

Minutes of the PCC Meeting by Zoom on Wed. 17th June 2020

Present: Rev Canon Jo Loveridge (chair) Rosemary Bolton, Colin Bird, Julia Gough, Janet Bird, Nerine Chalmers, Martin Penny, Mary Penny(sec), Dorothy Toyn, Ann Stephens-Jones, Andrew Povey-Richards, Janet Oldham, Shanti Gordon, Andrew Belfield, Jonathan Bates, Cheryl Massey.

Opening Reflection; led by Nerine.

1 Apologies; Fiona Earle.

2 The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

3 Matters arising; A decision regarding any locking or not of the church gates was again deferred. The efforts to establish a defibrillator within the church are ongoing.

4 Pastoral Care. Nerine presented a report. Attached. Jo added that she makes funeral arrangements by phone.

5 Digital Worship. Martin reported that our website was now receiving almost 39,000 visits a year from over 7000 users. By contrast our 'A Church Near you' entries attracted some 4100 visits. Across Facebook, Twitter and Instagram we have over 400 users from the Hertford area (this excludes duplicates and those from further afield – eg US and Australia). Our service videos have been watched up to 540 times (Civic Service), the average (excluding the Civic Service) is 150 – over half being later than the original transmission. On top of this, the average 'attendance' at the (closed) Zoom events is around 46 households – approx. 70 people, including some accessing by phone. He and the team have explored different ways of providing live music, but there is nothing available to us. Q. Could we see Jo consume the elements at communion? A. Yes. It will take time to add it to the extant video. Martin was thanked for the quality of the Zoom services.

6 Opening the church and building and St John's Hall. Julia outlined a proposal to open the church for private prayer and funerals in accordance with the guidelines from the Bishops and from Ecclesiastical, our insurers. A risk assessment has been done and also a major clean of the church is in hand. Other appropriate measures to minimise risk are prepared. PCC asked for clarification on several aspects of this event which will be limited to twice a week. The website outlines the advice to individuals, especially that anyone comes at their own risk. The PCC voted to accept the risk assessment and approve the procedures for funerals and private prayer. This will be kept under review. PCC voted in favour and there were 2 abstentions. The PCC will meet again as soon as further opening is possible. It was reported that we cannot open St John's Hall at this time.

7 Finance. A report from Colin is attached.

8 Fabric. Testing of the lightning conductor and the fire extinguishers are in hand.

9 Health and Safety. There was nothing to report.

10 Safeguarding. There was nothing to report.

11. APCM officers and PCC members. APCM may be delayed until January.

12 AOB. No AOB to discuss.

The meeting ended with a prayer.