

Lancaster Christ Church PCC Minutes 13<sup>th</sup> January 2021

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	

Item	Topic	Who is leading
1	Opening Prayers	CB
2	Apologies for Absence – none (JP asked that her apologies for the 9 <sup>th</sup> January meeting be noted)	CB
3	Declaration of AOB. – Policy Group	CB
4	Minutes of the meeting on the: - 16 <sup>th</sup> December 2020 accepted as accurate after some minor changes and re-circulated - 27 <sup>th</sup> December 2020 (Extraordinary Meeting) accepted as accurate	CB
5	Matters arising: - Covid Update – As agreed on 9 <sup>th</sup> January, we followed the Government guidance (behave as if you have COVID) and decided to close to face to face worship until circumstances allow us to re-open. CB had received good feedback from members of the congregation who understand the need to return to on-line services for the time being. CB will organize more Zoom and Facebook sessions. It was also agreed to remain closed for Private Prayer but to keep this under review. - CYFCC Update- The Gregson Trust trustees have approved a grant of £5,000 over 2 years. The post has now been advertised, and CB is setting the interview date. With the current lockdown situation, it may be necessary to hold the interview process on-line rather than the preferred face to face. The PCC are aware of the risks of on-line appointments and will closely monitor the process. CB also proposed that the appointed coordinator be invited to attend PCC meetings, this was agreed by the PCC. - Fundraising – JB reported that the 12-day Advent Sale had been successful and raised over £600 and the Grand Raffle raised over £400, The Call to Pray and Give donations (most of which was gift-aided) enabled a total of £1500 to be paid from the church accounts to the Diocese. Other ideas for the next fundraising events will be discussed at the meeting on 20 <sup>th</sup> January 21.	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Hall update - The cleaning contract is not yet resolved as JS is still awaiting a response from the postholder. This will be progressed by JS. 2021 bookings for the hall have had to be postponed. It is anticipated that those bookings will still want to hire the hall after the restrictions have been lifted. The new hall booking fee rates had been accepted. The Tae Kwondo group wish to continue when able plus a new Fitness Group wish to use the hall. The hall has also been broken into on 29<sup>th</sup> December, this had been discovered by Julian Davies on 31<sup>st</sup> December. JS attended when he called her and the police were called. There was some damage and the Wifi extender was stolen. They had left the hall in a very unclean state! Forensic investigations took place and CCTV footage showed one individual, although the police believe there were two or more involved. The clearcut evidence against the one identified individual may mean this case may be expedited without going to court on account of Covid rules. The PCC thanked JS for handling this horrid experience and liaison with the police on numerous occasions.</li> <li>- Lay nominee for Diocesan Conference – JS was willing to attend but PA had also been previously so she will be asked if she would like to attend the conference in October 21.</li> <li>- Asda vouchers update – 80 families across the parish identified by both the local schools were provided with the vouchers. The PCC thanks all those who contributed towards the vouchers and CB has written to Over Wyresdale parish for their generous contribution.</li> </ul>	
<p>6</p>	<p><b>Building Matters:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- QI repairs – PT asked the PCC what repairs could afford to be carried out. Of the ones that need to be done in the next 18 months , The stonework over the Main door needs to be repointed in Lime render. As this is specialised work it will be between £1000-£3000. There are also areas of rendering needed on the church roof.</li> <li>- Hall Roof - update on fundraising and repairs. The temporary repairs will be carried out in Spring but we do not have dates as yet. This will be costed for materials only, as Andy Steele will not charge for his labour.</li> <li>- Hall Boiler – Wheildons have been asked to install a new boiler as soon as they are able before March 21.</li> </ul> <p>There followed a general discussion about how we make a change to how we package up areas of work and fundraising together. How we should put money aside for repairs, so long as we pay our Parish Share first and try to build up a sinking fund to pay for future repairs! Plus how to ‘market’ what we need to do to widen the appeals for support for the building repairs and improvements over and above the amounts we have to raise for our Parish Share. It was agreed to set up a small group to start to look at this and generate ideas. JLy, JP, JB and PT indicated they would be happy to participate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fundraising for Hall Roof - As the Hall roof will need to be completely resurfaced, significant monies will need to be raised. CB Has</li> </ul>	<p>PT</p>

