

CROMER PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parochial Church Council held on 28 September 2023 at 7.30 at St Martin's

Those present:

Revd W Warren	Revd J Hodgkinson	Mr I Kimble
Mr D Tuthill	Mrs M Howard	Miss A Cottingham
Mr D Orsborne	Mr J Hodgkinson	Mr D Broughton
Mrs A Orsborne	Mrs M Pallister	Mr G Purland
Mrs B Stibbons		

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The meeting was chaired by the Vicar, Revd W Warren.

Apologies were received from David Anderson, Judith Anderson, David Loades, Sarah McCandlish and Simon Purslow.

2. OPENING WORSHIP

The meeting began with a reflection by the Vicar on Psalm 65.

This was a favourite Harvest psalm of the Israelites and was written by David. We should give thanks to God for His blessings:

1. His pardon.
2. His Power.
3. His provision - Jehovah Jireh.

A time of prayer followed.

Opening Business

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST NOT PREVIOUSLY RECORDED

Dennis Broughton declared an interest in item 7 (c), Carnival Float. He is a member of the Carnival Float team.

4. MINUTES OF THE PCC MEETING OF 20 JULY 2023

The minutes of the PCC meeting of 20 July 2023 were agreed as a correct record. The following matter was arising:

Kintsugi Hope; the initial payment of £360 had been made, but no one, to date, has begun the training.

5. MINUTES OF THE STANDING AND FINANCE COMMITTEE 13 SEPTEMBER 2023

Bookstall step: This item was referred to FLT by PCC on 20 July 2023 following a Health and Safety report regarding safety concerns. At FLT on 11 September Simon Purslow proposed installing a glass balustrade, which should alleviate any trip hazards. This would be reported back to PCC, via Standing and Finance.

The notes from this meeting of FLT will come to S & F in October.

6. REPORT FROM GENERAL SYNOD, JULY SESSIONS

We should pray for General Synod and the difficult issues they will tackle in November.

The notes were received

Church Life and Growth

7. FINANCE

a) Budget

- i. The expenditure on Church Activities was mostly for CC Kids.
- ii. Mission is over budget because, as expected, invoices for the Carnival float have been received.
- iii. The Treasurer will ask budget holders to review their budgets.
- iv. Income stands at 66% and outgoings at 62%.
- v. Hall lettings are likely to be impacted when the Parish Church is closed. The Wardens have made a plan of everything that needs to be done in advance.

- vi. If the church is closed, it should be publicised in the local press. This should be done through CLT.
- vii. Colour copies cost £90 per 1000. The Treasurer proposed that ministry leaders who wanted colour copies should be issued with an expenses form so that the money should come out of their budget.

b) Parish Share

Parish Share: the original request had not included the agreed discount. The Treasurer has succeeded in getting a revised request, but we need to be aware that, once an Associate Vicar is in post, we will need to pay the full amount, although it might be possible to negotiate with the Diocese.

c) Carnival float

- i. A letter has been received from Phil Broughton, in which he outlines the anticipated 2024 budget for the float:
 - “£850 for the creation of the 2024 carnival float, The reason this is slightly more than 2023 is due to Saxon Motors providing us with a brand-new trailer to build the float on. We need to make some adjustments for 2024 to our set up from the previous trailer on health and safety grounds. This investment should last us for the next 5 or 6 years, which was when we had our last large investment for health and safety.
 - The Church lost its own space for carnival storage and building in 2015 when the diocese sold 30 Cromwell Road, where we had been building the Church Float for almost 25 years. Since then, the Pier have let us use their storage facility to build the float in the months leading up to carnival and to store the carnival equipment year-round, saving the Church almost £29,000 in storage and workshop costs. I have been asked by the Pier if the Church would contribute £750 to the cost of replacing the doors of one of the storage units we use. This would make a total of £1600 as a one off for 2024, with the anticipation that the budget would go back down to previous years budgets in line with inflation of materials for 2025.”
- i. PCC agreed unanimously to Phil’s request and appreciated that we receive free storage. It was also noted with gratitude that we receive £5,000 of good will each year from local businesses.
- ii. PCC expressed our gratitude to the Broughton family.

8. SOUND SYSTEM PROPOSAL

- a) Following the demonstration on 20 July, a costed proposal has been received from AED.

- b) An email had been received from Jay Tayler-Webb expressing concern that we hadn't had a demonstration of the proposed system with a live band. However, S & F considered that the improvements would benefit all types of sound including the spoken word and live music. The PCC Secretary has written to Jay, and he wishes us well with the project.
- c) AED is offering us an excellent price.
- d) It would make sense to have the work done at the same time as the high level work, to minimise disruption.
- e) Although the Financial Guidelines recommend seeking 3 quotes, AED are specialists, are Diocesan approved contractors and have done good work for us in the past. PCC are treating them as preferred contractors.

It was **AGREED** that the costed proposal be accepted and the work put in hand.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM FABRIC LEADERSHIP TEAM (FLT) 11 SEPTEMBER 2023

De-stratification fans and re-lighting scheme

- a) The proposal regarding the re-lighting scheme was agreed by PCC in 2019 and funding received in 2021. Most of this is held in the CCLA account managed by the Diocese. The de-stratification fans will be installed at the same time as the re-lighting work to make full use of the scaffolding.
- b) Quotations have now been received for various elements of the work, Two quotes (out of 4) have been received to date for the lighting and indications are that it will come in under budget.
- c) It is hoped that PCC will make a decision to proceed, provided the quotations for the lighting scheme come in within budget.
- d) The de-stratification fans will eventually yield a financial benefit and we should get some VAT back from some of the work.
- e) In response to a question from Anne Cottingham, it was explained that the organ will be protected by polythene sheeting.
- f) PCC will also need to approve the closure of the Parish Church, while the work is being carried out, and to make a resolution to ask the Diocese to release the designated funds that they hold on our behalf.

It was **AGREED**:

- 1. That the scheme should proceed, subject to the cost of the lighting scheme itself coming in within budget.**
- 2. That the Diocese be requested to release the designated funds held on our behalf.**
- 3. That the Parish Church should be closed from the beginning of January to 22 March 2022 and that Sunday worship should take place in the Parish Hall.**

10. WARM SPACE

- a) The Warm Space scheme has been re-branded as Warm Welcome.
- b) We can only offer a Warm Space in the Parish Church until it closes at Christmas. Other spaces are available in Cromer, plus Mustard Seed at St Martin's.
- c) Drinks will not be provided, and the kitchen door secured because there was evidence that this hospitality was abused last winter.
- d) The loos will be open.

It was **AGREED to provide a Warm Space from October until Christmas.**

11. SAFEGUARDING

- a) PCC members were asked to return their training records so that Alison will know which courses they have taken.
- b) Homework: safeguarding for a church family should be an outworking of what we believe. It is an expression of our love for God. Safeguarding issues are very real in Cromer as well as everywhere else.

12. HEALTH AND SAFETY

The report was received.

13. ELECTORAL ROLL UPDATE

The roll stands at 290.

14. CORRESPONDENCE AND DATES

It was **AGREED:**

- a) **To approve the Harvest lunch on Sunday 1 October in the Parish Hall as an official church event for insurance purposes.**
- b) **To approve the Tearfund Big Quiz on 7 October at St Martin's as an official church event for insurance purposes.**
- c) **To approve Mustard Seed Plus at St Martin's as an official church event for insurance purposes.**

d) Date of next meeting: **Thursday 19 October 2023 at 7.30, at St Martin's.**

The meeting closed with the Grace at 9.10 pm.