**CHURCH OF ST PETER AND ST PAUL, ABINGTON**

**MINUTES OF PCC MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 13th January 2020 AT 7.30PM IN THE PARISH ROOMS**

**PRESENT:** Rev Byung Jun Kim (Chair), Bob Purser, Alan Sutton, Damian Pickard, Jim Mercer, Malcolm Ward, Elizabeth Loe, Donald Loe, Ashley Ashiru, Douglas Rutherford, Simon May, Alison Barnes, Esme Cushing, Liz Kelly, Dianne Ward, Andrew Munns, John Wishart, Jeanette Mallard, Anne Quinn

**70/19 OPENING PRAYERS AND DEVOTION**

**71/19 APOLOGIES:** None

**72/19 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 11th November 2019**

The minutes were proposed as accepted subject to a change to clarify the requirement for a professional and independent risk assessment for Tots and Teddies is required (item 60/19).

**73/19 MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising for discussion.

**74/19 REVIEW: WORSHIP, WELCOME, WHAT HAVE WE BEEN THANKFUL FOR?**

We are thankful for Elysias reading in church this Sunday, it was a wonderful beginning to the year. The Christmas services went very well and were well attended. It looked like the giving to the Christmas charities was higher this year and this was felt to be due to an announcement clarifying the charities that we were collecting for. Introductions at the start of the services set the tone of what we stand for (for example that children are welcome), this is always genuine, sincere and heartfelt and comes across as such. Thankful for every Sunday after the service that people do not always rush away and people stay to help, tidy up and count the collection. A couple of Sundays ago an increased number stayed to chat after the service. Preaching from Prester and John. The nativity scene outside the church created by Celia.

**75/19 RECTOR’S INTRODUCTORY REMARKS**

An icon image was shared by Jun. Thoughts of the image were shared. The icon is known as the Virgin of Vladimir, and is a Russian icon. Jun explained that icons were written rather than painted and icon writers have a particular message to relay. Through the icon they try to show a way so that when people are invited to look at the icon they are invited to follow a line where the icon takes you, to follow a journey in the icon. Jun brought attention to the eyes of Mary, who is looking at us, and has something to say to us with her eyes. Her right hand is pointing at her son, introducing her son. Her whole body is dedicated to show her son, not herself. Her whole identity is caught up leading us to Jesus. Looking at Jesus, he is looking at Mary with his full attention. Jun asked the meeting to consider what makes us different from other organisations? We are not ones to say ‘look at us’, we say ‘look at Him’ and when people follow our pointing, they find God giving his full attention to us with an unfathomable depth of love. How important it is for us to emulate the values of Christ as only then we can truly point at him. When we discuss things at the PCC it should be that we are presenting Christ’s view not our own view. Returning to the icon image, looking at Mary’s eyes and hands and ask ourselves, where will our eyes be looking at in this meeting and where will our hands and our mouth be pointing at; ourselves and our own agenda or Christ and his loving gaze on the person next to or opposite me?

**76/19 SAFEGUARDING**

Esme shared the action plan. Ambers and reds are items that still need addressing. The plan will be brought to every meeting to track progress. Esme requested and received approval for the plan and will bring the policy to the next meeting as it is due to be updated.

**77/19 RISK ASSESSMENT OF THE CHURCH ROOM (FIRE, HEALTH AND SAFETY)**

Mace Tallack introduced himself and members of his team who have been providing support to Donald and Andrew in the preparation and execution of the safety risk assessments. An initial meeting and walkaround was conducted whereby advice was given and the fire risk assessment was then conducted and all points raised have been included. This will now be given a final review by Mace and his team. There was a full discussion on the preparation and implementation of the fire and risk assessments.

We collectively need to own the risk assessment process as we cannot delegate or outsource this responsibility. We will also consider conducting a risk assessment for all major events we hold at the rooms, such as the antiques fair or harvest lunch.

Jun asked whether the PCC were prepared to accept the Tots and Teddies risk assessment. Approved by the majority of those present. The only member who declared that they did not accept the risk assessment was Alan Sutton.

The fire risk assessment was adopted and an annual review was proposed. Thanks were given to Andrew, Donald, Mace and Bob for producing and reviewing the risk assessments.

