

Holy Cross Church Binsted Parochial Church Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 22nd March 2021 at 2.00p.m. via Zoom webinar

Those present: Yann Dubreuil: [Chairman]; Stella Croom-Johnson: [Deputy Chairman and Church Warden]; Kathy Ogilvie Thompson [Churchwarden]; Liz Carey – [Assistant Churchwarden] Andrew Croom-Johnson [Treasurer]; Kay Hunter Johnston; Cathie Weldon; Piers Wilson; Nick Carter; Pam Smith; Angela Dunne [Secretary]

1	Welcome and opening Prayer YD welcomed everyone and opened the meeting with a prayer
2	Apologies Christopher Ogilvie Thompson
3	Minutes of the meeting held on 21.9.2020 The minutes were approved. Due to the virtual meeting YD will scan a signed copy and send it to AD for the minute file. ACTION: YD
4	Matters Arising from the minutes held on 2.2.2021 4.1 Foundation Governor –YD did approach a person that was suggested to him but unfortunately, they were unable to take on the role. YD said that he would have to inform the Diocese and ask them to make an appointment but that they would be unlikely to do so as there was a shortage of volunteers. Further into the meeting AD volunteered to take on this role but said that she would resign as Secretary once the Single Parish Benefice had been formed. 10.a [iii] Broadband installation – ACJ reported that all the surveys had been completed and he was waiting for a final report. This would be sent to our architect and permission sought from the Archdeacon. The installation would not require any drilling of holes through the Church walls. ACTION: ACJ 7. [b] from 16.11.2020 – Portable loos – KHJ had obtained preliminary quotes from a local company to supply portable loos to be used during the pandemic for weddings that take place. The costs had been distributed via e-mail prior to the meeting. It was agreed to get a formal quote regarding the option to have a WC delivered and collected on a sporadic basis i.e. short term weekend hire for weddings at a cost of £25 + VAT. There was some discussion regarding who should pay for this, the Church or the Wedding couple. The majority of PCC members felt that the Church should pay as it is hoped the portable WC's would only be required for a few weddings in the Spring and Summer months and that in the near future the Wickham Institute could be used again once Covid restrictions have eased. However, it was also agreed that this decision would be reviewed at a later date, due to the nature of the pandemic and the restrictions imposed. ACTION: KHJ to obtain a formal quote and to liaise with the Church admin office.

<p>5.</p>	<p>Finance</p> <p>5.1 Report from the Treasurer – ACJ had sent out a draft copy of Holy Cross Church Financial Statements for the year ended 1st December 2020 and a copy of a spreadsheet showing an analysis of income and expenditure for the period 1st January 2021 to 28th February 2021. A copy of which are in the minute file.</p> <p>[a] ACJ had asked for questions and amendments via email prior to the meeting and he agreed that he would correct any typo errors in the financial statement. He then asked for the document to be proposed. Pam Smith proposed and seconded by Nick Carter.</p> <p>[b] ACJ reported that the main expense illustrated in the two months of income and expenditure was for the payment for the ladder. However, he had received the VAT rebate for this.</p> <p>[c] ACJ acknowledged that the church maintenance costs were high for this period due to the repairs for the boiler and for the architects’ consultation work to review the outstanding Quinquennial work required</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>Current Covid 19 Lockdown and Restrictions</p> <p>YD stated that the Church team were working within the Government guidelines and future lifting of restrictions. The Easter Service will be “ticketed” like the Christmas Day service. The Church office is co-ordinating this. There will still be social distancing, no singing and a risk assessment required for services at least until late June.</p> <p>KOT suggested that the usual outdoor services after the village fetes take place in July. YD liked this idea but said that a final decision will need to be made nearer the time and in line with any Covid restrictions that may be in place.</p>
<p>7</p>	<p>Pastoral Re-organisation</p> <p>YD asked for questions from the committee regarding the proposed pastoral re-organisation. He reminded us of the consultation meeting planned with the Bishop, Archdeacon and Area Dean on 31st March via zoom.</p> <p>[i] PS asked, If a Church either wanted to be or suggested should be a Chapel of Ease what criteria should be considered and how or who would decide? YD replied that there is an issue of sustainability. He said the community needs to be able to sustain a number of services, provide Church officers and fulfil its legal obligations. He said that Kingsley currently has a small congregation. People should not be concerned about the Single Parish Benefice proposal because, “no one should notice the difference in the services.”</p> <p>[ii] AD asked if the current Single Parish Benefice proposal between Binsted, Bentley and Froyle Churches was continuing and then would Kingsley and East Worldham Churches be added at a later date? YD said that that this was unlikely as the Diocese would like a pause in the plans and ideally have a quick Single Parish Benefice formed with all the Churches joining together at the same time by Spring 2022.</p> <p>[iii] KOT questions are related to the possible timings of the re-organisation taking place. Her first question relates to Rev. Tony Pears who is due to retire at the end of October. Will a period of “interregnum” have to be allowed for or will the new benefice boundaries being considered, be in place as soon as he has left?</p> <p>Secondly, How much preparation [talking/consulting and making plans] will be allowed to take place before Rev Pears vacates his position in late October?</p> <p>YD said that these are very good questions and he has had informal discussions with Tony Pears who is retiring in October 2021 [he is the incumbent for the North Hanger Benefice.] He said that there is fear and anxiety amongst the Church congregation from Kingsley and East Worldham being “strapped on” to our Benefice. This he recognises as quite understandable, so the proposed plans to form a larger Benefice to include other Churches need to be fulfilled in a very sensitive manner. YD said that he is going to have informal conversations with the PCC’s of Kingsley and East Worldham very soon.</p> <p>[v] PS’s second question; Is the current proposal sustainable for many years or will we be having the same conversations again in the future, especially being mindful that the current situation or its repercussions are not going away sometime soon?</p>

