

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, MALDEN
Registered Charity No.1145155
Minutes of the 750th meeting of the Parochial Church Council
At 8 p.m. on
Tuesday, July 5th 2022
In the coffee lounge

PRESENT: Mike Broome as chair, Marilyn Burkett, Richard Burkett, Anthony Pullen, Milly Broome, Sally Josolyne. Liz Pullen, Chris Benson, Barry Eaton, Margaret Barrington, Lynn Sanger, Alastair Harris (treasurer)

In attendance: Sally Pusey (secretary)
Milly opened in prayer.

7515 1 – Apologies from Deborah Harris.

7516 2 - NOTICE OF ESSENTIAL AOB
Parish giving scheme, Deanery Synod.

7517 3 - MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING
The June minutes were amended and signed.

7518 4 – SAFEGUARDING
No issues reported

7519 5 -MISSION ACTION PLAN
After looking at the MAP after the June meeting, feedback was asked for.
Tony P talked about Eco Church and sustainability and that we needed to think about raising awareness with the entire congregation throughout the year.
Chris B said that we needed to put in to action much more than we are currently doing. We need to get together the sustainability group and take action on the suggestions put forward by them. It needs to be owned by the congregation and not just the PCC.
Barry suggested bringing in to church and using any environmental/nature magazines to help encourage the congregation and for ideas of what we can do. We also need a board put back up with the aims and objectives on. We need to think ahead about what to do when the boiler dies. Someone will ask the architect to look in to what we can do in the future, including reducing our carbon footprint. As a starting point we are going to work towards the bronze Eco Church award. We need to educate the congregation and PCC about what Eco Church is before the next meeting in September.

7520 6 - ST JOHNS HALL

The hall committee are concentrating on relaying the parking area. The quinquennial inspection on the hall is due to be done soon. We have a reduced fee for the Hall QQ report but the hall committee are not happy to contribute to the fee, therefore the church will need to cover the cost.

Alastair feels that as trustees/owners of the property the PCC should be more involved and be consulted about works etc. happening at the church hall.

If there was a safety issue re the structure of the hall the PCC as trustees would be liable. So does the hall insurance cover the PCC as trustees? We need to get some clarification about what the hall insurance does cover.

Mike B suggested we need to put in place a timeline of how the church charity and hall charity will merge together in the future.

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7521 7 - SCOUT HEADQUARTERS RENEWAL AND PRE SCHOOL LICENCE UPDATE

This is still an ongoing issue.

Mike B gave an overview of the ongoing discussions regarding the renewal of the Scouts lease for their hut at the Church hall. Currently he is in contact with the Charity Commission and Fr Michael is to seek advice from a solicitor with charity knowledge about this situation.

Fr Michael is also talking to a solicitor about the situation.

7522 8 - BUILDING REPAIR PROJECT

Chris Benson, Mike Broome and **Fr Michael** had a meeting with Alex Veal the new architect. It was a good meeting. The order of works has been put together. Firstly the building needs to be made water tight and then the drains can be looked at. Alex will produce a plan with a budget, costs and fees. He will also look at heating options going forward.

Alex talked creating a vision of the interior of the building re decorating and is hoping that we will be able to get grants to help with that. The grants committee led by Kirsty Tong are meeting on July 21st to clarify their remit and look at schedules and information about the works provided by Alex.

Drains- stage 1 – levels survey by Tony Clothier and a detailed plan of the site. DONE
Stage 2- moving on to a design of the drainage scheme to go forward to companies for tender. The PCC approved the sum of £3210 plus vat to go forward with stage 2.

Barry mentioned that local councillor, Elizabeth Parks had said that there is pot of money for worthy causes that might be worth investigating. **Barry** will give Sally P Elizabeth Parks email address to pass on to **Mike B** and **Kirsty Tong**.

Disability Access- A faculty will be looked in to for removing one pew outside of the coffee lounge door to make spaces for wheel chair users. Alex Veal will be asked for his input on this. The City Bridge Trust charity maybe of some help for us with a new accessibility survey.

7523 9 - COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE

The communications committee are meeting the 28th July.

7524 10 - ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Parish Giving scheme – The PCC passed a resolution in Feb 2022 to join the PGS. Thanks to Alastair we now have a new bank account to start up the PGS. **Richard** has filled in the registration forms and the PCC agreed for him to send them off as soon as possible. The PGS will start to roll out in the autumn.

Deanery Synod- **Liz Pullen** spoke to the PCC about a deanery Synod [paper on Opportunities in Ministry and Justice. Liz wanted input from the PCC on some statements that she and other deanery Synod members would be voting on the following evening.

The statements were -

1.Reflecting the diocese’s commitment to pursuing peace and reconciliation, this deanery asks the investment committee to only hold investment funds that have a clear policy and commitment not to invest in the arms industry. The investment committee should divest from any funds that don’t meet this criteria by December 2023.

2.Reflecting our commitment to safeguarding the integrity of creation, this deanery also asks that the diocese divest from any fund that holds or is likely to hold investments in companies that derive more than 5% of their turnover from the production or extraction of fossil fuels. This divestment should be completed by the end of December 2023.

The first one was comfortably carried with a slight amendment: "... to only hold investment funds that have a *comprehensive and ethical policy*." There were several against and a couple of abstentions.

Proposal 2 was carried, again with two against and several abstentions.

We closed with prayer from Marilyn.

The next meeting will be on the Tuesday September 6th at 8pm in the coffee lounge.