

**MINUTES OF ST GEORGE'S PCC MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 19TH DECEMBER
2022 AT 7.30PM AT THE VICARAGE**

Present: Fr Colin Lawlor, Rev Liz Quinn, Chris Gadd (Churchwarden)(Chair), Candy Williams (Deanery Synod), Tony Rice-Oxley (Deanery Synod), Patricia Byrne, Anne Morgan, Mo Peters, Alice Pitney, Lynn Winter, Sue Hodgens, Sara Schillemore, Lynne McNeill, Linda Smith, Sara Pask (Treasurer), Jane Cook (Secretary)

Co-opted: Malcolm Brewer (Hon Assistant Treasurer)

| | | <u>ACTION</u> |
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| | Opening Prayer – Fr Colin read the Leading your Church into Growth Prayer. | |
| 1. | Apologies for absence: Rosy Stone (Churchwarden), Elaine Shimbart | |
| 2. | Minutes of last PCC meeting on Monday 3rd October | |
| | The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record. | |
| 3. | Matters Arising | |
| | <p><u>Page 1, Item 3</u> – Dog Poo situation in the churchyard – as things seem to have improved a bit we will monitor for the time being.</p> <p><u>Page 1, Item 3</u> – Trees – The 2 apple trees have been planted in the churchyard and Mo was thanked for organising this. Mo confirmed that she has thanked Dawn Hyett for organising the Toddler Group to be a part of it. It was originally planned to have the apple trees either side of the flag pole but it was impossible to dig down in one area. Tony has plans of the whole churchyard which he will pass on to Mo who will look at them and then give to Fr Colin in the church safe for safe keeping.</p> <p><u>Page 1, Item 3</u> – Cinema - As Sara had left the meeting unable to confirm if she has spoken to Paul Read about showing the Cinema separately as this is a restricted fund. Ongoing.</p> <p><u>Page 1, Item 3</u> – Brown Bin – Malcolm confirmed we are on the list for receiving a brown bin but none are being issued at the moment.</p> <p><u>Page 1, Item 3</u> – Compost area – Mo confirmed that an area has been found for a compost and she has pallets ready to use.</p> <p><u>Page 1, Item 3</u> – Coffee machine – Malcolm has not found a suitable cupboard yet and Patricia says we don't need one so remove from matters arising.</p> <p><u>Page 2, Item 4c</u> – Architect – see Item 9d) below.</p> <p><u>Page 2, Item 4c</u> – The fire extinguisher checks took place on Monday 10th October.</p> <p><u>Page 3, Item 5b</u> – Leaks – Tony said that John Hood is investigating.</p> <p><u>Page 3, Item 6</u> – Safeguarding Report – a reminder that everyone should complete their necessary safeguarding course(s) and let Sonja know once done.</p> <p><u>Page 4, Item 9</u> – Renewable Energy – Mo said in her opinion the side of the church we would use is too much in the shade and the Church Hall is unsuitable as it is totally shaded by the yew tree. She still has Linda's son's number to contact. Mo is finding out the amount of power we use for both buildings and this is ongoing.</p> <p><u>Page 4, Item 9</u> – Rats – rats have been seen recently. If the situation gets worse Tony said we will need to get someone in but that costs money.</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">TRO MP</p> <p style="text-align: right;">SP</p> <p style="text-align: right;">All</p> <p style="text-align: right;">MP</p> |

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| 4. | a) | Charity Treasurer's Report + Approve Retiring Collection Charities for 2023 | <u>ACTION</u> |
| | | <p>Lynne reported as follows: October – African Child Trust - £104.57 November – Barnabus Aid - £73.56 A copy of the proposed Retiring Collection Charities list for 2023 has already been circulated. Patricia suggested Wintershall as one of the charities to support. It was decided to perhaps organise another Parish outing for 2023 to support them that way but Lynne will also add them to the list for 2024 and also the Wednesday coffee fund.</p> | LM |
| | b) | Treasurer's Report | |
| | | <p>Sara gave the following report: "We are nearly at the end of our financial year with a projected deficit of approx. £27,000. Our Parish Share allocation for 2022 amounts to £66,200, however, at the end of November we had only been able to pay £44,080 and plan to pay a further £5,510 in December leaving a projected underpayment of £16,610 which there is no prospect of being able to pay. It is my understanding that this underpayment will be added to our allocation for next year! We have used all the reserve funds in the United Trust Bank account but have an amount of just under £34,000 in an Investment Account (this is an endowment account) and the rules of the account mean that we can only receive the interest earned on the capital amount but not the capital itself. I have made enquiries as to how we might be able to release the endowment fund monies and the PCC will have to resolve to apply to the Charities Commission for the release of the funds and have to provide information as to what our intention is for the monies – it is my understanding that it cannot be used for day to day expenses. I suggest that we discuss this at the next PCC meeting. The November financial overview shows below budget income and expenditure, however, it should be noted that on the outgoings side, we have underpaid our Parish Share and that there is net amount of £5,722 in the Film Club funds which is not available for general spending as this is a Restricted Account. We have received a donation of £500 from the Social Committee in respect of the Friday Morning Coffees for which we are extremely grateful. We have also received a legacy of just over £10,000 from Len Palmer's estate which will be transferred to our legacy bank account to keep it separate from general funds. I sent out the draft budget for 2023 to you all which will require approval of the PCC tonight.</p> <p>Discussion took place about the state of our finances and it was agreed that we would aim to pay our Parish Share in the future although this might not be possible. Fr Colin said we are doing what we can by having a Stewardship Campaign. Some money still due as the Gift Aid has not been claimed for the 4th quarter of last year and all of this year. There are still quite a lot of people paying by Standing Order and a few with green envelopes and Sara said they should be encouraged to change to the Parish Giving Scheme as we don't have to claim gift aid on that. The PGS will be explained in more detail during the Stewardship Campaign for people who are unaware of the difference.</p> <p><u>Budget for 2023</u> – has already been emailed to everyone. Sara proposed</p> | |