	<p>YD highlighted eight factors that need to be reflected upon as part of a mission action plan in order for a Church to grow in its ministry. These are:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Have a clear mission and purpose 2. Being actively engaged in the local context 3. Willing to change and adapt 4. Have a welcoming culture 5. Leaders that innovate and motivate 6. Lay people active in leadership 7. Engage with children and young adults 8. Nurture disciples eg. Having homegroups <p>YD highlighted that those Churches which have willingly been involved in a Mission Action Plan as a reflective exercise on the above factors are the Churches that are likely to grow, but Churches that have resisted this exercise are the ones that are in decline. He said that one thing that doesn't change is Jesus Christ and the key values of the Gospel. These need to be presented in different and relevant ways to people.</p> <p>[v] LC asked the following question: 'East Worldham houses fall into the Alton and Holybourne catchment for schooling. Andrews Endowed is a Church school. Gordon Randall and his team of helpers conduct a regular messy church and children's activities around the village. As you mentioned in your presentation, our mission is to nurture discipleship and grow the membership of our church community - in particular, with children and young adults. Is it potentially detrimental to have the Parish under our Benefice yet the school in the Church of the Resurrection Benefice? Would it be more practical to include Oakhanger and Kingsley into the Benbinfo Benefice and allow East Worldham to either remain with Northanger or be included in the (extensive!) Alton group. YD agreed that this was a valid question and should be put to the Bishop and Archdeacon during the question and answer consultation zoom meeting to be held on 31st March. AD agreed to collate the above questions and send them on to the Church office so that they could be asked at the consultation meeting. ACTION: AD</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>Feedback on recent events</p> <p>8.1 Ash Wednesday – The service provided on- line was “well received”.</p> <p>8.2 There was a discussion regarding the ease and or difficulty of accessing the on- line services. It was agreed to ask Sam and Gemma to produce a simple guide which would help people navigate the Benefice web site and access the many YouTube videos that are available to view. This would be put up on the web site. ACTION: YD</p>
<p>9</p>	<p>Planning ahead for possible forthcoming events and services - whether virtual or physical</p> <p>9.1 Easter</p> <p>[a] The Easter Sunday service will be ticketed. People will be required to contact the Church office. There will also be an on-line YouTube Benefice service.</p> <p>[b] There will be an on-line Good Friday reflection service.</p> <p>[c] Palm Sunday 28th March on-line service</p> <p>9.2 APCM – 27th April 2021 at 7.00pm –</p> <p>[a] The meeting will take place on zoom. We would like as many people as possible to attend from our Church congregation. Therefore, SCJ will send out messages to people on the electoral role. In addition, she will put a message on the community Facebook Site to encourage the community to look at the Benefice web site which will advertise the details on how to attend. It was agreed that KOT will set up the meeting and send out the zoom link to AD. AD will send out the details to PCC members. ACTION: SCJ, KOT, AD</p> <p>[b] NC to put the usual APCM notice on the Church porch notice board. NC and SCJ to liaise regarding a notice to be included with her APCM message to the congregation. ACTION: NC, SCJ</p>

