

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

Held on 04/01/2022 at 7:30 p.m. in the church

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1. Opening prayers

Stuart opened the meeting with a reading and prayers. John took the chair.

2. Apologies, welcome

Present

Stuart Burns	SB	Chris Green	CG
David Cheetham	DC	Tricia Lumley	TL
Gill Dury	GD	Pat Mullay	PM
John English	JE	Thea Oliver	TO

3. Additions or amendments to agenda

(g- Key Safe; h- Alan Rowntree leaflet).

4. PCC minutes from 22/11/21- confirmation of accuracy

The minutes from the last meeting were agreed as an accurate record and signed by JE.

5. Brought forward and arising matters from the minutes

03/08/21 #6e (PA system). CG unable to arrange installation date with Intek before Christmas – they should respond after the Christmas and New Year break. Will arrange a date as soon as practical in the new year. We need to clear space in the vestry to house the mixer and amplifiers.

07/09/21 #6b (Eco Church)

- Rainwater butt – still not come into stock at Hillier Garden Centre
- Energy efficiency survey – Wednesday 10th November, DC and CG met the Green Journey consultant. We are promised survey results early this year.

- CG completed the Eco Church survey online. We achieved gold in 'Worship and teaching', bronze in 'Buildings', silver in 'Land', bronze in Community and global engagement', but were ungraded in 'Lifestyle', which prevents us getting an overall award. It should not be too difficult to raise our score to bronze, perhaps by upgrading two or three of our categories.
ACTION: TO and GD will have a look at our responses and see what we can do to improve

07/09/21 #7d (Quinquennial survey)

We have no report yet from the architect George Chedburn – CG has sent a chasing email.

22/11/21 #6a (Benches)

We need a 'list B' faculty for this. CG had asked the archdeacon what supporting information was needed, ahead of the application (as per advice on the website). So far he had received nothing, but has sent a chasing email.

ACTION: SB to send an email if CG has had no reply after a week (NB. This had been received at the time of writing)

22/11/21 #6c (Repair café)

The Wells meeting was cancelled and neither Rob nor Nikki were able to attend another in Wedmore, so this is no further forward. (Carry over).

22/11/21 #6e (Involvement of school in rewilding)

CG had received a positive response from Matt Perrett, senior teacher, who suggested an assembly after Christmas. However assemblies are currently on ZOOM so this may be postponed.

6. *New matters*

6a. **Review of Covid precautions in church**

Our latest measures (mask wearing at all times for everyone except the choir, limiting numbers where practical, not serving refreshments) are sensible. The concert on the 29th perhaps pushed the boundaries of what was wise, although it had been planned some time before and was ticketed to control numbers. In the end there were 57 including the performers, and the church was not crowded. (We estimate that this contributed a much-needed £500 to church funds.)

6b. **Safeguarding**

We must all do training at least including the C0 and C1 levels- some may need a refresher.

ACTION: TO will circulate a link to online training. Stuart is also looking to have a training session in Cheddar in February, or as soon as the Covid situation permits.

6c. **Parish share in 2022**

We had received two options – a minimum of £14,406 (no rise from last year), and £15270 being the amount it 'should' be allowing for a rise, for those who can afford it. We opted for the first. However the affordability of our parish share contributions does need to be reviewed by us during the year, and we must leave ourselves the option of reducing it if our finances require.

ACTION: DC will respond to the diocese selecting the first option, but with the caveat over our review of its affordability.

6d. **Communal Christmas card**

This was a useful first attempt -many of us had signed the card, thus saving quite a number of cards (although proceeds had not been separated, so we cannot say how much it has contributed). However GD thought we had gone about this the wrong way, and no-one from outside our regular

congregation had signed it (although it had been publicised in the magazine). For the next time she proposed that we invite everyone on the electoral roll and/or magazine subscribers to participate. Magazine deliverers would ask subscribers ahead of time, collecting names and contributions, and the card (which would be produced in-house) would have the list of names printed inside. NB. For some churches this has been a significant fund-raiser, as well as saving paper.

6e. Possible relocation of vestry to south transept

DC introduced the idea of using the south transept as a robing area for clergy – the current vestry is getting rather cluttered, and it is interruptive to have folk using the loo. However Stuart thought it important to have a (moderately) private quiet area for clergy and worship leaders to pray before the service, and the south transept is not really suitable for this.

ACTION: (TO, TL, GD...) Declutter the vestry, perhaps create extra storage in the south transept.

6f. Remuneration of organists

We had received a letter from Barry Rose, proposing that we remunerate organists. He was keen to say that his own fee would be returned through stewardship giving, but wants to put this put on a proper footing, in time for some future date when we might need to find someone else. After discussion we agreed, recognising that all would be paid the same. The following motion was put: "With immediate effect, the PCC of St Peter's Draycott has decided to remunerate the organist playing for the main Sunday service at the rate of £40 for each Sunday played. This arrangement is subject to review and will depend on future affordability." (Proposed by JE, seconded by GD, all in favour). We would review its affordability to us in the future.

ACTION: CG to write to Barry Rose and Ian Ames White.

6g. Key safe

We discussed the merits of a key safe for the back door key – Richard Oliver was prepared to install one if we said where it would go. CG to have a look for a suitable place and let him know.

6h. Alan Rowntree leaflet

TO had been discussing with Alan Rowntree some ideas for an information leaflet to be available in church for visitors. This would contain a brief history of the church, contact details and information about regular services. A draft was circulated by TO.

ACTION: All to return comments on the brochure to TO, who would liaise with Alan.

7. Continuing matters

7a. Worship

- (i) We reviewed Christmas services – numbers were down on last year.
- (ii) ZOOM weekly services continue as there is still a demand. Thea intends to start a monthly communion service on ZOOM during the week.
- (iii) The Laurels is still welcoming us for monthly services – we have a leadership rota for this.

7b. Synod

There had been no synod since the last PCC. The next was to be the deanery synod day planned for Saturday 29th January.

7c. Finance update

The finance update is to follow. We should soon receive our gift aid – there was a problem with the initial submission which may have delayed it.

7d. Fabric update

(all fabric matters reported elsewhere).

7e. School

School assemblies are returning to ZOOM. Christmas services (live, but socially distanced and Covid-safe) were lovely. The children sang carols to their families in the car park.

7f. Supporters of St Peter's

- No coffee and cake in January, but it will resume in February (Covid precautions will include mask wearing unless seated at tables, table service only, social distancing between bubbles and additional cleaning).
- There may be a soup lunch in March, but it will be reviewed nearer the time and may be 'take-away' service rather than eat-in.
- The nativity scene is coming down this week

The PCC thanked all the members of SoSP for an even bigger and better nativity display this year, and for keeping it in repair in spite of the very regrettable vandalism it had suffered.

8. Dates

Next PCC – Wednesday 16th February at 7:30 pm in the church.

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