

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, HOLBEACH

Tuesday, 18th April 2023

Present: Revd Sherine Angus, Kevin Dodd (Lay Chair), Martin Butler, Michael Goodman, Marion Goodman, , Helen Drake, Kim Biggs, Judy Kelly, Gill Graper,

Apologies for absence: Hannah Buck, Carol Hellen, Lynne Barkes, Michael Barton, Jackie Sheldrake

Opening Prayers were said.

Review of previous meeting:

- The Minutes for the last meeting were signed as being a correct record.
- Kim, as she had not been at the last meeting, asked for clarification about the concerns people had raised over the amount of funding given to the choir and music. It was agreed that permission must be obtained before larger amounts are being spent eg. organ repairs
- It was agreed that when Kim plays for services, if Barry is away or not well, then she must be paid.

Correspondence:

- A letter of resignation had been received from Barry, This will take effect from the end of August 2023, although he is willing to continue playing if the need arises.
- Sherine has contacted Nick Brown, Canon Precentor at the Cathedral, to ask for suggestions of how we might move forward to find another Music Director.
- The local campaign against solar panels could have an effect on the funding we might expect from Mary Bass Charity in the future, if the Charity is unable to build a solar farm on an area of land they own.
- Kim explained the correspondence she had received regarding the testing of the lightning conductor. A certificate had been received for one of them, and it was agreed that we did not need to make use of the other one.

Vicar's Briefing:

- There is a problem with too many people coming to the Vicarage door with no invitation to do so and with issues that it is not really appropriate for a priest to deal with. It was suggested that a notice be placed by the bell saying: 'Only ring the bell for church business'.
- There have been problems once again with the **Parish Council** concerning the management and maintenance of church grounds. Amongst the issues this year have been:
 - Movement of Christmas tree at the end of period it was in the church grounds
 - Stalls in the churchyard on Holy Saturday without prior agreement
 - Painting of tubs – there is no agreement in place for the Parish Council to do this

It was suggested that one or two Parish Council members might be asked to the first 10 minutes of PCC meetings to discuss issues. There should be an Open Space Officer who can be contacted about any problems and who should be available to discuss Parish Council. requests.

- Cremated remains area has become unsightly with inappropriate items in it. Signage will be put up that explains that only fresh flowers should be placed in that area. It is unclear who some of the relatives of the deceased might be. Perhaps Joyce Fines or Linden Secker could be asked to help identify the descendants. The area will be cleared by the Saturday Gang when they are available to do so.
- APCM is on Tuesday, 9th May. Notices have been placed as necessary and forms for Nominations for Churchwardens and PCC members will be available from Sunday 23rd April.
- It was agreed to send a card to Hannah Buck, as she will not be standing for re-election to PCC.
- Coop will be coming to the church at 10.00 on Wednesday to give £100 worth of funding towards refreshments after services.
- It is hoped that people will pay a modest price of £1 for drinks after services, but Lynne Barks had reported that this is often not the case.

Stewardship Campaign

The campaign will start on Sunday 14th May and continue for 4 weeks, so this will include the All Age Worship service on 4th June. There will be a series of sermons on different aspects of giving. Funding of £4000 has been given by the Mary Bass Charity to help with campaign items needed. A sub committee has been formed to support the Campaign, particularly with regards to advertising: Sherine, Carol Hellen, Martin Butler, Kevin Dodd, Chris Penney and Dave Lawton.

Flower Festival / Coronation weekend

- All food will be prepared and served in the Mary Bass room but tables and chairs will be placed outside the Mary Bass room.
- Jane Francis has organised the wine and soft drinks that will be served on the Saturday evening in the interval of the concert
- There is an All Age Worship service on Sunday, 7th May to celebrate the Coronation and this will be followed by a Bring and Share lunch, which Lynne Barks is organising.

Safeguarding: There were no specific issues to report.

There are some members of the PCC whose DBS checks need to be completed asap and they were asked to contact Caz to make an appointment for a suitable time.

Churchwarden's Report:

Home group has started throughout Lent grown to be regularly 4 but at times 8.

Wednesday Morning It is planned that this group will benefit from the "Community Cuppa" funding and promotion. A home group runs as part of this group also.

Lent Lunches were not the success this year that they had been previously. We will probably need to evaluate / consider either moving the day or changing the menu, should we decide to do this again next year.

Eco challenge: is ongoing.

Animal Friendly status: Helen Drake has submitted this application and can feedback hopefully to the PCC.

Fair Trade status: this project is ongoing, and it is planned to use as many fair trade products as possible for the Flower Festival.

Flower Festival: planning is well underway, and Christine has a meeting planned with Sherine this week. The food planning is underway with a sign up sheet in place for support for the event.

Digital Counter Reading unfortunately is broken, and I have investigated sorting out a replacement, but they vary so much in price that I need to check with the PCC a budget, prices range from £70 - £300. I believe having one will help us with any future grant bids etc...***It was agreed that the cheapest form of counter reader should be purchased.***

Servers: people will have noticed that we have some new members of the serving team and would like to acknowledge how seamlessly they have fitted into the existing team.

Eucharistic assistants/ Offertory team: We have re-started to use eucharistic assistants and have the offertory bought up as part of the service once again and whilst it has been a while this appears to be working well. It is hoped that more people will be encouraged / excited to be part of the service in this way.

Treasurer's Report

Reference the 2021 accounts the situation excluding the works to the Tower appear to be:

1. Income	£81,602.40
2. Expenses	£87,184.30

Regarding the Tower works the figures appear to be:-

1. Costs	£83,798.22
2. Grants received	£68,849.13

Chris is not aware of the VAT situation regarding these works and whether there is a reclaim due.

Also, during the year, the CBF Deposit fund was reduced in value by £50,000.00 due to a withdrawal.

Please note that these figures are very provisional and there is much work still to be done and queries to be answered.

Chris Penney has spoken with the accountants, and they have agreed that until the 2021 accounts are audited and signed off no further works can be undertaken on the 2022 accounts and therefore, please note that there will not be audited accounts for 2022 available for the APCM.

Thanks were recorded for the work that Chris Penney and Carole Williams are continuing to undertake to ensure the accounts for both 2021 and 2022 are correct and audited as soon as is possible.

A.O.B.

The meeting closed at 21.00 with prayers.

Next Meeting will be the APCM, followed by a short PCC meeting on Tuesday, 9th May..