	<p>[c] The APCM reports will need to be written and sent to AD. These will be disseminated prior to the meeting. In addition, a few paper copies will be printed and given to Church members who need them. ACTION: AD</p> <p>Reports:- ACTION Vicar's Report - YD Churchwardens - KOT, SCJ, LC Deanery Synod – KHJ Karamoja Report - COT Bell Ringers and Tower Captain – KOT Re-ordering – KHJ and AHJ</p> <p>AD would like the reports sent to her by Friday 16th April</p> <p>[d] It was established that this year no one is due to “step down” as a member of the PCC [e] YD stated that Church Wardens need to be elected or re-elected. He requires their nomination forms before the APCM meeting. [f] AD agreed to stay on as secretary to Binsted Parochial Church Council but said that she is not interested in the secretarial role for the proposed new single parish benefice as she has volunteered to be a Foundation Governor for Binsted Primary School.</p> <p>9.3 Pentecost Prayer Week – 16th-23rd May 2021 YD reported that the homegroups have been asked to design a prayer station for outside this year. In addition, there will be an on-line prayer station[s] similar to last year. Another idea suggested was having timed zoom prayer slots, similar to the Pray for the Nation that has continued at 6pm during the weekdays throughout March.</p> <p>9.4 July and August service patterns and from September – it is difficult to plan this far ahead due to the nature of the pandemic and knowing government restrictions that will be in place.</p>
10	<p>Fabric SCJ sent a copy of her report via email prior to the meeting. A copy of this is included in the minute file. YD thanked SCJ for her continuing hard work.</p>
11	<p>Re-ordering Project It was reported that the Re-ordering committee had had two meetings on zoom recently. Piers Wilson was now on the committee and Ben Macdonald and Claire Fargeot are new co-opted members. It was agreed that once the PCC has agreed to the re-ordering minutes these were to be put on the Re-ordering section of the Benefice web site. However, if there were any questions or comments from people, these were to be brought to the next re-ordering meeting for discussion. ACTION: AD to send the minutes to PCC members to get their approval and then send them to the Church office. KHJ informed the PCC that during the second meeting on 19th March 2021 Ben Macdonald presented his proposed plans for new toilets next to the Westcote Chapel and KOT presented the original plans that the initial re-ordering committee were proposing under the guidance of the architect Antony Feltham-King. This location is by the north west corner of the Church. CF chaired this item. After the presentations, the committee members were given the opportunity to express the pros and cons for each location and CF recorded these. It was acknowledged that both proposals have a “knock on effect” to other features within the Church. With this in mind, CF kindly volunteered to produce simple 2D drawings to illustrate the changes and other new features proposed including new kitchen facilities for refreshments would be located. These will be brought for discussion at the next meeting.</p>

<p>12.</p>	<p>Any other Business</p> <p>[a] SCJ reported that she will be sending out a revised risk assessment to the PCC for future services in the Church and she is inviting members to send her any comments.</p> <p>[b] SCJ informed the committee that she had been contacted by an Ecclesiastical Insurance agent regarding the possibility of Binsted Church receiving a small amount of money if anyone in our congregation took out a policy with them. PCC approval was needed if the Church was to register with the company. After some discussion this was approved as it was established that the policy the company was offering was a home insurance policy. SCJ to send out details to the Church congregation via her weekly email updates.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ACTION: SCJ</p> <p>[c] NC asked if and when he could instigate a Churchyard working party again. It was agreed that this could happen after the 29th March when the restrictions allow six people to mix outside. Individuals would be required to bring their own refreshments.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ACTION: NC</p> <p>[d] ACJ said that a suggestion had come from the Diocese that Binsted Church could register with Easy Fundraising. It is a web portal that gives a small amount of money to the Church when people purchase things using the Easy Fundraising web site. He said that it works in the same way as Amazon Smile. ACJ has already registered with Easy Fundraising and this was approved retrospectively. This will be advertised to the congregation at the same time as the Insurance offer as described in AOB point b.</p> <p>ACTION:</p>
<p>13.</p>	<p>Dates and venues of next meeting in 2021</p> <p>31 March Joint Benefice PCC's meeting with Bishop David and Archdeacon, Richard Brand</p> <p>APCM – Tuesday 27th April at 7.00pm on zoom</p> <p>24th May 20th, September 8th November - Binsted PCC meetings at 2.00pm</p>
<p>14.</p>	<p>YD thanked everyone for joining the meeting and closed with a Prayer</p> <p>The meeting closed at 4.05pm</p>