

Lancaster Christ Church PCC minutes 18th November 2020

Name	Initials	Present	Apologies
Carol Backhouse	CB	X	
Jacqueline Stamper	JS	X	
Paul Thompson	PT	X	
Olwyne Thompson	OT	X	
Julie Buckley	JB	X	
Andrew Neal	AN	X	
Joyce Lynch	JL	X	
Jane Lippitt	JLi	X	
Jacqueline Park	JP	X	

Agenda Item	Minutes	Actions
1	Opening prayers – celebrating our patronal festival 165 years	CB/All
2	Apologies - none	All
3	Any other business – call to Prayer to be covered under Vision 2026	
4	Minutes of the PCC meetings on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 25th October Accepted as accurate - 14th October accepted as accurate after some minor typing corrections 	
5	Matters arising <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Covid Update – as we are now back in a national lockdown, it is uncertain what will happen post lockdown. We will continue the 5 online services , 1 Eucharist per week, plus morning and evening prayers. The Advent Study course starts on 29th November on-line. Advent craft bags will be going out to families. We cannot hold any in person services other than funerals. It is thought that when we re-open there will be similar restrictions in place, possibly a phased return to church. However, Christmas services are being planned and we need to look at what stewarding arrangements need to be made etc. If anyone knows of people who are housebound and alone, let Carol know so she can make contact and possibly get the Telephone tree up and running. Private Prayer will be re-started just on Sunday afternoons 2-4 with volunteer church sitters. - CYFCC update – CB summarised the current position re NST and other grant funding to bring JP up to date on the Coordinator post. £5k has been approved from the Ripley Trust. CB is still awaiting grant application responses from 2 other Trust bodies, if these are unsuccessful, we will need to revisit the post. AN stated that the Diocese had recently sent the letter informing us of the Parish Share requirements for 2021, this included detail of the LICF. AN proposed that we ask for the higher amount in the first instance and pay it back if it isn't needed. CB will await the application. - Fundraising – JB summarised the current progress on the main items underway. The Bonus Ball weekly draw has not yet started as we don't have 50 ball numbers sold. JT will continue to advertise the draw in the hope that more people will join soon. It may need to be re-launched in the New Year. The 12 days of Advent make and Bake sale is due to run from Tuesday 24th November to Sunday 6th December. Various members have made food and no-food items which will be advertised over the 12 	CB CB JB

	<p>days on Facebook, and possibly on the Church website. Photos of the items and price lists are being created and JB will be the contact point for peoples orders and payment via PayPal (as per the masks). The goods will all be ready to be collected or delivered as required on 6th December, with a socially distanced stall for collections and another to buy any goods not already purchased. The Grand Christmas Raffle tickets are being printed, main Prizes will be listed on the tickets and sales will start as soon as these are back from the printers. The draw will take place on Sunday 20th December after the Christingle Service. The Christingle service will take place, hopefully in church but preparations are also being made to enable this as an at home Christingle if necessary. CB will also run a session/assembly at Christ Church School on 2nd December.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use of the Hall – JS reported on the requests for future bookings of the hall from potential users and the recent use for the First Aid Training day and the Tae Kwando group. Little income coming in from this source whilst the COVID restrictions are in place. 	<p>JS</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>Building Matters –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - QI -PT reported that the work on the church roof and ceiling has been completed and the excess payments of £250 for each area has been paid and a warranty for the completed work received. This allows us to re-open church when restrictions allow. PT also commented that the floor repairs around the altar has also been completed, this had been reported to PCC earlier. - Hall Roof – PT has received a quote from AS for the complete recovering of the Hall Roof and understands that this will only be done when we have raised the money to complete it. Our target is to have the money to do this by 2022. As will keep the bubbled areas under surveillance and will temporarily patch fix as necessary in Spring 2021. CB stated that a List B faculty would be needed for the temporary work, the PCC agreed this should be applied for. A full faculty would be needed when we can afford the full re-surfacing. CB will make applications to several grants. - Trees – the application to do work on the tree/s with TPO's have been submitted but due to the time delays in getting approvals this may be after Christmas before work can start. - Boilers – Both Valiant boilers in Church are to be serviced at a cost of £118 + VAT each, and the boiler in the church hall at £65 + VAT. There will also be a charge for the Gas certificate. A fault code has appeared on one of the church boilers and we will not know what this is until the service take place. PT has asked that he is given a guided demonstration on the boiler settings and fault codes. <p>The PCC wish to note a formal thanks for all the volunteers who have cleaned church and put everything back in place. Particular thanks go to Audrey and Julian Davies who have spent many additional hours deep cleaning.</p>	<p>PT</p> <p>PT/CB</p> <p>PT</p> <p>PT</p> <p>ALL</p>
<p>7</p>	<p>Eco Church –</p> <p>At our last Eco group meeting on 29th October it was reported that John Rodwell, the Environment officer from the Diocese had asked if our eco group could submit text and an image as an example of a church with A Rocha's silver award. This has now been produced and submitted to John.</p> <p>> We also discussed our church heating system but acknowledged that there is no likelihood of large sums being available for a more efficient system. It was agreed</p>	<p>JLy</p>

