

CROMER PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parochial Church Council held on 23 June 2022 at 7.30 at St Martin's

Those present:

Revd W Warren	Mrs J Austin	Mr I Kimble
Mr D Tuthill	Mrs M Howard	Mr D Orsborne
Mr D Anderson	Mrs S McCandlish	Mrs M Pallister
Mr S Purslow	Miss S Wells	

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The meeting was chaired by the Vicar, who welcomed Sarah McCandlish to her first meeting and welcomed back Mary Pallister serving her second term on PCC.

Apologies were received from Revd B Rogers, Revd J Hodgkinson, Mr J Hodgkinson, Miss A Cottingham, Dr R Beare and Mrs B Stibbons.

2. OPENING WORSHIP

The meeting began with sung worship led by Simon Purslow and a reflection by the Vicar on Leviticus, Chapter 23.

- a) Every culture has special days, which are part of the rhythm of life.
- b) Ancient Israel had a number of Feasts that were appointed by the Lord and were a reminder of different aspects of his character.
- c) Leviticus 23, verses 33 – 44 focussed on the Feast of Tabernacles. The people were instructed to offer their choice fruits to God and to live in booths for 7 days “so your descendants will know that I had the Israelites live in temporary shelters when I brought them out of Egypt” They had to remember that God provided for them.
- d) There is always a danger that God's people forget they are dependent on Him for everything. We should give thanks for all His blessings and pray for His continued blessing.

A time of prayer followed.

Opening Business

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST NOT PREVIOUSLY RECORDED

None.

4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 28 APRIL 2022

The minutes of the meeting of 28 April 2022 were agreed as a correct record.

The following matters were arising:

- a) Associate Vicar
 - i. No suitable applicants had been received for the post. The Vicar and Wardens were meeting with Bishop Jane on 28 June to discuss the way forward.

- ii. What would happen if the post couldn't be filled? Bishop Jane would be asked this question. The Diocese had suggested giving us a second curate, but this mightn't be able to happen until 2024. Concern was expressed that, as this would be a training post, it would put extra pressure on the Vicar.
 - iii. To date, we hadn't really come together with Roughton and Felbrigg and this had originally been seen as a growth opportunity. We are still legally separated from them, and the arrangement needs to be formalised. At Cromer, we are a single Parish Benefice. Our patron is CPAS, who are anxious that our evangelical tradition is not diluted, and they have some reservations about the arrangement.
 - iv. Originally, the Associate Vicar was meant to be for Cromer. Do we eventually need to consider a reduction in our Parish Share?
 - v. We had also recognised that we need a leader at St Martin's, and we mustn't lose sight of this. St Martin's is a sizeable church.
 - vi. Is there something we could learn from the lack of applicants?
 - vii. The post requires someone who has completed their training but doesn't give them overall charge. Fewer people tend to look for a traditional "Vicaring" jobs now.
- b) Organ Recitals Programme: no one had come forward to co-ordinate the programme and it had been decided not to go ahead this year. PCC was asked to pray about this. We should be more pro-active in flagging up jobs that need to be done.

5. MINUTES OF THE APCM 26 MAY 2022

It had been a good, positive APCM and people had been encouraged. The minutes would be signed off at the APCM 2023.

6. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The following were elected to serve for the year 2022 - 2023:

- a) PCC Secretary: **Mary Howard**
- b) PCC Treasurer: **Doug Tuthill**.
- c) Lay Vice Chair: **Jackie Austin**.
- d) Electoral Roll Officer: **Glyn Purland**
- e) PCC members of Standing Committee: **Anne Cottingham** and **David Orsborne**.
Revd Ben Rogers would also be joining Standing and Finance and it would be good to have a representative from St Martin's in the future.
- f) It was **AGREED** to co-opt **Doug Tuthill** to PCC.

7. MINUTES OF THE STANDING AND FINANCE COMMITTEE 8 JUNE 2022

- a) There were 3 vacancies on PCC and it would be good to fill the places. The PCC Secretary would put something in the Update, inviting nominations and emphasising that it would be good if all congregations were represented on PCC. According to Church Representation Rules, the electorate would be the PCC and an election, if necessary, would take place at the July meeting. Terms of office would be backdated to the APCM.

