

PARISH OF ST PETER'S, COLCHESTER

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parochial Church Council held on Tuesday 9th March 2021

Chairman: Revd Mark Wallace

1. OPENING BIBLE READING AND PRAYERS

The Vicar opened the meeting with a Bible reading from 2 Timothy 4.3-5 before leading in prayer.

2. APOLOGIES

See Appendix 1.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The minutes were agreed *nem con* and signed by the Vicar.

4. MATTERS ARISING

None.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

Mission partnership and charities. The church has received a number of requests from organisations, charities, mission groups and individuals for various contributions, in terms of financial, prayer and publicity support. Correspondence had been received regarding support of church plants, charities, 'Video Bible Talks' and 'Home for Good.' It was agreed to revisit this matter after the AGM with a view to reassessing our charitable contributions in the round.

Update on painting. Mrs Wendy Whitfield had received a reply from Mr Philip Wise at the Colchester & Ipswich Museums regarding the loan of the oil painting of the church. It is kept in storage, in good condition and the museum proposes that it would be put on public display in due course. The PCC agreed that Wendy would thank Mr Wise for his suggestion and to notify him that a faculty may be required.

6. ITEMS FOR ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

7. REPORTS

Written reports had been circulated before the meeting. The Vicar drew attention to the recommendations at the end of the Vicar's report, including the 'PCC Tonight' event on the 26th May. Mrs Bernice Watts will make the required arrangements for booking the event. The Vicar expressed a note of thanks to the Churchwardens for their report and to Mrs Wendy Whitfield for her input. Mr Duncan Breckels gave a verbal report from the latest Deanery Synod meeting, including reference to the forthcoming 'praying together' movement *Thy Kingdom Come* initiative.

The PCC agreed that the salary of Mr Dave Lacy, our caretaker, would be increased in line with the National Minimum Wage increase.

8. ARRANGEMENTS FOR SUNDAY SERVICES (FROM PALM SUNDAY TO 27TH JUNE)

The Vicar outlined various options for Sunday services, both 'in-church' and online, which the PCC discussed at length, before leaving a final decision with the Vicar and Churchwardens, in light of direction from the Diocese.

It was agreed that, where possible, St Peter's should continue to offer online services on YouTube & Facebook, to continue to offer Zoom meetings at other times than Sunday mornings, and to seek to hold services both in the building and, when appropriate, outside as well.

9. REFLECTIONS ON THE MEETING WITH BISHOP ROGER (8TH MARCH)

The Vicar invited the PCC to share their reflections on the recent meeting with Bishop Roger and others. The PCC was encouraged by the fact that it had been a positive and productive meeting. It was agreed that the Vicar, together with the Churchwardens and the PCC Secretary, should respond to the Bishop on behalf of the PCC, expressing thanks for the assurances given at the meeting and articulating our understanding of those assurances.

10. FEE QUOTATION FROM INKPEN DOWNIE

A fee quotation from Inkpen Downie had been circulated prior to the meeting, and it was agreed that the PCC should accept this fee quotation. The Vicar will write to Inkpen Downie and arrange a meeting with Mr Ben Downie.

11. APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Mr Richard Lawn proposed that the PCC accept the offer of John Chandler to step in as the Independent Examiner of our 2020 accounts, free of charge, with the view to appoint another Examiner for next year onwards. The proposal was agreed *nem con*. The Vicar asked Mr Richard Lawn to thank Mr Chandler on behalf of the PCC for his generous offer of help.

12. ARRANGEMENTS IN ADVANCE OF THE ANNUAL CHURCH MEETINGS

The PCC agreed to allow the Standing Committee to approve the Annual Report and the Electoral Roll in due course. With both Churchwardens being required to be nominated again, however both are eligible to stand, and with Mr Peter Holden stepping down as elected PCC member, there remain four PCC vacancies. The Vicar asked the PCC to prayerfully consider who we might be approached to stand for election to the PCC.

13. AOB, AS PREVIOUSLY NOTIFIED UNDER 6

None.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next full PCC meeting will be on Tuesday 11th May, at 7:30pm. There will also be a short meeting of the newly-formed PCC after the AGM on Tuesday 27th April. PCC meetings will continue on Zoom for the foreseeable future.

15. CLOSING PRAYERS

Various members closed the meeting in prayer.

APPENDIX 1

Mr Duncan Breckels	present	Mr Richard Lawn	present
Mr James Coe	present	Revd Mark Wallace	present
Dr Matt Cox	present	Mrs Bernice Watts	present
Mr Peter Holden	present	Dr Dan Watts	present
Mrs Anne Kavanagh	present	Mrs Wendy Whitfield	present
Dr Mick Kavanagh	present		