

Holy Cross Church Binsted Parochial Church Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 20th September 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]; Cathie Weldon; Piers Wilson; Pam Smith; Angela Dunne [Secretary]

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| 1 | Welcome and opening Prayer YD welcomed everyone and opened the meeting with a prayer |
| 2 | Apologies Kay Hunter Johnston, Nick Carter |
| 3 | Minutes of the meeting held on 24.5.2021 The minutes were approved. Due to the virtual meeting YD will liaise with AD to sign the minutes file. ACTION: YD & AD |
| 4 | Matters Arising from the minutes held on 24.5.2021 10.a [iii] Broadband installation – this is now completed and has already been used for some live streaming of services and for the recent monthly prayer meeting held in the Church. Mobile phones can also be signed into the internet and used in the Church. Thanks were given to ACJ and SCJ for their hard work over many months to organise and facilitate this much needed provision. 12.[c] Churchyard working parties – KOT volunteered to organise the Autumn Churchyard working party. She will be sending out an email to the volunteers. KOT said that she is organising the hedge at the north side of the Churchyard to be cut during the first week in October. This will enable the path to be more visible and easier to use. There is the possibility that woodchip may be put down on the path to replace the stones. ACTION: KOT |
| 5 | Single Parish and PCC proposals – feedback and thoughts following joint meeting held on 13th September - YD stated that he was very grateful to the Single Parish working group who put together a Report regarding the proposed Single-Parish Benefice. This was distributed to all PCC members who were also invited to attend a joint PCC meeting held on 13 th September 2021. YD asked for feedback. LC commented on the issue of Kingsley and Oakhanger parish not paying their parish share in recent years and the possibility of Bentley, Binsted and Froyle Benefice subsidising this in the future. YD said that potentially an extra £10,000 may need to be paid. However, YD explained that there is the potential for ministry growth in the parish of Oakhanger and Kingsley and therefore the “giving” would also grow. Furthermore, Froyle parish was in a lower affluent band than it should have been, so they volunteered to increase it. However, if they stayed in the original band this would reduce the total amount needed to be given by the Single Benefice. YD said that Kingsley and Oakhanger parish are in agreement and happy to join our Benefice. PS asked if the Benefice name would change. YD said yes it would. YD said that the PCC’s of Bentley, Binsted and Froyle are being asked in principle if they agree to the Single-Parish Benefice proposal with Kingsley and Oakhanger. He recognises that details need to be addressed in the future and all three Churches need to agree otherwise the proposed idea will need to be revisited. All the Binsted PCC members agreed to the single parish proposal in principle. |