- b) Fabric Leadership Team (FLT) were investigating disruptor fans to cut down on fuel costs. The fans could only be installed when the scaffolding was up for the high level lighting project. We would also need to investigate housing for the fans, which could be a metre square, so that they would blend in. It was possible there would be six fans across the church. **It was AGREED that DAC is contacted for an initial discussion.**

8. NOTES FROM THE MEETING OF MISSION LEADERSHIP TEAM 6 MAY 2022

The notes were received.

9. NOTES FROM THE MEETING OF FABRIC LEADERSHIP TEAM (FLT) 21 MARCH 2022

Electrical remedial work: **It was AGREED that the work be awarded to GJF, and that the work be put in hand.**

10. REPORT ON NORWICH DIOCESAN SYNOD 16 JUNE 2022

David Orsborne, Diocesan Synod Representative, introduced this item.

- a) PCCs and Deanery Synods had been asked to consider the Diocesan Vision Strategy. The timescale was short, with a cut off in mid-July.
- b) It was suggested that members work on this individually and send their responses to the PCC Secretary who would collate them.
- c) The document was very verbose and laced with theological terms and “church speak”, which made it difficult to engage with. However, if no comments were received, the strategy would be “nodded through”. It was always stronger if responses came from the laity rather than the clergy.
- d) It was good to see the Bible quoted in the documents, but not the references to other texts.
- e) We should pray for the work of the Diocese.

Church Life and Growth

11. PARISH GIVING SCHEME

Robert Culyer, Generous Giving Advisor, Diocese of Norwich made a presentation on the Parish Giving Scheme. This was preceded by a short video in which Bishop Graham commended the scheme. Bishop Graham would be holding a service of thanksgiving on Sunday 22 January 2023. Members were asked to put the date in their diaries.

A time of questions and discussion followed.

- a) Mary Pallister had asked the following question by email in advance of the meeting: “If we sign up to PGS are we still able to make use of the Small Donations Gift Aid scheme (as it requires us to be claiming sufficient Gift Aid separately on large donations to be eligible to also Gift Aid the small donations) Our small donations is

budgeted to be around 20K in 2022 (if you include wallsafe, bottle, loose change, Goodbox) meaning around 5K in Gift Aid". Robert explained that we could.

- b) Mary had also asked, "Can we be 'half in, half out' of the scheme with some givers using the scheme and others giving direct to the church?". Robert said that this was possible and that not everyone would want to opt into the scheme.
- c) To a further question from Mary, "Clarity please as to whether the suggested annual increase in giving in line with inflation works on an 'opt in' or 'opt out' basis? ie is it automatic unless you say no, or not automatic unless you say yes?" Robert explained that individuals would have to opt in regarding the inflation increase.
- d) The Treasurer said that there weren't a lot of envelopes coming in now but that we'd still need to reclaim Gift Aid etc for those who chose not to opt into the scheme.
- e) Simon Purslow said that it was good to offer the Parish Giving Scheme as an option and Jackie Austin believed that the core membership would opt in.
- f) Robert said that it would be good to talk to new people about the scheme and that there was an excellent booklet to help.
- g) The scheme had only been running in Norwich Diocese for a few days and already 32 parishes had signed up to it.
- h) The Treasurer said that we needed to opt into the scheme because of NatWest's punitive bank charges. The scheme would mean less payments going through NatWest.

