noted that any spare capacity that the Business Manager had would be dedicated to supporting the Project.

The PCC voted unanimously to support the appointment of an architect to support the Steering Group reach stage 1 RIBA work plan.

8. St Andrew's Online. Rev Dr Steve presented his paper seeking approval to purchase the necessary equipment to allow a team of people to be involved in preparing Digital Ministry material.

The meeting noted that the purchase of a camcorder would allow the project to start. However, a more professional video camera will be needed in the longer term.

The issue of insuring the equipment was raised and it was agreed that this should be included in the current insurance arrangements.

Action: Rev Steve Griffiths.

Paul David proposed and Tony seconded a proposal to purchase the equipment outlined in the report.

This was agreed unanimously by the PCC.

9. Update: The Kedleston School - Parish Flat and Car Park. The meeting considered the report prepared by Rev Dr Steve. It was noted that the total cost of refurbishing the Parish Centre would be in the region of £1.1 million. It was proposed to rent the flat to the Kedleston Group for £1000.00 per month.

Discussions have also been started regarding the possibility of the Kedleston Group renting the whole of the car park during the week at a potential cost of £12,000 pa. The meeting noted that revenue from car parking was reducing as more people are working from home. Current running costs are in the region of £1500 and income was £9,500. The Church would have access on Sundays and for contractors linked to the maintenance of the Church. Any new arrangement would be from 1 January 2021.

Rex proposed and John seconded a proposal that negotiation with the Kedleston Group should begin, to reach an agreement as outlined in the paper presented by Rev Dr Steve Griffiths. If there are any alterations to these principles, the PCC authorises the Standing Committee to work with Rev. Steve and the Kedleston Group to come to a suitable deal on its behalf.

This was agreed unanimously by the PCC.

10. Monuments in the Church. The meeting considered the report that proposed the covering of two Boddington Monuments as research has found that the family had been extensively involved with the Slave Trade. A general discussion took place on how best to proceed. We noted that the Archdeacon had been consulted, and had confirmed the option of temporarily covering the Monuments was within the current Diocesan guidelines.

It was proposed by Dinos and seconded by Adel that the two monuments be covered with an appropriate notice explaining why they had been covered. The longer-term future of the monuments would form part of the Restoration Project. The PCC voted unanimously in favour of the proposal.

11. APCM. Dinos reminded the meeting that the APCM will held on Sunday 25 October at 12.30. Those members of the PCC who had served 3 years were encouraged to stand again for a further 3 years.

The meeting was closed in prayer led by Rev Dr Steve Griffiths