

Minutes of St George's Church PCC Meeting Held on Monday 7th September 2020

at 8 pm on Zoom call

Present: Revd Canon Martyn Taylor (MT) (Chair), Associate Rector Ben Topham (BT), Ella Harris, Philip Dale, Sarah Nottidge, Mervyn Franklin, Liz Fell (Church Warden), Keith Roberts (Treasurer), Catherine Kaye, Carl Fender, Stefan Rakowski, Mary Lem, Lucy Tervet, Sharon Stokes and Carole Woodcock (Secretary). Clare Arthey in attendance.

Mt welcomed everyone and opened with a reading from Hebrews 10 v19-15. He then continued in prayer.

1. **Apologies:** Kevin Whittle, Anne Batty, Jaish Mahan (Church Warden), Sandra Freeman, John Brian, John Brown,
2. **Minutes of the Meeting 29th June 2020.** These were accepted as a true record.
3. **Matters Arising**
 - a. **Foundation Governor for St George's School.** The PCC voted to accept that Philip Durban be nominated for this role.
 - b. **First Friday Prayers.** BT was encouraged that 140 connected devices joined the July prayers. There were slightly less in August, most likely due to holidays. September was 80. He asked that PCC members attend wherever possible. It is likely that the online prayers will continue even when the Church is fully able to meet. Sarah Nottidge suggested extending the time to an hour, to allow more time for prayer.
4. **Safeguarding Report** (*issued with the Agenda*). This report was duly noted. Clare Arthey highlighted the work that Louise Rose does, which shouldn't be underestimated and asked for prayer for this challenging area of work.
5. **Staff Update.**
 - a. Richard Knowles will start his ministry training on a Tuesday at Nottingham. Alice will also attend training on the same day.
 - b. Three Discipleship students have reported in and will be working together as one bubble for safety. Training days will be held on every Tuesday, which they are eager to start. They have been allocated mentors and various support mechanisms are in place to assist in their journey with St George's Church.
6. **Website Project Update.** This went to tender and three of the most relevant companies were interviewed. A company called Ninefootone in Sheffield has been appointed and Becky Goff will be driving the project.
7. **Buildings Update.** Clare Arthey announced that lockdown had impacted the 'Strong Tower' project with delays, but she proceeded to update on the progress:
 - a. **Oil Tank.** Steps have been taken to install the oil tank. A faculty will be needed, therefore an application will go to the Diocese later in the month.

- b. **Tower Repairs.** The Architect will be coming to assess the tower shortly and will do the required quinquennial at the same time.
 - c. **Chancel Roof.** The roof cleaning hopefully can go ahead without a faculty, but planning will be needed to work around the midweek use of the church building that was now starting.
8. **Spalding and Grantham.** MT asked for prayer for the Diocese of Lincoln SDF Board meeting the next day (8th September. A proposal had been put forward for us to partner with St John the Baptist, Spalding, with funding to fill the current vacancy. If this went ahead, MT would meet regularly with the person appointed, and others from St George's would provide ongoing support, to help develop the life of the church and its outreach, especially into the Wygate estate. He would be meeting the PCC of St John's on Friday 10th, when they were to discuss the proposal. [MT subsequently circulated the text of the proposal. He told the PCC that the Board had approved it, and that St John's PCC also approved.]"
 9. **Sunday Services.** The 9.15 am and 11 am morning sermon series leading to the start of Advent has already started, with a study on the life of David. With the planned start of the 6.30 pm services starting in October, John's letters to the seven churches will be the focus. Live streaming of the morning services at started on Sunday 6th September and BT thanked the support team who played an instrumental part in making this happen. He admitted that there is still a lot to be learned in meeting the needs of the diversity of the Church family members with a number of improvements still to be made. Valuable points of advice were fed back to BT on recommended improvements for consideration, one being a survey to the Church family at a later date. All these comments were gratefully received, and BT asked for further feedback to be communicated to him on email.
 10. **Finance Update.** Keith Roberts reported that the July figures remained steady with not much change; income being higher than outgoings. The August figures are likely to see some change due to salary increases with new staff members on board. He was pleased that regular giving remained much the same, however, cash income down. He will send out the August accounts in due course.
 11. **APCM Monday 5th October.** MT announced the formal end of this PCC members term as we move forward to the APCM and new elections to replace members leaving. He thanked Kevin Whittle and Anne Batty for their dedication in serving faithfully for a number of years on the PCC. Mervyn Franklin will stand down but will be available as required to offer his expertise. Ian Mace has offered to re-stand. Deanery Synod members Anne Batty and Sandra freeman will stand down, with Philip Dale and Sarah Nottidge offering to re-stand. Becky Goff will stand as Deanery Secretary. This will leave two vacancies.
 12. **Any Other Business.** MT reminded the PCC of the Joshua Day on Saturday 19th September on Zoom for up to 1.5 hrs approximately. Clare confirmed that a formal goodbye to Rebecca Winfrey and Gilly Franklin hasn't been forgotten and is in the future planning.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.15 pm.

Signed Chairman..... Date.....