

## **Minutes of Bemerton PCC Meeting Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2020**

**Present:** Terri Seaton; Colin Frayling; Gillian Newton; Laurence Newton; Helen Pessell; (Minutes), Hilary Bird; Frank Pessell; Howard Tranter; Debbie Ford; Mike Bird; (Chair),

**Apologies;** Robyn Golden-Hann; Paul Kerley

### **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting 7<sup>th</sup> January were signed as a true record.

### **Matters Arising**

Actions from Last Meeting

- The Notice Board outside St Michael's church has been mended.
- Pictures and kneelers are now in place in St Michael's church
- Discussion of policies will be during the May meeting
- Helen asked Alan Jeans to chair the APCM. Unfortunately, he is unable to but kelvin has kindly agreed to chair it in his place.
- The broken switch in St Andrew's is mended.

### **Interregnum**

Hilary reported that although interest was shown we had no applicants in response to the latest advert.

Hilary and Helen are meeting with Bishop Andrew on 16<sup>th</sup> March to discuss the situation.

Hilary will also bring up the collaborative working with St Paul's that was being discussed as possibly showing that was beginning would make Bemerton seem less daunting.

If asked how the wider church could help us at the moment, Gillian asked that someone from the diocese could oversee weddings at SJP. These are becoming a trial to plan.

It was also suggested that we ask for our share to be reduced since we have been without a rector for so long.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Gillian firstly showed the PCC where we are at the end of February. This shows us roughly in line with our budget for 2020. The come is £6,810 and expenditure £13,520 of which £10,334 is Parish Share.

In preparation for the APCM in April Gillian has been preparing the accounts which need to be approved prior the APCM. They show the reserves have increased by £35,000. Friends of St Andrews have yet to submit their accounts. Gillian spent some hours over the weekend looking at the Community Centre accounts and using the church's way of accounting they show a loss of £892 rather than the surplus Ineta reported at the last meeting. However, this is probably due to some invoices yet to be paid and Gillian expects the Centre to break even.

It was suggested that the PCC approve what has been done and that the full set should be sent out by e-mail for comments prior to the APCM. Hilary proposed this and Howard seconded the motion with all in favour

Gillian produced the list of members of the congregation for Fairer Share. This numbers 131 individuals and was agreed by PCC and will now be signed by the churchwardens. It was suggested and agreed that we continue to be category C.

In line with the rise of minimum wage by 50p from 1st April it was agreed to increase the hourly rate of the cleaners and Keren, the administrator by 50p.

As an interim measure Keren is going to assist with the Community Centre accounting. This will be done in addition to her normal duties and she will be paid the extra as overtime which will then be taken from the Centre's funds.

### **St Andrew's Church and St John's Place (SJP)**

Hilary reported that the faculty for the handrails at St John's has been approved and that the SJP committee are finalizing the details for the lights prior to faculty approval being sought

St Andrew's quinquennial inspection has been completed. The Friends of St Andrew's fund will pay for any work needed but although the report has not yet been received it did not highlight major problems. Laurence will chase up the architect.

The chasuble matching the altar frontal in St Andrew's is beyond repair and the friends of St Andrew's are considering having another made. An interim solution would be to use those that were in St John's currently in Hilary's loft

Hilary reminded the PCC that each of the weddings in SJP needs someone from Bemerton there to support the officiant. It is covered until September, but reserves would be useful. A spring clean of the chancel will be needed before the first wedding in April. Gillian will ask Paula if there is a Saturday morning free for a small team to do this.

### **St Michael's Church**

Regarding the faculty for the audio – visual work. The public document comes down on Friday and the faculty then goes to the registrar to consider any matters brought up. It will then go to the Chancellor to grant the faculty if satisfied. Laurence has provisionally booked the work in for the week before Easter. It is hoped the work will be completed in a week and cause little disruption.

A quote was received for the internal front door closure for £1223.03 (previously circulated). This is for new springs to be put in the existing cases. It was decided unanimously that there was a risk if it is not done so although expensive should go ahead. Colin asked to proceed.

Helen asked if consideration could be given to moving the coffee served after services to the Community Centre. This would aid those getting it ready and prevent heavy urns being carried to church. Also, it would encourage more people to use the community fridge. It was agreed to give this a trial until Easter, starting straight away.

### **Community Centre**

Hilary reported that after several meetings and talks with Ineta and after consultation with the Diocesan HR department Ineta has resigned. The PCC were then made aware of the events leading up to this decision.

However, the Centre Management team will meet this week and all bookings will continue as normal. Laurence is at present looking at the e-mails and now has the Managers Phone. Those who regularly hire the hall will be spoken to and reassured.

Future meetings will have to consider the terms of reference for the management committee and the job description for Centre manager before it is advertised again.

There is no reason why the application for CIO cannot continue.

Mike mentioned an anonymous letter he has received prior to Ineta leaving complaining about her style of management. He has the letter if anyone wishes to see it.

### **APCM (22<sup>nd</sup> April 2020)**

Gillian has completed the review of the year and sent it around for comments.

Reports are needed for Synod, Fabric, St Peter's Place and the Community Centre by the end of the month.

Frank has served his term for Synod and will be stepping down, Gillian would like to join Synod and Terri will serve another term

There will be 5 vacancies of the PCC if anyone can suggest someone. Frank and Howard are happy to continue on the PCC

### **Any Other Business**

- There are updates on Coronavirus which are changing rapidly. At present it is suggested that using the common cup is correct although not using intincture.
- Maureen has spoken to Bishop Karen and although renewing her license as reader would be too time consuming she is able to give occasional talks during the service.
- Frank reported on synod, they are discussing the deanery plan and changes to fairer share. The diocese has to save £1 million so there will be less people in Church House and all will be in dual roles.
- Howard is looking into allegations against Hillsong and Bethel worship which he will report o a further PCC as we use a lot of their music.
- Gillian reported that Easter will run as in previous years with a Good Friday walk of Witness, Maundy Thursday service will be led by Martin and Robyn and Clare will in charge of the Easter garden.
- Terri thanked everyone for keeping the church going
- It was decided to have a sharing meal on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March after the service.

### **Actions arising from Meeting**

1. Laurence will chase up the architect for St Andrew's quinquennial report
2. Gillian will ask Paula if there is a Saturday morning free for a small team to clean the chancel of SJP
3. Howard to report about Hillsong and Bethel worship

### **The Next Meeting of the PCC May 5th 2020**

**APCM 22<sup>nd</sup> April @ 6.30 in Poppy Room**