

# Minutes of the Parochial Church Council, St. Peter's Draycott

*Held on 10/09/2020 at 7:30 p.m. in the church*

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## **1. Opening prayers**

Stuart opened the meeting with a psalm and prayer, and Thea took the chair.

## **2. Attendance and apologies**

### *Present*

Stuart Burns        SB  
David Cheetham    DC  
John English        JE  
Chris Green        CG  
Pat Mullay         PM  
Thea Oliver         TO

### *Apologies*

Tricia Lumley     TL  
Gill Dury         GD  
Richard Dingley   RD

## **3. Any amendments/ signing of minutes from 19/03/20**

The minutes from our 'information and decision sheet' (done by email in lieu of cancelled meeting of 19/03/20) were agreed as an accurate record; Thea signed them.

## **4. For discussion and information**

(NB. Standing items not tabled in interest of brevity)

### **4a. Accounts**

DC updated us on the situation since the 2019 accounts were drawn up. We had been losing about £500 per month from our current account since the start of the Covid crisis. We had not applied for a diocesan grant however as we still have adequate funds.

### **4b. Covid – rule changes and the church**

New rules do not affect our current services. According to current diocesan interpretation, the 'rule of 6' does not affect meetings on church business held in church, either (so wouldn't apply to the current meeting, for example, or to the APCM). NB. The numbers meeting outside church are limited to six, so outside services with more people would not be possible.

Thea thanked all those who were helping to keep our services going – church lockers/ unlockers, musicians, sides people, cleaners – who were having to work in strange conditions.

NB. Numbers in church have not increased much in Draycott (around 9-12); in Rodney Stoke they are more (14 last Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup> Sept), and in St Andrew's they jumped to 55 last Sunday. The numbers attending Zoom on Sunday have also gone down, but there were still 20 or so. There is also consistent attendance at the Zoom services during the week.

#### **4c. Thea's ordination**

Thea brought us up to date with the preparations and plans for her ordination. Ordinations this year are being done in cohorts, each being limited to 30 (all participants included). They are taking place in the Lady Chapel. Thea's will be held at 10:30 on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> September. The diocese is trying to arrange for this to be live streamed- Stuart to send us the link if this happens.

Thea 'hours of duty', once ordained, are as follows. Thursday will be her parish day, Friday will be her quiet day (no parish duties), and she will be available on Sundays apart from the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday, which she also has off. Stuart said that if time was taken up elsewhere in the week for parish work, she should take time back in lieu on a Thursday.

#### **4d. APCM (14th October)**

This would take place in church, unless rules changed to prevent it (in which case, it would happen on Zoom). We would sit in a circle in a socially distanced way, as for the present meeting. We may wear masks. We would also keep it briefer than usual.

We decided to keep statutory reports, relying on Stuart to sum up developments in worship (taking into account changes since March). NB. Reports required are the following: Electoral Roll, PCC proceedings, Financial report and accounts, Fabric report, Deanery Synod Report.

Stuart said that any items not on the agenda would need to be submitted to the chair of the meeting at least two weeks before (to be stated on the public notices announcing the APCM).

#### **4e. Card Trust vacancy**

RD is no longer able to be a trustee, and he has agreed to step down (TO spoke to him). We need another person from the church. Is anyone interested? TO can supply further details. JE expressed some interest. NB. Helen Dance will need to know in time for their November meeting (they have three meetings of the trustees per year).

#### **4f. Jeffs stepping down from more duties**

Gordon and Collette Jeff have announced that they would be stepping down from several duties. Gill has already agreed to take on the laundering of the communion linen. David and others will do the putting away after communion (David has been doing this as well as setting out for a while, but should co-opt others as needed). TL (as flower team captain) to be informed.

CG to write a letter of thanks to them both.

#### **4g. Richard Dingley stepping down from PCC/ Readership/Electoral Roll officer**

Richard wants to step down from the PCC (he will also cease from being an active Reader). CG to write a letter of thanks from us all. We shall need another Electoral Roll officer.

#### **4h. New PCC members required**

Ask the Thomas family, as they look like staying in the village for a while (Pat Mullay).

#### **4i. Lay chair of PCC**

We thought that TL would do it well, and might be willing- JE will ask.

#### **4j. Services going forward**

- We had mostly seen the rotas for October – December, and other proposals; some had had the opportunity to comment. Stuart briefed us on the decisions.
- Draycott would go to 9:30 am services on Sunday, St Andrew's 10 am and Rodney Stoke, 11 am. Draycott and St Andrews would hold them every week for the moment, alternating Holy Communion and Morning Prayer. Rodney Stoke want to go down to once every two weeks (varied to include 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays).
- To save printing, Stuart proposed that the benefice office cease the production of individual service sheets each week, and we go back to service books. A new booklet would be produced for morning prayer. Sidespersons would be responsible for handling the service books (and hymn books), placing them on each seat, then collecting them up (after hand-sanitising). They would be then put away until the following week, by which time they would have self-sterilised.
- Zoom services would continue. Sunday Zoom would be at 11:30 am. There has been debate about whether to continue with all the weekday services on Zoom (currently 10 am on Saturday and 8:30 pm each weekday). This will be reviewed with each new rota.
- Wayne and Alan are resuming regular choir practices and wish to cease recording. Barry and David will record for Zoom when they can – otherwise we can use previously recorded hymns, of which we now have a good number.
- Remembrance Sunday would not be possible in the memorial hall this year (unless the rules are relaxed by then, which seems very unlikely). We will have brief acts of remembrance in the churches. Stuart will inform the parish councils explaining the situation. The magazine will need to carry a notice to this effect- TO will contact the editor.
- The magazine will also need updates to the piece on services in St Peter's and St Leonard's. CG will liaise with the editor, and with the Rodney Stoke PCC.
- The PCC thanked Stuart for keeping services going in the Benefice in such an imaginative way in a changing (and challenging) situation. Stuart acknowledged that it had not always been easy, and thanked the ministry team and many other helpers.

#### **5. Dates**

APCM: On Wednesday 14th October at 7:30 pm, in church

*The meeting closed with the Grace, which we said together.*