**78/19 TREASURERS REPORT: 2020 BUDGET AND FINANCE UPDATE**

Damian has now handed the bookkeeping over to Suzy Mackay which will leave Damian free to focus on donations. The final accounts for 2019 are being finalised but Damian believes we are still looking at a £10,000 deficit for the year. On contactless giving we now have broadband available in the church. A contactless reader has been purchased through ‘Sum Up’ and so arrangements need to be put in place (the app needs to be downloaded on a few smart phones or buy a pay as you go phone for the church).

A maintenance budget has been set at £10,000 and the buildings committee will strive to keep within this budget.

The budget was proposed as approved by Alan, seconded by Dianne and approved by all present.

**79/19 LAUNCHING OF THE ABINGTON PASTORAL VISITING TEAM**

Liz took the meeting through the plan for the initial pastoral visiting team. This is part of a plan to grow our pastoral care and to utilise the talents of the congregation. If anyone else would like to join the Pastoral Visiting Team , please talk to Liz. This did not prevent members of the church from continuing to visit and support each other. The PCC were very happy to support this.

**80/19 PARTICIPATING IN THE DIOCESAN KOREA LINK**

Peterborough Diocese has a link to the Seoul diocese in South Korea and we have been invited to make a link to a parish in the Seoul diocese. This was unanimously supported by the PCC. Jun will accompany the Bishop during a trip to South Korea 14-28th May.

**81/19 UPDATE ON THE NEW CHURCH WEBSITE, EMAIL AND CALENDAR**

Bob is going to meet with Simon and we have a draft website for review. Key roles in the church will have an @abingtonchurch email address. We will also have cloud based storage for key documents. We will be rolling out the changes in steps.

**82/19 PLAN FOR LENT 2020: CO-ORDINATION OF LENT LUNCHES AND LENT GROUP**

Lent lunches have been run by Jeanette for at least 6 years and we give thanks to Jeanette for her contribution but now is the time for shared responsibility. Jun requested that the fundraising committee take on the co-ordination of the Lent lunches. The Ministry team are looking into preparations for Lent (Lent groups and services).

**83/19 COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Buildings**

In the parish rooms, we now have building control sign off for the WC. Two pews went last Saturday (three remain) and the kitchen work is now complete.

Outside decoration work is to be planned (along with new double doors at the front) and the rooms insulation still needs looking at.

Deathwatch beetle – we have a much cheaper price but this needs looking into further.

The Lady Chapel work will be completed using funds from a gift.

The buildings committee are forecasting £12,000 worth of maintenance work this year.

**Childrens**

Met at the end of November. Two Umbrella churches went well with a good turnout in January. Remembrance and Christmas ‘Experiences’ were completed. Tots and Teddies is still very successful. Uniformed organisations still also going strong. We have just received a donation with thanks from the Rainbows for £50. The Twelve Days of Christmas was very well received.

**Search the Scriptures**

Alan felt that we were guided to use Acts and so this year we will continue to explore Acts. The question of Pilgrim Group was raised.

**Fundraising**

The Fundraising committee are meeting on the 20th to plan out the events for the year. Suggestions for Lent charity to be emailed to Melissa for consideration.

**Ministry**

Will meet next week to review 2019 and plan for 2020. Focus will remain the same as at the beginning of Jun’s incumbency which is about getting the basics right. Jun has done some analysis on average Sunday attendance and historically we have been declining between 20 and 25% but last year’s average Sunday attendance has grown by 11%.

**Outreach**

Has not met since last PCC. AHoF has been opening on a limited basis. Thanks to Anne and Dianne for getting the cards printed and to everyone for distributing them. Foodbank on the lead up to Christmas provided food for 85 people which is more than double, but the donations were equally incredible.

**Stewardship**

Has not met but the parish giving scheme is now fully in operation but we still have a number of people on the old standing order arrangement for the time being.

**84/19 CORRESPONDENCE**

Thank you message received from Greg during his Service swap with Jun, thanking everyone for their welcome and hospitality.

**85/19 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Mothers Union poster – circulated at the meeting. Will be put up on the inside door of the toilets in the rooms and the church.

Banking – has changed and the bank will only take five full bags of coins and so the procedure for banking has had to be adjusted.

**86/19 FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

FEBRUARY – Sat 1st Feb – Antiques Fair

MARCH - Sat 7th Mar – Antiques Fair

**87/19 DATE OF FUTURE MEETINGS 2019-20**

Standing Committee: Weds 12th Feb, 7.30pm Melissa’s house

PCC: 2020: 9th March, APCM date TBC

**THE MEETING FINISHED WITH THE GRACE**