	<p>been successful in a grant application to Allchurches Trust for £2300, this will be a starter for the fund. The overall cost will be circa £18000- £20000. A Faculty will be raised for the main resurfacing and another List B faculty for the temporary repairs.</p>	
7	<p>Eco Church Update – The Eco group zoom meeting took place on 12th January.</p> <p>The "knitting squares for blankets for Syria" initiative is continuing, supported by church members, friends and neighbours. One blanket has been completed and there are enough squares to make another one.</p> <p>Margaret reported on developments at Claver Hill Community Food Growing Project. The group had received a grant to create a filtration system to clean pollution still leaching from the previous Nightingale hall Farm site which was used for animal waste processing. They had also developed a flower farm for members and out sales. It was agreed that we should try to arrange a visit to Claver Hill at some future date.</p> <p>Claver Hill have also partnered the Transitions Food group who are holding their potato day on 30th January in Dalton Square. There will be seed potatoes for sale and advice on growing your own food.</p> <p>Information on an A Rocha UK webinar for Eco churches on the subject of Climate Sundays was shared with the group. The event will take place on 26th January at 11am and again at 7:30pm, the group was encouraged to register <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p>Ways of contributing to the Foodbank were discussed, including donations via a box outside the Vicarage, financial donations to the Olive Branch at Westbourne Road or online. Rev Carol reported on the joint effort by Christ Church and the Over Wyresdale Benefice which enabled 80 food vouchers to be distributed to two schools in the parish before Christmas.</p> <p>John Lyth was back in Lancaster and was available to go into church to identify draft excluding options with a view to carrying out some work, as part of energy saving measures. Rev Carol reported that about 10% of the LED bulbs purchased before Christmas had blown. More bulbs have been purchased and await fitting. The company has agreed to make a refund.</p> <p>Ideas for promoting the work of the Eco group during the lockdown were discussed which included use of the church website and Facebook. It was also thought a good idea to prepare material that would have been included on the monthly posters, for display at some future event in the hall. This is to be discussed with Liz who produces the posters.</p>	Joyce L

	<p>It was agreed that the food theme should continue throughout February and should cover the avoidance of meat from animals fed from soya, growing some vegetables of your own, support for those lobbying against bottom trawling especially in the UK's marine protected areas, and the avoidance of fish caught by this method.</p> <p>Other items of information were shared including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a programme on Radio 4 entitled 39 ways to save the planet which can be listened to on <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m000qwt3">https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m000qwt3</a></li> <li>• a book called 'English Pastoral' by James Rebanks which charts the story of a farm in Lake District farmed in the old way and which through time with modern 'improvements' was changed out of all recognition. When James inherited the farm he began to salvage the land that was his to restore life that had vanished and to leave a legacy for the future</li> <li>• an item on HydroCotton <a href="https://www.hydrocotton.tech/">https://www.hydrocotton.tech/</a> a technology which is being developed for cotton agriculture which reduces the water and fertilizers needed by up to 80°. This was featured on Inside-the-factory series entitled Socks. <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m000r03q/inside-the-factory-series-6-2-socks">https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m000r03q/inside-the-factory-series-6-2-socks</a></li> <li>• Rev Carol reminded us of 'Smalls for all' <a href="https://www.smallsforall.org/">https://www.smallsforall.org/</a></li> </ul> <p>The Eco group will meet again via zoom on 9th February</p> <p>Lighting update – The cost of the bulbs that had been changed and blown have now been refunded.</p>	
8	<p>Finance, including report from CCPS. AN reported that income had come through better than expected in December. The Parish Share £5000 as previously agreed plus £1500 from the Call to Pray and Give appeal has been paid to the Diocese. The additional fundraising (mentioned earlier) has also meant that we start 2021 with a slightly better position than forecast. AN asked if we are still working to the same timetable for the 2021 APCM, it was agreed that this should be on 25<sup>th</sup> April as planned and reports etc prepared as normal. There may be some difficulties in getting all the required documents to the accountants during lockdown. But this will be progressed. JS asked that details of standing orders &amp; extra giving on which Gift Aid could be claimed was sent to her so that the claim to HMRC can be submitted. AN will circulate the latest position as soon as possible.</p> <p>£10000 had been paid by the Francis C Scott Trust to support the Night Shelter, AN reported that the Night Shelter fund is in a reasonable position.</p> <p>AN will request clarification regarding the £1500 Call to Give which should be shown against our Parish Share position.</p>	AN
9	<p>Mission and Outreach</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Noticeboard – CB had circulated two example replacements boards and costs. The PCC agreed that the boards are an essential part of our outreach. The wooden board has reached the end of its life and a new board combining the 'event' notices</li> </ul>	CB

