

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, READING STREET

**Minutes of the Parochial Church Council held on Wednesday, 15th March, 2023
at 7.30 p.m. in the Community Hall**

Item		Action
1	<p>OPENING PRAYER Revd Musindi opened the meeting with prayer. PRESENT: R. Collins, S. Flory, M. Gerrard, S. Gough, J. Graham, M. Hawthorne, S. Kemp, L. Kerton, S. Kerton, J. Lambert, G. Silsbury, B. Wilson</p>	
2	APOLOGIES: D. Foster, F. Pearse	
3	MINUTES: The Minutes of the PCC meeting held on 18 th January 2023 were approved, proposed by S. Gough, seconded by B. Wilson.	
4	<p>MATTERS ARISING: <u>Defibrillator Training:</u> J. Lambert has a contact who will be able to train people in how to use the defibrillator. Dates when he is available will be sought and trainees identified. Letter of thanks to be sent to Thanet Male Voice Choir. A notice to be posted advising people to call 999 in an emergency, if the defibrillator is missing. <u>Piano in the Community Hall:</u> This was discussed at the Worship Committee and agreed to keep the piano in the Hall, as it is used by the choir for practice prior to services. Moving the piano is however damaging the floor and provision for a bespoke trolley to improve transportation is to be investigated. A cover for the piano needs to be made to prevent people playing around with it. K. Green to be approached. <u>Sound System:</u> New lapel mikes have been supplied by Cunnings which have eliminated the crackling.</p>	<p>JL JG RC</p>
5	REPORTS FROM SUB-COMMITTEES	
	<p>Reports from Finance, Worship and Mission had been received. The Fabric Committee had only recently met and the report was read by S. Kemp. <u>Mission Report:</u> Revd Musindi explained the role that Maggie Paddison had played in setting up Messy Church, which was now running very successfully. She has hitherto been funded by the Baptist Church in the sum of £18,000 p.a. but this will cease at the end of July 2023. She works for ACTS (Active Christianity in Thanet Schools) and an appeal to Churches Together resulted in a donation of £200. Revd Musindi has raised the topic of funding from the Church Commissioners via the Archdeacon and in the meantime asked for PCC agreement to give a donation of £200 to ACTS. This was approved at the meeting. In addition, £500 to be budgeted for Messy Church. The newly formed Mission Action Group (MAG) will focus on Messy Church after holy week. <u>Worship Report:</u> People to be encouraged to attend Compline during Holy Week. Acknowledged that people don't understand what this is and Revd Musindi will repeat his explanation of the service. Good Friday events will also be emphasised on a special service sheet to be</p>	<p>PM GS</p>

	<p>inserted into the newsletter on Palm Sunday. Revd Musindi will also talk about Holy Week services, including compline at the end of the Sunday 10 o'clock service when children and parents are in church.</p> <p><u>Fabric Committee</u>: A new external noticeboard needs to be provided. A company has been identified to start enquiries.</p> <p>Matt Gerrard will investigate the provision of new blinds required to be fitted in the upper room.</p>	<p>RC</p> <p>SK</p> <p>MG</p>
6	<p>FINANCE</p> <p>The Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting of 1st February had been pre-circulated.</p> <p><u>Current account</u>: £6,775</p> <p><u>Deposit account</u>: £14,046</p> <p><u>Hall</u>: £9,009</p> <p><u>Voyagers</u> £106. This will now be closed and moved to the main account</p> <p><u>Cash</u>: £503</p> <p><u>Quota</u>: £12,000 has been paid so far with another £7,000 planned this month. This will bring us up-to-date by the end of March.</p> <p><u>Gift Aid</u>: £820 for January and £962 for February are due.</p> <p>The Treasurer has submitted our registration to HMRC for the new Gift Aid system starting in April.</p> <p>The Treasurer commented that in January and February there was a loss of £1,800. With income between £6,500 and £7,000 each month and expenditure around £7,500 each month we are looking at a deficit forecast.</p> <p>The Finance Committee was actioned by the PCC to draw up a calendar of events. This was presented to the meeting and showed that there could be a £20,000 gap in the budget by this time next year. There is to date no leader for the summer fair and it was decided to form a group to have a look at this and get help from those who had done it before. The process of organising the fair will be documented and kept. The currently scheduled date for the fair of 29th July may be a problem with potential helpers away (<i>e.g.</i> Guides) so one of the considerations will be whether to move it to later in the summer.</p> <p><u>Legacy Awareness</u>: A bookmark is being designed, which will be inserted into the pew Bibles, drawing people's attention to legacies. PCC approval was given for this to be produced.</p>	<p>GS/group</p> <p>GS</p>
7	<p>SAFEGUARDING: No issues or problems have been reported.</p>	
8	<p>SUCCESSION PLANNING:</p> <p><u>Website</u>: Thanks and gratitude were expressed to Sharon Gough for taking on this responsibility following Duncan Foster's move away from the area. Thanks were also expressed to Duncan for the excellent website he produced. Duncan and Sharon are meeting to complete the handover.</p> <p><u>Churchwarden</u>: The search for a new churchwarden has been unsuccessful. J. Lambert will need some support and it was agreed to look at some of the churchwarden's responsibilities which could</p>	<p>DF/SG</p>

	<p>be delegated to other people. A list of duties will be drawn up to see which could be outsourced to others.</p> <p><u>Reader:</u> Revd Musindi had been in touch with the Warden of Readers and will also raise this at tomorrow's Synod meeting. The Diocese is not training anyone at all this year; when training is given it is now a three-year course. The more likely scenario is that a Reader from another area will move into this area. Prayer is needed.</p>	RC
9	<p>KING CHARLES'S CORONATION: Revd Musindi is arranging a residents' meeting to plan the street party, which will take place at 12.00, following the 10 o'clock service on Sunday, 7th May. Permission to close the road has been granted. Stewards and first-aiders are being sought. Entertainers are also being reviewed. Resources packs are available from the government and from the Diocese. Other events, such as a cake competition are also being looked at.</p>	PM
10	<p>COMMUNITY HALL: The Diocesan loan has been extended for four years, essentially to enable Phase 3 to be done, the refurbishment of the kitchen. There now needs to be work done on the planning phase. The estimated cost could be between £25,000 and £30,000 but if done well, this will enhance the hiring possibilities, and attract wedding parties and wakes.</p>	GS
11	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS:</p> <p><u>Mission Action Group:</u> There had been a good response to the appeal for gifts during Lent; mostly being to the Foodbank. A presentation is planned for Sunday, 21st May giving some of the history of mission giving, and showing plans for the future. Slides were shown to the PCC.</p> <p><u>PCC Awayday:</u> This was suggested for after the APCM, when there will be a new PCC; proposed venue the Living Well.</p> <p><u>APCM Reports:</u> J. Graham reminded people of the 31st March deadline to receive reports. There are four PCC vacancies and possibly two Deanery Synod vacancies.</p> <p><u>Churches Together: Lent Lunch on 25th March</u> with guest speaker Maggie Paddison. Volunteers are needed to provide soup for lunch and to serve. The event will be advertised.</p> <p>With no other business the meeting closed with The Grace at 9.20 p.m. Next PCC meeting will be on 10th May with the APCM on 19th April.</p>	GS/SG PM BW