



PARISH OF GREAT BERKHAMSTED

Meeting of the Parochial Church Council via Zoom Tuesday 16th November at 8pm

Attending: Stuart Owen, Carolynne Charman, Christine Cowie, Christopher Green, Julian Dawson, Tim Hennessey, Elizabeth Morris, Alan Conway, Richard Hackworth, Oliver Fradgley, Astrid Biddle, Mark Grego, Prunella Murray, Peter Matthews, David Cooke, Jonathan Lee, Susan Holmes, Hilary Elliott, Chris Beauchamp, Chloe Hopkins,

MINUTES

1. Prayers
2. Apologies [Nick Goss](#)
3. Notification of matters for consideration under Any Other Business

PCC appointments Federation governing body
State of Afghan project

4. Approval of Minutes of the PCC Meeting held on 19th October 2021 - APPROVED
5. Matters Arising
6. Standing Committee Reports – haven't met since last meeting
7. Committee/Group Reports
 - Finance RH
 - **Let of All Saints House** - ARPM went out of business in September and took 1 month's rental (£1760) and now have taken tenant's deposit (£2300). Total of £4100 at risk. Might get some of that amount back but not all, and at an unknown timescale. By 22nd December, RH to make applications for debts owed.
 - **RH report for 2022** – PCC to look at and approve fees for funerals and weddings (with exception of additional fees – everything else is statutory fee set by government). EVERYONE HAS AGREED THOSE FEES.
 - Proposed fee increase for hire of Court House and St Peters – to be market tested against other facilities in the area as we are charging less than others at the moment. RH to look at this over the next few weeks and talk about this in the next PCC.
 - JL requested that we add a fee for organ tuning
 - JL and RH to discuss church fees for smaller events and organisations.
 - No charge for people using church for 800th event.
 - Buildings Committee MG
 - **Decoration in courthouse cottage** – economical redecoration. £1500 allocated. Need to get quotes.
 - **Carpeting** – if we are letting cottage to council, we can postpone decoration. But if commercial relet, we need quotes for carpeting but could defer depending on cost.
 - **Renting of Courthouse Cottage** – The council did not want to place an Afghan refugees in the Cottage since they wouldn't have a support network of their peers.
 - **Re-Sheeting the roof** – Resheeting chantry and south aisle - £130,000. Stainless steel not cheaper than lead.
 - Pastoral Committee
 - Nothing to report

8. 800th Anniversary

- Debbie has offered offered to do a design of the Church with 800th branding for bags.
 - Cost £4 and sold for £8.
 - RH agreed on a budget of £1000.
 - No commission for designer.
- SO - since last PCC:
 - Stephen organised 3 talks in May on history of Berkhamsted / St Peters / looking to the future.
 - Historical society doing an exhibition.
 - Progress with Scottish country dancing group.
 - Photography competition with schools ready to go.
- PM – A production of Midsummer Night's Dream £2,000 plus VAT on possibly at 2nd/3rd Sept
- SO – Ecumenical Songs of Praise in Castle.

9. Eco-Church

- SH described a CofE scheme suggesting looking for funding opportunities for net zero carbon plans. Council have some funding for renewable energy but could be short notice.
- Building committee can look at solar panels and heat pumps.
- If funding isn't suitable, we need to start preparing a case for what we would do.
- What energy suppliers/options should we look at? CofE suggests cleaner sources, renewable energy.
- ACTION – MG and building committee to liaise with SH.

10. Safeguarding

- SO to sign revised forms which will then be laminated and displayed

11. Advent and Christmas

- Social distancing will remain at services though singing is permitted. A booking system will be reintroduced for major services.

12. Date of Next Meeting – **22nd February**

13. Any Other Business

- The PCC approved the nomination of Bev Jullien and Kate Hennessey as Foundation Governors. Nominated by Christine Cowie, Seconded Astrid Biddle.

14. The Grace