

Amesbury Parish Church

***PCC Minutes of the Meeting of
Wednesday 19th January 2022 at 7.30pm.***

(1) **Prayer**

(2.1) **Those present at the meeting:** Father Darren A'Court (FrD), Lisa Courtney (LC), Ruth Davies (RD), Julie Lewis (JL), Sophie Moody (SM), Andrew Robson (Acting Secretary (AR), and John Swindlehurst (JS).

(2.2) **Apologies** were received from Barbara Maddocks.

(3) **Declarations of Interest:** There were none.

(4) ***Matters arising***

(4.4.1) We are waiting to hear from Emma Mullen, of St. Anne's Gate Architects. The work on the nave roof will take two weeks and is due to start on January 27th.

(4.4.3) The brown stain;

Action: Emma Mullen.

(4.4.4) Gutter clearance;

Action: JS will follow this up and copy BM in.

(4.5.5) As above.

(4.6.3) The heaters; the electricians have been in and advise that the heaters are fine, the problem has been with the fuses.

(4.6.4) The matter is still in hand.

(4.6.5) Safe for donations; JL has researched this need and has discovered a vast choice.

Action: JL to bring details of examples and prices to the next meeting.

(4.8.3) **Lone Working Policy;** RD advised that the diocesan policy relates mostly to church representatives visiting homes and other premises and outlines good practice to ensure safety. *RD has circulated the diocesan Lone Working Policy document to PCC members. We should include it on the agenda for the next meeting with a view to a discussion and possible adoption of this policy for parish use.*

Action: at Standing Committee Meeting.

(4.9.3) **Financial Situation,** particularly in relation to the Parish Share; there has been a meeting with David Ferguson to discuss this situation. We need to arrange a meeting.

Action: FrD, BW, LC.

(4.9.5) The loan has now been repaid.

(4.9.7) Thank you cards; LC has completed a list of donors.
Cards to be made and sent.

Action: LC.

(4.10.2) Extra choir robes.

Action: RD will talk again with Leah Davies.

(4.11.1) The Wyndham Hall is no longer in our ownership.

(4.11.2) Documents have been handed to the solicitors.

(4.11.3) SM had a discussion with the solicitors to ensure that there should be no ongoing matters of GDPR concern in relation to the hall.

(4.11.4) RD informed the meeting that all items have been cleared from the office at the hall; that no documents have been left at the hall, and that due diligence has been done.

(5) ***Finance and Stewardship***

(5.1) LC has provided copies of the Finance Report, by email.
There were no urgent concerns.

The invoice for the skip has been paid but the money has not yet been refunded.
The PCC is to refund Wendy.

Action: LC.

LC is waiting for the final bills for the hall; these will be paid and the account will be closed.

The financial situation is healthy but this does not take into account our omitting to pay our parish share to the diocese; we are a year in arrears. LC suggested that the PCC makes an offer to the diocese to contribute a portion of the unpaid parish share.

Action: LC to write to the diocese on this matter.

(5.2) Parish Share; the potential for making a payment towards the Parish Share will be discussed at the next meeting.

Action: LC to work out how much we could afford.

(5.3) The Wyndham Hall sale; professional fees etc may be paid from the proceeds of the sale; they will go to Elizabeth Wallis at the Diocesan Board of Finance. The PCC needs to decide how the funds should be held:

(a) on deposit, with almost no interest

(b) as investment fund share, with interest paid to the PCC

(c) as accumulation shares.

Funds can be accessed to pay for work to the fabric of the church, so the projected work associated with the *Fit for the Future* scheme would be in compliance with that ruling.

It was agreed that we should opt for accumulation shares.

Action: FrD.

(5.4) **The Loan**

We are delighted to have received confirmation that the money is being gifted to the church. BM has written a letter of thanks to the benefactor.

(5.5) **Fairer Shares Consultation**

We discussed our response to the survey and it has been completed and sent to the diocese.

Actioned by AR.

(6) ***Fabric and fundraising***

(6.1) The Wyndham Hall Sale; this has now been completed. We no longer own the hall.

(6.2) **Repairs to the nave roof and associated works;** these are scheduled to be done from January 27th 2022, and are estimated to take two weeks. The legacy money will be used and it is expected to cover the cost of this work.

(6.3) **Toilet facilities;** In the short term the idea is to make use of the facilities in the Scouts' HQ in the churchyard. We are waiting for quotes relating to the upgrading of the toilets in that building so that they could also be used by the church members at those times negotiated with the Scout Group, such as service times.

It was agreed in principle that the PCC should offer the Scout Group a financial contribution towards the cost of this work.

(7) ***Mission and Outreach***

(7.1) **Lent Course;** in the light of the continuing concerns about Covid it was suggested that rather than offering a course church members should instead be given copies of a Lent Study Book. It was agreed in principle that the PCC should pay for the books and it was suggested that 60 copies would be required.

Action FrD, to be reimbursed by LC.

(7.2) **Covid Safety Measures**

It was agreed that we should restart coffee on Sunday mornings as soon as possible. We should continue to encourage the use of masks and that we should keep other measures in place for the time being.

(7.3) **The Queen's Platinum Jubilee**

This is planned for the first weekend in June. It was agreed that the church should focus on its spiritual role and therefore to arrange a special service. June 5th is Pentecost Sunday. The RSCM *Sunday by Sunday* magazine (edition 99) provides a list of suggested hymns and other music for parishes for the occasion. (*Michael Nottage has a copy*).

(7.4) **Condolence Book;**

Action: SM will research a suitable product.

(8) **Fit for the Future Project;**

(8.1) It was decided that it would be helpful to hold an informal meeting of the PCC on Wednesday 9th February at 7.30pm. The idea is to give everyone time to reflect on the proposals and to share thinking on the matter.

Action: LC will provide a flipchart and AR will bring Post-it notes.

(8.2) The **Standing Committee meeting** will be transferred to Wednesday 2nd February at 7.30pm.

(9) **Health and Safety;** nothing to report apart from the matter of the Lone Working Policy detailed above.

(10) **Safeguarding;** there was nothing to report.

(11) **Any Other Business**

(11.1) RD spoke about the **Living History Project** that she has been working on. It is hoped that parishioners and others living locally will be encouraged to contribute memories associated with the church in Amesbury and that these might be published either as a book or online or possibly in both, depending on the response. It was agreed that this is a very positive initiative. RD has produced an attractive flyer to publicise the project and will investigate the provision of suitable cards for publicity purposes.

The **contact email address for contributions** is livinghistoryamesbury@gmail.com

(11.2) JS conveyed the thanks of the Friends for paying for the provision of the skip for the hall clearance. The job, which took place last Saturday, went well. Father Darren expressed thanks to everyone who contributed to the task.

(11.3) We expressed our thanks to SM for providing coffee this evening.

(12) The next meetings of the PCC:
Standing Committee: February 2nd
Extraordinary Meeting of the PCC: February 9th
PCC meeting: February 16th.