

## Holy Cross Church Binsted Parochial Church Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at 3.40pm

At Holy Cross Church, Binsted

Those present: Rev Matt Boyes [Chairman]; Stella Croom-Johnson: [Deputy Chairman & Church Warden]; Cathie Weldon [Churchwarden]; Christopher Ogilvie Thompson [Assistant Priest] arrived at 4.10pm; Andrew Croom-Johnson [Treasurer]; Pam Smith; Nick Carter, Andrew Hunter Johnston; Kay Hunter Johnston; Jonathan Bourne; Angela Dunne [Secretary]

		<b>Action</b>
	<b>Welcome and opening Prayer</b>	
<b>1</b>	<p><b>Apologies</b> Kathy Ogilvie Thompson NB SCJ informed the PCC that due to her cancer diagnosis she will be taking a step back from her duties as Churchwarden. MB thanked her for all her hard work, especially overseeing the repairs to the Church after the storm damage in February and the continuing issues regarding the Fabric of the Church. He wished her well with her treatment and said that she will be in our prayers. JB has agreed to support the Churchwardens with various tasks and deputise SCJ as required during her treatment and recovery period.</p>	<b>JB</b>
<b>2</b>	<p><b>Minutes of the meeting held on 7.11.2022</b> Approved and signed by MB</p>	
<b>3</b>	<p><b>Matters Arising from the minutes held on 7.11.2022</b></p> <p><b>5.2 [f] Friends of Binsted Church</b> – this is an on going item as we all still need to think and pray whom in our local community could be approached to be involved in the scheme and who will lead it.</p> <p><b>11.1 Churchyard extension</b> – KOT had received the necessary information she needed in January. She has put in a planning application to the required department and is now waiting for a decision.</p> <p><b>10[b] Organ update</b> – AHJ is liaising with SCJ on this project. SCJ has applied for a faculty and there is currently to and fro questions and answers. AHJ showed the committee a picture of the new organ console. It was agreed that four or five pews will be taken away and an electrician will be employed to install the console and new power points.</p> <p><b>5. Safeguarding</b> – on behalf of Susan Bourne [safeguarding officer] Jonathan Bourne reported that she will introduce herself to the congregation at the forthcoming APCM in April.</p>	<p><b>All KHJ</b></p> <p><b>KOT</b></p> <p><b>SB</b></p>

4	<p><b>Safeguarding</b>  [a] Susan sent her safeguarding report to the Churchwardens and the secretary [see below]</p> <p>“Since the last PCC there have been no Safeguarding issues reported to me in Binsted Church.  Posters displaying my contact details have been displayed in Church.  I have met with PSOs for Froyle and Bentley and we have agreed to meet monthly to discuss joint issues going forward. We have agreed that this will be of increasing importance as we move towards a single parish to include Oakhanger and Kingsley.  I will attend the PSO course in Winchester as soon as the next dates are available.  Please do contact me with any further questions.”</p> <p>[b] MB commented that Holy Cross Church has a dashboard site on the Diocese web site which gives details of outstanding actions that need to be completed to make us compliant. A joint meeting of the three safeguarding officers from each church in the Benefice will take place to enable good practice to be shared and policies brought to the PCC for review and approval in the near future.  [c] MB reported that he had attended training on Domestic Violence in January 2023.</p>	Susan Bourne														
5	<p><b>Finance-</b></p> <p><b>5.1 Report from the Treasurer –</b> ACJ had sent a draft copy of the analysis of income and expenditure for the period of 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022 prior to the meeting. A copy of which is in the minute file.  In addition he had sent out a document titled Financial figures and Treasurer’s musings and some comments and clarifications [see below]</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;"><b>Income</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bank – Standing orders – Gift aid</td> <td>a couple of donors left the parish last year</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Parish Giving Scheme</td> <td>increase of 1 donor during the year</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Donations – General one off donations</td> <td>figure includes a couple of generous</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tax recoverable on Gift Aid</td> <td>increase due to one off donations</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fees for weddings and funerals</td> <td>£1,742 included in this figure was passed to Bentley as 2 weddings got transferred due to the building work</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chancel Repair Liability grant</td> <td>grant relating to storm damage</td> </tr> </table>	<b>Income</b>		Bank – Standing orders – Gift aid	a couple of donors left the parish last year	Parish Giving Scheme	increase of 1 donor during the year	Donations – General one off donations	figure includes a couple of generous	Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	increase due to one off donations	Fees for weddings and funerals	£1,742 included in this figure was passed to Bentley as 2 weddings got transferred due to the building work	Chancel Repair Liability grant	grant relating to storm damage	
<b>Income</b>																
Bank – Standing orders – Gift aid	a couple of donors left the parish last year															
Parish Giving Scheme	increase of 1 donor during the year															
Donations – General one off donations	figure includes a couple of generous															
Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	increase due to one off donations															
Fees for weddings and funerals	£1,742 included in this figure was passed to Bentley as 2 weddings got transferred due to the building work															
Chancel Repair Liability grant	grant relating to storm damage															