It was proposed by Doug Tuthill, seconded by David Anderson and **RESOLVED to adopt the Parish Giving Scheme.**

12. FINANCE

- a) The Treasurer had received no questions in advance.
- b) The Lighting Project was unlikely to happen in this financial year and the budget would be carried over to the next.
- c) The Treasurer said that at the end of June we would have a better idea of how we were doing regarding the budget. He would meet with the Vicar and Wardens to review the position. When this was done, a summary would be produced for the Update.
- d) Hire charges would also be reviewed.
- e) Revised Financial Guidelines would come to PCC in July. It was recognised that there were still a few activities that were not fully compliant.
- f) Responding to a question from Sarah McCandlish, the Treasurer explained that Cornerstone and the Bookstall came under the "Fundraising" heading.
- g) In future, the Treasurer would put his report in a Word document for ease of access
- h) David Anderson wanted to do a carbon footprint of all our buildings and would liaise with Ivan Kimble.
- i) It was **AGREED that the Carnival Float should have a budget of £650.**
- j) The Carnival Float is a significant witness and a going out to share the love of Jesus. It was good practice to think of the vision when we make budget decisions.

13. AUTHORISATION OF NEW PCC MEMBERS AND TWO MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATION TO ASSIST WITH THE ADMINISTRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

It was **AGREED** to approve that new PCC members and two members of the congregation (Kathleen Reed and Richard Lee) be appointed to assist with the administration of Holy Communion

Training would be delivered by Jane Sapwell.

14. LOGO UPDATE

- a) Communications Leadership Team were delighted with the design and commended it to PCC. The next step was for the team to meet and discuss the implementation of the logo.
- b) David Anderson expressed concern that the design didn't include a cross or indicate that we belonged to the Church of England. However, it clearly stated that we were a church.
- c) Sarah McCandlish suggested that the design resembled a rainbow and might be misinterpreted. However, the colours related to our seaside location and didn't include all the colours of the rainbow.
- d) Mary Pallister would publish the logo in next week's Update, explaining the colours. It would be interesting to see if there was any feedback from the church family.
- e) Everyone who had worked on the project was thanked.

15. WIFI INSTALLATION FOR ST MARTIN'S

- a) Dave Walker was thanked for his work on this project.
- b) Over a year ago PCC agreed to get Wifi installed at St Martins Church and Hall. The stumbling block was that St Martins did not exist on the Royal Mail postcode finder. As a result of not being on the postcode list, a telephone line could not be installed into St Martins Church Building. As a next step, VMit a telecoms company was engaged to survey and explore the feasibility of installing a 4G reception dish/mast in order to receive internet access through a mobile phone provider and providing wifi in the church and hall. In carrying out this survey to provide quotes for installation of a mast etc., the company showed us a way to establish St Martins onto the Royal Mail Postcode list. Something we had not been able to overcome.
- c) St Martins is now registered onto the Royal mail Postcode list. Therefore, in essence we need to order a phone line before we can see the options for broadband. VMit's suggestion is that we go for a one month contract at £12.50 and pay the £99 connection fee. We can then enter a 36 month contract at £39 per month for our broadband. This would be all through VMit's comms partner as we can't deal direct with Openreach. It will probably take Openreach a couple of weeks to come and do the work, which will take two to three hours.
- d) Network hardware and cabling: VMit had provided a quote of £2132.10 to install Network cabling and equipment for St Martin's Worship Area, Hall and Lounge. PCC agreed to waive a second quote being obtained.

1. It was **AGREED** that we instruct Vmit to work with Openreach and order a

phone line and then enter into a contract for broadband as above.

- 2. It was further AGREED that we accept the quote of £2132.10 from VMit to install Network cabling and equipment for St Martin's Worship Area, Hall and Lounge.**

The work would be funded from the Project Fund.

16. SAFEGUARDING

The report was received.

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17. HEALTH AND SAFETY

Following an accident at CCKids involving one of the black upholstered chairs, the significantly worn chairs have been removed but all are old, worn on the corners and ready for replacement. Meanwhile, they would be taken out of circulation and possibly upcycled.

18. ELECTORAL ROLL UPDATE

The roll stood at 281

19. CORRESPONDENCE AND DATES

- a) Cycle racks: several members of the congregation had asked for cycle racks. Simon Purslow reminded PCC that, before Covid, we had already decided to do this. In 2020 he had approached North Norfolk District Council who had not responded. Simon would progress this.
- b) Date of next meeting: **Thursday 28 July at 7.30, at St Martin's.**

The meeting closed with the Grace at 9.58 pm.