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

**MINUTES OF PCC MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 17th November 2021 AT 8PM PARISH ROOMS**

**PRESENT:** Rev Byung Jun Kim (Chair), Bob Purser, Liz Kelly, Esme Cushing, John Wishart, Emmanuel Agudosy, Prester Coleman, Donald Loe, Elizabeth Loe, Dianne Ward, Damian Pickard, Susie McKay, Cathy Tinsley, Alison Barnes, Andrew Munns, Jim Mercer, Douglas Rutherford, Melissa Tallack (minutes).

**039/21 OPENING PRAYERS AND DEVOTION**

The meeting opened in prayer.

**040/21 APOLOGIES:**
Peter Aiers and Paul Tharby

**041/21 RESIGNATION AND CO-OPTION**

As Cathy has taken up the post of Children and Youth Missioner, she can no longer be an elected member of the PCC and so the meeting accepted Cathy’s resignation from this position. At the same time, Cathy was co-opted onto the PCC to advise on matters of youth work. This leaves one place spare on the PCC. John Wishart was prepared to be co-opted into this vacancy and those present unanimously supported this.

**042/21 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 15th September 2021**

The minutes were proposed and accepted as a true record of the meeting by those present.

**043/21 RECTORS INTRODUCTORY REMARKS**

Jun noted that this is the last PCC meeting of 2021 and what an eventful year it has been. We cannot predict what is around the corner as we all expected the pandemic to be over by this time! When we look back, there is so many things to be thankful for, such as Monday’s event when we welcomed our friends from Afghanistan. We had to change the plan on the day to enable the children to go out and play first and then we invited everyone back for refreshments. We don’t know what’s going to happen next year but Christ will be with us and we will find him through the generosity of friendship and love.

**044/21 MATTERS ARISING**
We will find some specific time to discuss the strategy for the parish rooms on a separate occasion.

Microphone update – a re-quote for the microphone is being sought now we have approval from the church architect. The microphone is a different type to the one originally quoted for as it is a higher specification for streaming music events.

**045/21 SAFEGUARDING**

Esme reported that training for domestic abuse is required by clergy, pastoral workers, visitors, safeguarding officers and PCC members. Esme will circulate the online training details and will also enquire about the possibility of a face-to-face training session in 2022 as we did with the previous safeguarding course.

A regulation change requires that DBS checks are undertaken every three years instead of every five years. We need to implement this change by 2024 but Esme will start applying this immediately.
We have also made a decision not to publicise children’s names during online services and this will be with immediate effect.

**046/21 TREASURERS REPORT**

The financial reports were circulated earlier this afternoon. Income is continuing slightly below budget and we expect it to be 5% behind by year end. The expenses budget has been updated to reflect the latest costs for the rooms and the children’s worker vacancy. We are forecasting a £5k deficit by end of the year.

The cash position is slightly lower as we have been paying for the rooms work but our reserves remain sufficient.

Bob and Damian are considering another stewardship campaign.

Susie and Damian will prepare a budget for 2022 for review at the January PCC, which will incorporate any planned repairs from the Buildings Committee.

**047/21 COVID RECOVERY PLAN UPDATE**There has been no change to the recovery phase we are in. As time passes we have become aware of a wide spectrum from those who are very relaxed through to those who are extremely cautious but we have worked together to manage our way through this.

Bob reported that Northampton has been, for some time, approximately a third above the national average. This is now starting to come down and this week we are in line with the national average and so thankfully the direction is downward. Infections are mainly concentrated in school age children and so this remains our riskiest area.

We will hold the current phase until after Christmas and review again in January as a cautious and protective approach.

**048/21 PLANS FOR ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS**

Advent will start next Sunday and this year we are introducing an Advent sermon series based on the four characters around the birth of Christ, concluding on Christmas Day. There are two very popular Christmas services, crib and carol service and so we are introducing a booking system for these two services, prioritising seats to our congregation and then offering them more broadly. If anyone wishes to attend either of these services, please let Dianne know as soon as possible.