<p>Grants – one off</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Expenditure</b></p>	<p>Energy grant from diocese</p>	
<p>Upkeep of churchyard the trees pruned/shaped</p>	<p>the £1,440 relates to the cost of having</p>	
<p>Church running costs – Electricity</p>	<p>increase in electricity charges from Q4</p>	
<p>Church running costs – Gas</p>	<p>huge increase in gas charges from Q4 –</p>	
<p>Church major repairs</p>	<p>the cost of the replacement of the boiler</p>	
<p>Church repairs outside insurance</p>	<p>cost of works identified and completed during the insurance work that were outside the insurance claim</p>	
<p>Fees out Weddings and funerals</p>	<p>this is the diocesan portion of the fees received and includes the payment to Bentley mentioned under income</p>	
<p>Vicarage decorating etc</p>	<p>our portion of the total cost agreed at previous PCC meeting.</p>	
<p>Bentley &amp; Binsted Parish Magazine</p>	<p>our portion of the total outstanding shortfall as at end of 2021 agreed at previous PCC meeting.</p>	
<p>ACJ summarised that we received a generous donation of £15,000 and this is keeping us afloat. However, monthly expenditure is exceeding our monthly income. We have received £1,000 from the Diocese to help towards the increase in heating costs occurred throughout the Winter months. ACJ encouraged PCC members to email him with receipts of any expenses incurred where reimbursement is not being claimed, so that he can claim gift aid on the donation.</p>		
<p>[b] MB informed the PCC that as part of his vision statement he will be presenting at the APCM, he will be asking people to consider increasing their planned giving to Binsted Church.</p>		<b>ALL</b>
<p>[c] MB asked that Januarys gas and electricity bill of £370 for the Vicarage is paid by the Benefice. If agreed, it will relieve a financial situation which will be rectified once the property he owns is let out. The cost will be split three ways between each Church. All agreed.</p>		<b>ALL</b>
<p>[d] NC informed the PCC that Royston, the current gardener can no longer mow the grass in the Church yard due to health issues. James Talent who mows the churchyard at Bentley has been approached for a quote to do the work in the future.</p>		<b>NC</b>

	<p><b>5.2 Fundraising</b> – MB said that there are three ongoing projects that need funds  [i] The tower floor  [ii] Repair work from the storm damage not covered by the insurance company.  [iii] the spire and weathervane</p> <p><b>5.3 Pastoral Assistant Costs [Sam &amp; Gemma]</b>  MB outlined Sam’s future pathway for him to train to be a Church of England minister. It was agreed to share the cost of employing Sam an extra four hours a week for a year before he starts his formal training.</p> <p><b>5.4 Counting Sunday collections</b>  It was proposed by CW that only one person counted the Sunday plate collections in the future as the amounts are now less due to people paying through the parish giving scheme and direct debits.  Seconded by PS All agreed.</p>	
<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>Feedback on recent events</b>  MB said that if anyone has comments to make on the events listed below to email himself and the Churchwardens</p> <p><b>6.1 Remembrance Service CW</b>  <b>6.2 Re-dedication service for the re-opening of Binsted Church MB</b>  <b>6.3 Messy Church 20.11.2022</b>  <b>6.4 Christmas Fair and Village Advent windows</b>  <b>6.5 Village carol singing</b>  <b>6.6 Christmas services MB</b>  <b>6.7. Messy Church 15.1.2023</b></p>	
<p><b>7</b></p>	<p><b>Planning Ahead for Future Events</b>  <b>7.1 Messy Church 19.3.2023</b> This is the same day as Mothering Sunday. More team members were needed in the future. MB said that he was impressed with this children’s ministry taking place in Binsted.</p> <p><b>7.2 Ash Wednesday – 22.2.2023 at 7pm</b></p> <p><b>7.3 Froyle Service at 5.30pm followed by Passover meal at Bentley at 7pm</b></p> <p><b>7.4 Lent – Lent 1 is Sunday 26.2.2023</b>  <b>Lent Lunches</b>  Binsted are hosting lent lunches at the Wickham on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> March.  CW requested help for providing soup, bread and cheese and help on the day.  Bentley are hosting the lunches on 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> in the Memorial Hall  COT &amp; KOT are hosting the lent lunch on 16<sup>th</sup> March at Mill Court</p> <p><b>7.5 FOBS Easter Fun/Fair on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March</b> – AD had forwarded correspondence from FOBS representative, Aimee regarding plans/ideas</p>	<p><b>NC</b> <b>AD</b></p> <p><b>CW</b> <b>AD</b> <b>PS</b> <b>KOT</b></p> <p><b>AD</b></p>

