

**Minutes of the zoom PCC meeting,
Thursday 11th Feb 2021**

1. **Opening prayer.** Ruth Fitter
2. **Present:** Ruth Fitter, Heather De Gruyther, Cynthia Kerr, Ruth Parsons, Kiri & Steve Roberts, Helen Scott, Graham Brooks, Rachael Hawkins, Anne Minchin.

Apologies: Miriam Afortude, Beverley Evans.

3. **Minutes of 8th December.** Some amendments:
Regarding the Light Project, Kiri is happy to report back to the PCC but maybe not the wider church.
Steve is looking into an updated version of the guidelines.

It was proposed that the minutes of 08.12.20. are accurate with these amendments. Prop SR. 2nd HS.AA.

4. Matters Arising.

Guidelines.

5. Finance.

Chris, the treasurer is collating all the figures and end of year accounts for 2020.

Income was £54,142.78. (This includes the £6000 insurance claim for the wall).

Expenditure was £57255.51.

This gives a deficit of £3,112.72.

Balance in the Co-op bank £10,085.78.

CCLA (deposit account)

Fabric £12,179.04.

General £2,075.88.

We have spent £7.500 more than last year. This is explained by the wall, increased admin and clergy expenses but RF will confirm this once the accounts are prepared.

Grants: RF & AP (administrator) has applied for a Lottery Community grant, to support places that have had to close during lockdown and need funds to reopen. We have been given £2,500 for sofas and toys.

Diocesan Recovery Fund, for losses due to closure. We have not had the usual @£3,000 rental income. We have also lost all the 'occasional office' income - no fees or collections from weddings, funerals. The church no longer gets fees from the Crem' even though our clergy take services there.

Biggest loss is from the collections. Overall we could justify a claim for 12 - 15 thousand for last year. It would be good if we could cover our deficit. Happily the Parish Giving Scheme pays for our Parish Share.

Budget. We looked at the draft budget with alternative giving options of 5% and 10%. We cannot vote for a deficit budget, but we can agree to give away more later. The numbers look low at this time but people's giving will carry on, after the pandemic, so we should increase the planned giving column and balance the others.

With the giving column amended slightly a budget that included 10% giving was agreed. Proposed RP. 2nd SR. AA.

6. Safeguarding.

CK, HdG and Sue Matthews went to a safeguarding workshop. Some changes are going to affect PCC members.

We do not need our own safeguarding policy, we can use the Cof E one. Ideally we should access it and check we agree.

There should be no difference in the way we treat perpetrators and survivors who access the church. Applies to the whole congregation, not just the clergy.

Generally we should be taking care and looking out for one another.

There have been changes to the level of training, and PCC members should do the diocesan online training, Level 1 & 2. It takes about 70 - 90 minutes and has to be done at one sitting or you have to start from the beginning again. RF will send the link to PCC members. We should do this before the AGM. Take notes because there is a multiple choice test at the end and we need to get 75% correct! Anyone working with children should also do the course. Please contact RF if you are upset by anything (on the training!).

We have a lone working policy for those working in the building alone, but nothing for individuals working alone outside and visiting within the community.

The workshop suggested safeguarding themes could be included into sermons so all become aware we all have a responsibility. Raise awareness of modern slavery, county lines, grooming.

System of reporting and recording - the parish dashboard is a very good resource for monitoring where we are with safeguarding generally. RF has requested this from Becca and Brett at the Diocese so we can begin to use it as a parish.

What services are available to refer people to, when and who should we report to? A list of services and a simple flow chart diagram will be produced for PCC members and also to go on the wall in church for congregation members.

Becca Faal and Brett Riches are the Diocesan safeguarding officers. RF has regular supervision with Becca and concerns are logged and actions taken.

CK will circulate safeguarding guidelines to all on PCC. Action CK.

7.Link PCC members.

Link people will oversee some areas and report to the PCC meetings 1 /2 or 1 /3. Thus sharing Ruth's responsibilities.

CK volunteered to do the DBS checking.

Fundraising, maybe Julie? RF to ask. Fayres & events, grant applications etc.

Pastoral care, Jan does a lot of this. Maybe AM can assist.

Mission & outreach runs through everything. Someone could co-ordinate and keep things legal.

Finance.? RF to consider.

Music, SR and maybe someone else. Organ player as ?

is moving away.

Children and Families - RP, HS, RH and KR.

8.Charities.

Results of the voting were;

International

Mission Aviation Fellowship 4

Christian Aid 5 *

National

Radio lollipop 5

Rooftop 6 *

Local

Foodbank 3

Longtable 8 *

These * will have a third share of our giving for the next 3 years. 10% of £5370 is £1790. RH proposed and RP 2nd. All agreed.

SR suggested we send the money after we have it, 3 times over the year to the 3 charities.

RF to contact the charities and agree a timescale for sending the giving.

9.Opening Church.

Closed the church on the 10th Jan because cases were increasing. We were not dispersing after services and mask wearing was insufficient. RF

was criticised about this. So when should we reopen?

At present the infection rate in Gloucester is 200 in 100,000.

Criteria for reopening: IR needs to be below 50.

When other public gatherings are allowed. Non essential shops and hairdressers reopen.

Still undecided. Next 'Big announcement' is on Feb 22nd. We will still need to mask up and sanitise for a long time to keep safe.

10. Lent & Easter plans.

There will be Lent packs with prayer cards, candles and an ashing stone for Ash Wednesday. Similar for Holy week.

Lent course begins on Wed Feb 24th, 7.30 – 9.00. There will be videos, storytelling, reflections. All services will be livestreamed. RF & PG on Ash Wednesday evening. Hard copies will be distributed to those who need them.

Holy week trail will be in the Garden of Remembrance.

Quizzes.

11.AOB.

PCC training course run by CPAS. March 2nd. RF to sign us up and pay for.

12.Closing Prayer.RF.