

ALL SAINTS BIDDENDEN PCC

Minutes of virtual Zoom meeting of the PCC held on Tuesday 7th July 2020 at 7pm.

Present: Alex Bienfait (Chair), Ann Courtness, Paul Webster, Julie Lupton, Peter Cutts, Joanna Winston, Tanya Ling (Minutes secretary) Mark Clixby (guest)

Item		Action
1	The meeting opened in prayer.	
2	Apologies for absence. There were none.	
3	Minutes of the previous meetings held on 26th May 2020 (Combined) and 28th April 2020. 28 th April minutes needed an amendment on the finance report which covers February to March, not March to April. Action Office to amend accordingly. Proposed by Peter and seconded by Ann. The minutes were then adopted as a true record and virtually approved online by Alex Bienfait.	Office
4	Matters Arising <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Stewardship texting facility query – Peter confirms that Gift Aid would not be reclaimable on this type of giving so will not be going any further with this option. ● Church noticeboard has been erected. ● Invoice from George Denny for the lychgate and ramp work has now been received and paid at no additional cost. He agreed to 10% of project cost before VAT. ● Ann to liaise with Peter about the church cleaners and payment as we are still in credit and the last payment made on 27th April. Action Ann to contact Peter.	AC
5	Open Forum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Safeguarding policy review – to be approved by the new PCC group after the APCM meeting in October. ● Raising the price of the magazine – Paul proposed to make it £1 so the annual subscription would be £8 from January 2021. All in favour. Proposed by Paul and Ann seconded the proposal. ● Joanna confirmed that she will be resigning after the APCM in October but will be continuing as the Welcoming team co-ordinator. ● 19th Oct date for APCM - possible half term issues. Action Office/Ann to confirm if she can chair and possibly need to rearrange date.	AC/Office
6	Parish council regeneration working group update – Mark Clixby See attached appendix which has the notes from Mark on what has been requested from the Parish Council. Ann proposed a meeting with Mark, Tony Burtenshaw and Chris Cox to look at the churchyard to assess on what could be done towards this project Action Ann to arrange a date for this meeting to agree next steps.	AC/MC
7	Covid 19 update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Online weekly services continue with success. Some people have not used this service who previously attended church. Active church is a learning curve but increasing in success. Night prayer numbers are low but morning prayer at least 5 people attend. Alex indicated that online bible study group is his next step. ● Church is open for prayer from Wednesday to Sunday. ● We are now able to open church for services with social distancing rules in place. No singing, numbers will be limited to approximately 30 people with 2 metre distancing. No gathering after the service. Cleaning will be needed after the service esp life services such as weddings. We will need to update the risk assessments with this. Suggested to offer a one off 26th July service to see how it goes but no services in 	AB

	<p>August. The church will be closed after the 26th July in preparation for the Friday 31st wedding service. We can gauge demand and interest at the July services at both Smarden and Biddenden. All in favour.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baptisms have to be private with no mixed families • Action Office to send out RA that was prepared by Alex and Ann. 	Office
8	<p>Finance update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peter sent out the finance report to the PCC group before the meeting for review. Toilet twinning has raised £1653.. Action Julie is waiting for some extra information before it can be sent out to the charity. Once received she will liaise with Peter. • Carr legacy of £10000 of unrestricted funds is gratefully received. • Peter made enquiries about applying to Ashford Borough Council for a discretionary grant, but following advice from ABC officials, did not proceed with an application • All donations given after May are to be given fully to the church and not 10% to Foodbank and 10% to Christian Aid. 	JL/PC PC
8	<p>Churchyard proposal update – Reservation of Grave Space Policy needs to be reviewed and approved. Action Alex to rewrite to include that more space is now available. Office to carry over to next PCC meeting for review of this revised policy.</p>	AB/Office
9	<p>John Mayne School</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The primary school is open as per government guidelines. The head, Sharon Lewis, is leaving at the end of the term. An interim head teacher will be starting in September. School has recruited some new governors including Clive Thomas and Tom Hay. Alex has purchased bibles for the year 6 Biddenden leavers which will be given to them at the end of term. 	
10	<p>Churchwarden's report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ann would like to thank Tom Hay for his continued work setting up Zoom for the online services which has been a lot of work. • Facebook page is now up and running. 	
11	<p>Fabric</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The pump taking sewage to the mains is broken. Three contractors have been consulted. PCC approved the quotation for £1764 from Drain & Sewage Pumping Services Ltd. As well as replacing the pump, it is hoped this will reduce the bad odour coming through electric conduit piping. All contractors agreed the smells are partly caused by underuse of the system. Proposed by Julie and seconded by Peter. All in favour. Access to the church after the work will need to be taken into account. • Julie to look into applying to FAB to fund this work. • Goodsell will be doing the work on the south chapel but due to furlough this will start late July/early August. • Roof tiles and slates still need to be replaced. 	JL JL JL/AB
12	<p>Safeguarding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telephone tree volunteers may need to be contacted for safeguarding. If any issues, Julie or Sian need to be told of any concerns that have arisen from these calls. Action Alex to contact volunteers and raise this with them. 	AB
13	<p>Events and fundraising Breakfast Church is still currently in the calendar.</p>	
	Date of the next meeting – Zoom virtual PCC meeting on 8 th September at 7pm.	

The meeting closed with prayers at 8.45pm