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| <p>6</p> | <p>Pastoral Re-organisation update 6.1 July and August service patterns and from September. Feedback on new service pattern. New service pattern for enlarged Benefice. YD stated that it was a little too early to comment on the new service pattern since it had only begun in September. Members of the PCC expressed their views and those from the congregation concerning the timings of services and the regularity of services in Binsted Church. YD said that there will be a full review of the service pattern after a few months as the current arrangement will allow for clergy led services in Kingsley or Oakhanger Church to take place weekly in the near future. Messy Church – KOT stated that due to the lack of volunteers, Messy Church will remain on-line during the Autumn term. It was highlighted that the Messy Church service was introduced to encourage young families in the Binsted village and the wider benefice a few years ago. To support this new venture, Messy Church replaced one of our morning services at Holy Cross Church. YD commented that before the pandemic about eighteen people were involved in providing the Messy Church service, by helping making refreshments, leading craft activities, organising the set-up of the school hall and delivering the worship led by Kathleen Digby. Hopefully the shortage of helpers is temporary. Kathleen had suggested to KOT that Messy Church could possibly take place during the morning instead of the afternoon. When discussing the new rotas, we need to bear in mind the bigger picture and not just the desires of individual parishes. We have a collective responsibility and challenge in providing weekly services within the benefice.</p> | | | | | | | | |
| <p>7</p> | <p>Finance 7.1 Report from Treasurer ACJ had sent out a copy of an analysis of income and expenditure for the period 1st January 2021 to 31st August 2021. A copy of which is in the minute file. ACJ commented that the recent income from weddings has helped to keep the finances in the Current account “in the black.” YD thanked ACJ for his hard work as treasurer.</p> <p>7.2 Fundraising – SCJ said that a small committee had been formed to help plan future fundraising events. This consisted of herself, Anne and Alan Shelley and Claire Fargeot. The committee were compiling a monthly plan of fund raising activities and were hoping to produce a leaflet outlining the plans. SCJ said that it was necessary when making grant applications to prove and demonstrate that the Church community was fundraising themselves towards specific projects. ACTION: SCJ to organise printing of Christmas cards, ask Gemma to put the fundraising information on the Benefice web site, sell Christmas cards at the Christmas Fair and advertise the sales on the Village Facebook site.</p> <p>7.3 YD explained that there was a review of the salaries for the staff who worked for the Benefice. The staff are employed and their salaries paid by Bentley PCC. The cost is shared by the three PCC’s. The proposal is to increase salaries by 3% based on the current CPI rate in August of 3.2%</p> <p>On that basis, this equates to the following estimated additional costs, based on the analysis I performed before the Joint PCC Meeting last Monday:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Admin Salaries</td> <td>£ 30.39 per month (Ben - £13.68, Bin - £ 9.12, Fro - £ 7.59)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Anna Chaplain</td> <td>£ 16.29 per month (Ben - £ 7.32, Bin - £ 4.89, Fro - £ 4.08)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pastoral Assts</td> <td>£ 70.98 per month (Ben - £31.94, Bin - £21.29, Fro - £17.75)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>£117.66 per month (Ben - £52.94, Bin - £35.30, Fro - £29.42)</td> </tr> </table> <p>All PCC members agreed. Yann declared a personal interest as his wife Hannah is employed by the Benefice.</p> | Admin Salaries | £ 30.39 per month (Ben - £13.68, Bin - £ 9.12, Fro - £ 7.59) | Anna Chaplain | £ 16.29 per month (Ben - £ 7.32, Bin - £ 4.89, Fro - £ 4.08) | Pastoral Assts | £ 70.98 per month (Ben - £31.94, Bin - £21.29, Fro - £17.75) | Total | £117.66 per month (Ben - £52.94, Bin - £35.30, Fro - £29.42) |
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| <p>8</p> | <p>Current Covid-19 Lockdown and restrictions – YD reported that no new guidelines have been issued, therefore “nothing has changed.”</p> <p>[a] Several members of PCC have been approached and asked for the Church to be open again. After a lengthy discussion and an opportunity for PCC members to express their views, it was agreed for the Church to re- open. A new risk assessment will need to be completed before this takes place. ACTION: KOT&SCJ</p> <p>[b] Further discussion took place regarding the return of serving refreshments after the services. However, for this to happen, new volunteers need to come forward. It was suggested that refreshments are held after the Morning Worship service to begin with. ACTION: SCJ to ask for volunteers</p> <p>[c] It was agreed at this point in time, not to hold prayer ministry inside the Church but this may be considered again in the new year. However, KOT said that she had done prayer ministry with people outside and this could be advertised for everyone. ACTION: SCJ & KOT to advertise in the Sunday notices</p> |
| <p>9</p> | <p>Feedback on recent events</p> <p>9.1 Binsted Fete – Church Stall KOT reported that the Church stall was in a good position, but as there was not a Messy Church craft activity, she felt fewer people came to engage/chat. However, there were bell ringing leaflets and a demonstration bell available, and some people showed an interest.</p> <p>9.2 Suzanne Addlington’s Open gardens 21.8.2021- KOT stated that Nick and Rose Carter organised the teas for this event. It was a great success and nearly £500 profit was made. Suzanne appreciated the Church team being there. PW commented that he thought the prices were too low, so perhaps next year these could be reviewed and increased. YD thanked Nick and Rose and all the volunteers who made cakes and helped serve them and the teas over the weekend.</p> <p>9.3 Ride and Stride – SCJ reported that nine people visited the Church and she thanked the volunteers who manned the Church. It was agreed to advertise the event a little earlier next year. Traditionally, it takes place during the second weekend in September. SCJ mentioned that people can get sponsorship for visiting Churches by car as well as walking or cycling. Next year, hopefully individuals from our Church or village might be sponsored to take part and raise funds.</p> |
| <p>10</p> | <p>Planning ahead [whether virtual or physical]</p> <p>10.1 Harvest – 10th October KOT said that a date was agreed with SCJ so that it could be advertised in the October issue of the parish magazine. AD said that this coincided nicely with Binsted Schools Harvest service which is to take place on 8th October. KOT said that the proposal is to have pork in a bun with salads and crumble. This will be at 12.00 so people will have to come back as the service is 9.30 a.m. ACTION: KOT to organise a sign- up sheet.</p> <p>10.2 Remembrance Sunday – 14th November – after some discussion it was agreed that this service will take place outside with a weather review nearer the time.</p> <p>10.3 Advent Calendar project – AD to liaise with Sue Stephenson and to contact new residents who have moved into the village to be involved. ACTION:AD</p> <p>10.4 Christmas Fair – AD reported that she had contacted stall holders who had previously been involved in the Christmas Fair. The feedback she had received meant that stalls and customers needed to be more spaced out and not all crowded in the Wickham Institute, therefore she was proposing to use the Church building as well.AD said that an advert for more volunteers had been put in the October issue of the parish magazine as some people who have helped over many years feel that they are unable to do so this year. The traditional wreaths will be made and sold and the school may do a Santa’s grotto in a horse box outside</p> |