To date, there have been 24 people who have booked with Dianne for the carol service and 9 for the crib service. The service will also be available online.

There will be 10-15 seats available in the Lady Chapel which will be available for those who may turn upon the night.

**049/21 OPERATION LONDON BRIDGE**

Operation London Bridge is the plan for the event of the death of the Queen. We plan to open the church and make a book of condolence available. Jun asked for a volunteer to co-ordinate the church opening. Dianne and Jim offered to take on this task. The music and hymns have now been selected. A special service will also be organised.

The flagpole can be repaired for £300. This work was proposed by Andrew, seconded by Dianne and approved by all present.

**050/21 FINAL SERVICE FOR JANET WINN AND PLAN FOR THE CHURCHYARD**

As Janet is moving to Somerset we plan to have a farewell service for her on the 12th Dec. We would like to appeal to the community to take over the maintenance of the churchyard. The Buildings Committee will manage the co-ordination of the volunteers in the short term.

An email account has been set up to help manage communication with the volunteers. Donald volunteered to manage this email.

**051/21 REPORT ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH MISSION**

Cathy started in post from the 1st Nov and will be working 10 hours a week. Cathy reported that 22 young people have been involved in church events since the All Hallows event at the end of October. Cathy will be delivering a letter to all baptismal families detailing all the children’s events.

The Christingle service (which is not on the list) on the 12th Dec will be held in the parish rooms.

Tots and Teddies will resume from the 10th January.

Susie is helping Cathy put together the crib service.

Junior church is going well and Cathy intends to extend events to include teenagers in due course.

**052/21 REPORT ON REFUGEE WELCOME EVENT**

The Afghan welcome event was just the first event and we hope it will lead to further engagement.

**053/21 REPORT ON ANNA CHAPLAIN MISSION**

Liz has started visits and is supporting the Eucharist service at St Christophers and intends to extend her work further with Abington Park View. Liz has also completed the 6 week training course and found it to be very useful. Liz gave her thanks to the PCC for supporting her to become an Anna Chaplain.

**054/21 RECEIVING CURATE (TRACY PEGRAM)**

Tracy will arrive with us in the summer of 2022. This will be officially announced in church this Sunday. It is the tradition that when a new curate arrives, the receiving church provide some of the curate’s new vestments. This has been discussed at the Standing Committee and the Standing Committee would like to recommend this to the PCC. This was unanimously supported.

**055/21 COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Minutes were received by the Children’s committee and the Buildings Committee.

The windows in the parish rooms will be replaced over the course of the next two Saturdays and all work will be completed by 4th Dec.

**056/21 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Praying for places of employment – Alison suggested we consider including praying for places of work in amongst our weekly prayers. If people wish to suggest places of work, a list will be put up at the back of the church for people to add to. Jun will announce in the notices that the list is available.

Jun has been appointed to be a Bishops Advisor and will also become a governor at Weston Favell Primary School. He will be reviewing his existing commitments, particularly in light of the confirmation of Tracy joining us in the summer.

The structure and purpose of committees will be reviewed at the next Standing Committee.

**057/21 FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

12 Dec at 3pm at the church rooms: Christingle service

18 Dec 10.30 am at the church rooms: Tots party

19 Dec at 6 pm: Carols and lessons

24 Dec at 3 pm: Crib Service

24 Dec at 11.30 pm: Midnight service

25 Dec at 10 am: Christmas day Sung Eucharist

26 Dec at 10 am: Said Eucharist

**058/21 DATE OF FUTURE MEETINGS 2021**

Next PCC Meetings in 2022: 26 Jan 2022, 30 Mar 2022

APCM 2022: 1 May

Standing Committee: 5 Jan 2022, 16 Mar 2022

**THE MEETING FINISHED WITH THE GRACE**