

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, HOLBEACH

Tuesday, 10th January, 2023

PCC Meeting

Present: Revd Sherine Angus, Carol Hellen, Kim Biggs, Jackie Sheldrake, Gill Graper, Michael Goodman, Marion Goodman, Lynne Barks, , Michael Barton, Helen Drake, Judy Kelly

Apologies for absence: Kevin Dodd, Martin Butler, Hannah Buck

Non attendance: Sara Buck

Opening Prayers were said.

1. Minutes of the last meeting

- **Approval was given and the Minutes were signed by Sherine.**

Matters arising

- Concerns were expressed that Sara Buck had not attended any PCC meetings for many months and she had also not attended any Communion Service at All Saints during the past year. **It was agreed that Sherine should contact Sara and explain the requirements of PCC membership.**
- **Card Machine** – a small device has been purchased and had proved to be very useful at the Christmas Fair event. **It was agreed to purchase a larger machine which would be available all the time.** This is likely to prove very beneficial at weddings and funerals when people are less likely to carry cash. The cost of the machine, at £444, would soon be recouped, as the machine is linked to an app 'Give a Little' that automatically sorts out Gift Aid.

2. Correspondence

- A letter sent by Meg Newey regarding the buying of a new outside display board was shared and discussed. **Sherine had spoken to Meg about this and will send a reply to the letter.**
- A chain of emails between Sherine and the Parish Council, regarding the taking down of the Christmas Tree on a Sunday morning, was shared and discussed. It seemed in the end that notice had been taken of Sherine's wishes as the tree was not removed during any service times. A view was expressed that Sherine should not really have to spend time and deal with issues like this.

3. Vicar's Briefing

- Sherine expressed her gratitude to the Diocese for the support she is being given following her separation from her husband. The Diocese is paying for a retreat she will be going to in February and also for a counsellor. Barbara, Rural Dean, will be taking the service at Holbeach on 15th January to give Sherine some extra time away from parish matters.
- It was agreed that all the **Advent and Christmas services** had gone very well, the Crib Service being particularly appreciated.
- For the All Age **Palm Sunday service** a donkey has been booked at no cost and it is hoped young people will be fully involved in many aspects of the service.
- **Lent Courses** were discussed and it was agreed to hold Wednesday morning sessions at 10.30 and also to have a series of evening sessions.

4. MAIN ITEMS

Parish Covenant

- It is hoped to organise a Stewardship Campaign so that the Parish is able to Covenant the amount the Diocese would expect where a full time priest is in post. There followed discussion about the present situation regarding what we pay to the Diocese and what appears at the moment to be a £10,000 deficit in the 2022 accounts. However, it seems that some of this will be resolved when Gift Aid amounts are finalised and £2500 has been given by the Diocese for heating costs.
- Carol Hellen and Michael Barton agreed to help with the Stewardship Campaign. It was also suggested that one or two members of the congregation, who are not on the PCC, might be approached eg. Dave Lawton.
- **It was proposed by Jackie Sheldrake and seconded by Carol Hellen that for 2023 we will pledge £38000 to go to the Diocese, alongside the £14000 from Mary Bass Charity, which would give £52,000 for our Parish Share (£2000 more than in 2022). All were in agreement.**
- **Fees for Funerals and Weddings** were discussed and agreement reached on amounts given on the separate form that will be given to Caz, Deanery Administrator. Thanks were expressed to Clare Stupples who had said she did not wish for more at Funerals for the role she takes as Verger.
- **New Sound System** – this will be installed during the two weeks from Monday 13th February. Kevin Dodd has agreed to be the contact for the contractors whilst they are working in the church. Lynne has agreed to lock the church at 6.00, but also to give them her phone number for any alternative times. Mary Bass Chairty is giving 60% of total cost. Sherine suggested that the Digital Streaming element of the project should be removed from the package, saving in the region of £5000. Following discussion about this **a proposal was made that the Digital Streaming element will not be put in place and this was agreed by everyone.**
- **Mission Statistics document** needs to be completed and sent to the Diocese. Jackie Sheldrake agreed to do this.
- **Flower Festival** – It was agreed that this should take place from 28th April – 1st May and the theme should be along the lines of Lincolnshire Home Grown.
- **Animal Friendly Church** – Helen Doyle hopes to arrange a meeting with Carol Hellen soon.

5. Safeguarding

- One issue had presented itself as Sherine explained about a man phoning all female clergy in the country. The police have been informed.

6. Reports - *copies are attached*

Treasurer's Report

Most items pertinent to the report had been discussed earlier in the meeting.

The final amount raised for the church on the Cycle Ride is £451

The Arts Festival raised in the region of £900 and the Christmas Tree Festival in the region of £1100.

At present these items appear as unallocated on the Treasurer's summary.

Churchwarden's Report

The Christmas Tree Festival had been much appreciated and very well attended. It is hoped that this will become an annual event. It was suggested that stall holders would expect to pay more for attending the event in future.

The Medieval event will take place the first week in July. PCC felt a larger contribution of stalls and food stalls organised by the church would be a good idea. All this does depend on how many members of the congregation are prepared to support and help with the events.

Arts Festival should also become a regular event on the calendar.

Saturday morning coffee sessions have not returned, but the Co-op wishes to discuss with Sherine the possibility of a Community Café event once a month initially.

Lent Lunches – it was agreed that money raised at these should go to Soldas – a women and men's aid charity.

It was agreed to purchase a **new digital counter**.

It was confirmed that 12 people will be attending the **Social event at The Crown** on Thursday, for PCC, Servers and Lay Ministry Team.

7. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, 14th February at 7.30 p.m.

The meeting closed at about 9.30 with prayers.