	<p>that other energy saving actions could be pursued such as LED lighting and draft excluders. Carol has identified a bulk supplier of LED bulbs and will place an order when they are back in stock. It may be possible to have a fund raiser once back in church for the purchase of bulbs. Margaret's son John has subsequently agreed to look at draft excluding options and carry out such work if agreed.</p> <p>> Eco weekly Actions for November and December were approved which focused on planning and preparation for Christmas. These included home-made presents, weekly donations to the food bank during advent, fair trade goods, no glitter cards and wrapping, stamp recycling box and swop box for unwanted Xmas present.</p> <p>> The next meeting is planned for 1st December when it was thought we would be back in church. We had hoped to sell fair trade goods in church but as this was not possible Margaret collected some fair-trade cards from Carina. During the first week of November we sold all we had and made £85.</p> <p>> Margaret and I have signed up for the 'Pilgrimage to net zero' webinar on 24th November. It will be hosted by Dioceses of Manchester, Liverpool, Blackburn, Carlisle and Chester. The keynote speaker is Andy Atkins the CEO of A Rocha. The invitation link has been widely circulated.</p>	CB
8	<p>Finance –</p> <p>Parish Share -AN reported that the letter from the Diocese shows that or Parish Share has increased but also our allowance of the LICF has increased, so this is a similar position to previous years. Also, the Q3 payment of PS now shows on the Diocesan records shows that we have paid £7.5k, however, it does still show that we have historic debt. As we had kept to our agreed payments of PS we had hoped that the historic debt might be written off by now, we remain hopeful that this may still happen.</p> <p>Mid COVID we had been asked what PS we would be able to pay, this we estimated to be £20K. We know that some parishes have not paid their PS and others have paid using reserves. It is unclear how the Diocese will handle all the reduced shares. AN mentioned that whilst 2020 was a bad year, it is likely that 2021 may be worse if reserves have been used to pay PS's. the Diocese is holding discussions. AN expects that they will recognise that we have paid proportionately with the income that we have.</p> <p>Christ Church School Library Funding - AN had circulated the photographs of the furniture in pace at school and had had confirmation that the books were on order. Therefore, we can now pay the second instalment of the NST funds to support the school. A mid-project report is now due and will be provided in time for the December PCC meeting</p>	AN
9	<p>Mission Outreach – CB had circulated a summary drawn from our Parish Profile of the Christ Church 5-year Vision as a reminder and asked for comments regarding what jarred and what chimed and whether anything else should be included. JLy asked that we remember that we should be Good Stewards and care for Gods creation. JS commented that we had been working well with children – but there seemed to be a mis-match between the needs and offers of help being accepted. JS had seen a presentation about how children are being affected by COVID. JLi said that maybe we could make the connections easier when we can meet face to face again. JP felt that the work with Tiddlers had been well received but that stopped with lockdown1 and not been able to re-start. CB asked are we praying to reach out to families not seen? CB also asked how do we do this in a planned</p>	CB/All

	<p>way? JP suggested a letter drop as she had just received one from Jehovah's Witness and asked what contact we had made. We reported that we have leafletted much of the area during the first lockdown. We questioned how we could help share our church. AN made the point that we should question the role of our church buildings and how they play into the life of the church. The Impey exercise was good as it helped identify what worked well and how happy people are. There have been times when it has not been good. What was the difference and can we breakdown what makes church enjoyable and make people want to participate?</p> <p>CB mentioned GROWTH – not just numbers but in faith, worshipping and praying commitments. Also, growth in stabilising the way we can finance the church and the way we use the buildings. The bible mentions Deserts Blooming, can we do the same? We need to pray that God grows in our lives and the ways we work together. We need to involve the wider community in our growth! CB proposed that we work through each point, especially how do we make this enjoyable and what are our strengths and weaknesses – opportunities and threats.</p> <p>JLy – suggested that an exercise in what the congregation has missed, what could they have done. CB What drew people to Christ Church in the first place?</p> <p>Reacquainting ourselves – what have been our experiences over the past year, relationships, struggles and pressures. JS suggested that it was difficult to be welcoming when you cannot see people. PT suggested that as soon as we could open up we should have a get together for everyone – Plan an event to celebrate as soon as possible!</p>	
10	<p>Vision 2026 – Call to Prayer – Bishop Julian has asked that we pray for the Diocese and make a gift to your local church. Giving an extra gift via envelopes and cards. As we cannot use this method during COVID restrictions presently, we should encourage people to make payments via BACS using a specific code as part of the pray and give initiative.</p> <p>JS also explained that there were new on-line courses for Lay ministry and lay preachers. When in-person meetings can take place, these would be held in the Lancaster area. Various quiet days are offered on-line. Christ Church needs a quiet day to think through Growing Leaders, witnesses, and inspiring young people.</p> <p>JS also reported that there will be a Deanery Synod On-line quiz hosted by the vicar of Morecambe Parish Church and encouraged people to join as it would be entertaining!</p>	JS
11	<p>Safeguarding – The First Aid course took place in the Church Hall on 14th November. We now have 5 qualified first aiders. The other places on the course were taken by paying participants from other organisations.</p>	JLi
12	<p>Prayer and Worship – Bishop Julian is preaching this Sunday 22nd November. Lancaster Priory have also offered to share the Evening Service with us. Christ Church will host its own on-line Advent Carol service on 29th November.</p>	CB
13	<p>Night Shelter – A report is expected from the coordinator JN but had not arrived by the meeting start time. CB reported that the Evening drop-in sessions had got off to a slow start with one or two people per evening dropping in for a hot meal and fellowship. At a meeting with the Edward St Homeless Centre, they reported that many of the homeless staying in hotel accommodation were struggling with isolation. There have been 6 drug related deaths among the homeless.</p> <p>Longer term item to note – CB and JN met with Helen from the Francis C Scott Trust. The Trust has re-thought its focus and are moving towards prevention of becoming homeless rather than the current model. Therefore, we need to think how we would manage the funding gap in future, this will require a review and re-</p>	CB

	planning. For the past 6 years Francis C Scott has provided 50% of the funding required to run our Night Shelter provision. Francis C Scott will taper off the funding they give, and not leave us in the lurch – need to apply in September 21 for the next round of funding.	
14	Any Other Business – None	
15	Next PCC meeting via Zoom 16 th December 7:30 Standing Committee 7 th December 1pm	
16	Compline	