	<p>and the standard information is needed. CB will investigate the durability and costs of the boards.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Questionnaires as circulated. Both sets (The New year one and the Pre APCM) will be distributed, and people encouraged to complete ASAP.</li> </ul>	
10	<p>Vision 2026 – The Diocese will distribute the newly approved Vision Implementation document in early 2021. Whalley Abbey - An exciting new chapter is about to begin at Whalley Abbey with the announcement of a new Director; alongside a fresh new purpose for the site, including establishing a new religious community for the first time in nearly five centuries!</p> <p>The new Director will be Rev'd Adam Thomas, who is currently Curate at St Cuthbert's Church in Lytham. Prior to ordination, one of Adam's roles was Lake District National Park Authority Development Programme Director and Head of Commercial Services.</p>	JS
11	<p>Safeguarding – No issues. JLi has just received the awaited First Aid Certificates for those people trained in November 20.</p>	Jane L
12	<p>Prayer and Worship update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Review of Christmas 2020 – Discussion about how the Christmas services and the Advent course took place. All agreed that all events in the period were good. Whilst we all missed singing, the return to services in church and the online Advent course were well received. The Christingle service was enjoyed by many and held the children's attention well</li> <li>- Christingle update Final returned candle collection boxes from school were 68, which contained £340.80, plus a further 16 boxes and other donations from church totaling £192.65, therefore the grand total £533.45 which is the highest total raised. This will be paid into the Children's Society Bank Account on 14<sup>th</sup> January. We would normally pay this is a little later but, as we are in lockdown, if any further candles are handed in, we will keep and add to the 2021 Christingle. We will produce the posters for Church and school, showing the grand total. David and JB would like to record their thanks to all who have contributed to the 2020 appeal. The PCC thanked D&amp;JB for their work in coordinating the event and collection.</li> </ul>	CB JB
13	<p>Night Shelter Report <u>Christ Church 'Evening Drop-In/ Night Shelter 2020-21</u> <u>Mid-season update January 2021</u></p> <p>We opened on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November and have been open every evening (excluding our usual break over Christmas) and we are now running through until the end of March 2021. We continue to run from 8.30-9.30pm.</p> <p>Running with a skeleton staff team to keep numbers in the hall to a minimum we have so far helped/ supported 20 different people who have used the 'Drop-In' this winter. We have supported people who are 'sofa surfing', some who have been temporarily accommodated in emergency B&amp;B provision and also those who are vulnerably housed and struggling, isolated and/or not receiving help from other places.</p>	JN

	<p>We have had one guest who had fled from a violent situation and was not local to this area. He only came for one evening but had relatives locally who were offering him some basic support.</p> <p>We are providing hot food, drinks, food parcels, food deliveries to those 'shielding', toiletries, clothing, footwear and sleeping bags to those in need. We have also tried to assist those in need of urgent overnight provision via the council's 'out of hours' phone line.</p> <p>SWEP has been in place during the recent icy weather and most guests have been able to access shelter in some shape or form.</p> <p>We have been very generously supported by many donations and all our guests have been extremely grateful and appreciative of our service, especially in these challenging times.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Review of Risk Assessment and overnight accommodation - Deferred</li> <li>- Planning for the future and fundraising – Deferred</li> </ul>	CB
14	<p>AOB –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sound Systems – Audioworks are repairing and replacing microphones and receiver boxes as necessary. CB will apply to the diocese for a grant that is available to churches to assist with on-line worship.</li> <li>- As we should have the Children's, Young People and Families Coordinator in place soon, it is necessary to ensure we have reviewed all our policies and procedures, and that they are accessible and up to date. A small group is being formed to review what we have, what gaps need to be filled and what needs to be updated (PT, JB, JLi, JS indicated their interest). The policies will then all be stored electronically as well as hard copy to ensure they are readily available and reviewed on an agreed basis. Policies needed ASAP: First Aid, CCTV, Photography, all will be brought to the PCC for approval</li> </ul>	CB
15	<p>Date of next meeting: Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2021 7.30pm  Standing Committee: 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021 at 1pm</p>	
16	<p>Compline for those who wish to stay: <a href="https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-in-daily-prayer/night-prayer-temporary-wednesday-13-january-2021">https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-in-daily-prayer/night-prayer-temporary-wednesday-13-january-2021</a></p>	CB