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| | | we increase Music Support from £700 to £1,000. The lions share of the budget goes on the Parish Share and we will aspire to pay this. Sara was thanked for all her hard work. Sara Pask proposed we accept the 2023 budget, this was seconded by Patricia Byrne and agreed unanimously. | |
| | c) | Fabric, Finance and Quinquennial Committee Report | |
| | | Minutes of the meeting held on 29 th November have already been circulated. Everything discussed at the meeting we have already covered and there were no further questions. | |
| 5. | | Other Committee Reports | |
| | a) | Pastoral Committee | |
| | | Not met. Patricia said they were due to meet on the Monday we had to clear the shop so she cancelled it and will set up a new date in January. | PB |
| | b) | Church Hall Committee | |
| | | Minutes of the meeting held on Friday 11 th November have already been circulated. Tony advised that we have increased hire charges by £2 an hour for 2023. We do not yet know what the increase in heating costs will be but at present we do not need to add a heating surcharge. Discussion took place about a possible charge for the use of the kitchen and stage (as lots of other halls do) and this will be discussed at a future meeting. Ian is working on a pie chart showing hall usage. Maintenance – 90% on the list is professional stuff but Tony will check with John Hood before he gets anyone in. 2 tiles have come off the roof but the guy who owned the company who did it has died and the company no longer exists but he have found someone else last week who will replace the tiles and also 4 others he found loose. The quote for this is £630. Tony said huge thanks go to Glynn and Fiona who do an enormous amount of work for one off hirers. | |
| | c) | Mission and Stewardship Committee | |
| | | Not met as been concentrating on Stewardship campaign. | |
| | d) | Social and Fundraising Committee | |
| | | Minutes of the meetings held on 12 th October and 30 th November have already been circulated. Meetings discussed fundraising events for 2023. | |
| 6. | | Safeguarding Report | |
| | | Sonja's report has already been circulated earlier today. Chris said there are no plans on doing messy church at St George's at the moment. | |
| 7. | | Deanery Synod Report | |
| | | No minutes available but Candy and Tony attended. 2 parts – Stewardship and Nick Ralph on social responsibilities. He is based at Winchester and does work mapping out population. We came 3 rd one down. He talked about how you deal with the sort of people you have in your area – demographics. He will come in and talk to us if requested. | |
| 8. | | Update by Fr Colin | |
| | | Nothing specific to add. | |
| 9. | | Correspondence / AOB | |
| | | a) Stewardship | |
| | | Rev Liz explained that there are 3 different groups who are working on their aspect with a timescale of 8 th January when the 3 groups will have to get their part ready which gives us 2 weeks if there are any problems. On Sunday 29 th January the stewardship campaign will be formally launched | |

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| | to the congregation but little tasters are in the current magazine together with a letter from Fr Colin and information on Eco Church. . The whole programme will go on for about a month – both financial but also gifts and talents. We need to be careful about the way we ask people to increase their financial giving. The packs are being made up with different bits of literature and will be given out at that service on 29 th January and anyone not in church that day will have their pack delivered to their home. | |
| | b) Discuss Friday morning coffee (request from Social & Fundraising) | |
| | Not making much money and very few people attend – only 4 regulars from outside the congregation and Social and Fundraising asked the PCC to make a decision about whether this continues. Linda wondered about moving it to a Monday to coincide with her bereavement group on one Monday in the month. Chris said we will be discussing using the Hall as a “warm space” shortly. After discussion a vote took place and the majority of the PCC agreed that Friday coffee should stop. <u>Warm Space</u> – Fr Colin and Chris are keen to start up a “warm space” in the Hall on a Monday from 4pm to 7pm and a Saturday from 4pm to 7pm during the cold winter months. Fr Colin has checked and none of the local churches are doing this. We will provide coffee/tea and possibly soup either free or for a donation. Chris proposed that we announce that this is what we are doing and put a rota at the back of church for volunteers. Jane to look to see if there are any grants available. | CG JC |
| | c) Anna Chaplaincy | |
| | Fr Colin said that the Diocese is keen to have an Anna Chaplain in every parish to support the ministry to older people. Marian Haughton has expressed an interest in doing the training but the PCC need to agree to Marian, and anyone else that might be interested, doing the training. This was proposed by Sue Hodgens, seconded by Anne Morgan and agreed unanimously. This role will be connected to the Pastoral Committee. | |
| | d) Need to decide on a new Architect to appoint | |
| | Fr Colin said he has had a discussion with David Cain who has recommended 3 possible Architects – Julian Vallis who looks after Purbrook and Portsdown although he doesn't think he is taking on anyone at the moment, Sean Lambert who looks after Rowlands Castle and Warren Whyte from the IOW but also has an office over here. Favourite one seems to be Sean Lambert and Chris will talk to the Churchwarden at Rowlands Castle to get their opinion. | CG |
| | e) Len Palmer's legacy | |
| | Mo asked whether it would be appropriate for the cost of the apple trees to come out of Len Palmer's legacy and perhaps future things that the Eco Church group have planned for the churchyard, eg bird boxes. Everyone agreed that this would be a fitting memorial to Len as he loved his garden and the outdoors. | MP/SP |
| | Sue said she would just like to say what a wonderful Church Christmas card the Sunday School made and the PCC agreed and thanked the Sunday School for their efforts. | |
| 10. | Date of Next PCC Meeting | |
| | The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 1st February 2023 at 8.00pm following the 7.30pm Eucharist. | ALL |
| | Closing Prayer – The Grace This was followed by refreshments to celebrate Christmas. There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.05pm. | |