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| | <p>the hall like they did in 2019. It was suggested that Findlay Sinclair may do a hot chestnut stall.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">ACTION: AD</p> <p>10.4 Real Nativity – YD reported that managing a large crowd event needs careful consideration due to Covid 19. He said that Nick and Rose Carter have a template for organising the event and someone else may need to take this on. However, this needs further discussion in the near future.</p> |
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| <p>11.</p> | <p>Fabric Report –</p> <p>[a] SCJ sent a copy of her report via email prior to the meeting. A copy of this is included in the minute file. The PCC voted unanimously that the necessary repairs required as recommended in the Quinquennial report be carried out and they were happy with Antony's Feltham-King's recommendations on the workmen to be employed for this. YD thanked SCJ for her hard work.</p> <p>[b] SCJ reported that repairs to the boiler have cost £2,000 in the last 12 months and that it needed to be replaced before very long. It was advised that SCJ liaise with Steve Fice from Bentley Church as he is investigating replacing the boiler for Bentley Church.</p> <p>[c] SCJ highlighted that the East window will need completely re-building due to its signs of degradation. This is a separate project to the quinquennial work requests, but as it is an important feature in the Church it was felt that this should be done. SCJ suggested that a specific fund- raising drive could be made towards the cost. i.e. people could be asked to sponsor panes of glass for the stain glass window. All agreed to this proposal.</p> |
| <p>12</p> | <p>Re-ordering Project Report – a copy of the Re-ordering update was sent to PCC members prior to the meeting and a copy is in the minute file.</p> <p>The Re-ordering committee are waiting to hear back from the DAC regarding their views and recommendations about the proposed location for the new toilet block. ACJ expressed his concern that he was unaware as a PCC member of the proposals and that it was important to be transparent with developments. Everyone agreed with him. Assurance was given that the Re-ordering committee was not in a position to make any recommendations to the PCC at this stage because they were waiting for a reply from the DAC to KHJ's correspondence. To avoid any confusion KOT will ask for a copy of the correspondence and plans that KHJ sent to the DAC.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">ACTION: KOT</p> |
| <p>13.</p> | <p>Any Other Business</p> <p>13.1 Binsted School and Well Being Room – AD attended the school opening of the new well being room and had sent through a photograph of the new building to all PCC members prior to the meeting. After some discussion, it was agreed that YD and AD liaise with the school regarding the purchase of a specific item which would be a reflective Christian symbol for inside the building. This would be purchased by Binsted Church. However, YD also emphasised that the Church community should be willing to give their time to support the school and not just offer financial aid.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">ACTION: AD & YD</p> <p>13.2 Risk Assessment – A new risk assessment will need to be completed now that it has been agreed to open the Church again.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">ACTION: KOT & SCJ</p> <p>13.3 Organ Tuning – SCJ stated that the organ was last tuned in 2014 at a cost of £180, therefore it was now due to be re tuned. All agreed for SCJ to investigate getting it tuned.</p> <p>ACTION: SCJ</p> <p>13.4 Tree Planting – It was agreed that a suitable tree be planted to commemorate the Queen's platinum jubilee next year. However, careful consideration needs to be made as to the right type of tree and where it is to be planted. KOT offered to investigate whether a faculty needs to be applied for.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">ACTION: KOT & SCJ</p> |

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| 14 | <p>Dates and venues of next meetings in 2021</p> <p>18th October – Joint Benefice PCC meeting – this meeting may be postponed to a later date if all the PCC's agree in principle to forming a Single Parish Benefice. The working group will draw up more detailed proposals and then meet with the Rectors Council before presenting them to all three PCC's. It is unlikely to be able to have this completed before 18th October.</p> <p>8th November – Binsted PCC meeting 2pm – venue tba</p> <p>YD asked everyone to email him with their opinion on whether they were happy to meet in person or not at the next PCC meeting.</p> |
| 15 | <p>YD closed the meeting with a prayer.</p> |
| | <p>Meeting Closed at 4.15 p.m.</p> |