	<p>for the event. They would like the Church to be involved too. AD agreed to attend a planning meeting on Thursday morning at the Vicarage.</p> <p><b>7.6 Easter: Good Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April Meditation at Binsted 12-3pm, with 20 minutes segments</b></p> <p><b>7.7 Easter Day – 9<sup>th</sup> April 9.30 Holy Communion service at Binsted</b></p> <p><b>7.8 APCM on 23<sup>rd</sup> April</b> PS has agreed to stay on the PCC for another year. Everyone was delighted.</p> <p><b>7.9 Coronation Weekend - Discuss with Binsted Parish council Select a committee</b> – CW has been in contact with the parish council clerk, Lisa. It is proposed to host a tea party on the recreation ground on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May. This is a community event. CW asked if there was going to be a special Church service on that day. MB said he was waiting for Information from the Diocese.</p> <p><b>7.10 24/7 Prayer Week 21-28 May [Prayer Stations]</b></p> <p><b>7.11 On 17<sup>th</sup> June - Bishop David will be visiting Binsted school to commemorate the school's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary.</b></p> <p><b>7.12 October weekend away – date and location TBC</b></p>	<p><b>PS</b></p> <p><b>MB</b></p> <p><b>MB</b></p>
<p><b>8. Single Parish</b></p>	<p><b>8.1 Next steps and commencement of One Parish Working Party groups</b></p> <p>AD to circulate correspondence from Steve Fice to PCC members regarding the working parties. The working parties will meet by the end of February, carry out the actions and report back in July.</p> <p>COT said that it was important to know our mission and vision for the future. MB emphasised that we have a mission responsibility for Kingsley and Oakhanger parishes in the future and to consider the formation of home groups, children's work as well as having an international focus.</p>	<p><b>AD</b></p> <p><b>ALL</b></p> <p><b>MB</b></p>

9

**Re-ordering**

Following a successful re-ordering committee meeting prior to the PCC meeting the following proposals were made by the committee to the PCC with some rationale included.

[a]  Remove five pews and the whole plinth under them (including its extension under the chest) at the rear of the north aisle. This will enable safe access into the church and to and from the toilets.

Remove two pews each side and the plinths under and behind them at the rear of the nave (four pews in total). This will provide more space for baptisms and for mingling after services, especially important taking into account the proposed new role for Holy Cross. These pews will be placed in the Lady Chapel.

The spaces under the plinths, which we understand do not have a floor, will be covered with a light coloured non slip stone, level with the existing tiles. The existing Victorian red and black tiles will be retained.

The new catering facilities should be situated against the north wall of the north aisle where the pews have been removed between the two windows. AF-K would be asked to advise on the configuration. Previously they were to be situated either side of the tower at the rear of the nave. The rationale for this new proposal is that it is dead space, due to bad sight lines, however it is important that there are no pinch points when serving refreshments due to the pillar.

The existing radiators will remain in place, as underfloor heating and trench heating were both rejected, but there should be scope to tidy up the plumbing to them.

**Proposed by PS: Seconded by CW. All agreed.**

[b] **It was proposed by SCJ and seconded by COT then agreed by everyone** for a future meeting to take place with Antony Feltham-King [architect], Ron, Ben, MB, AHJ and KHJ and the Churchwardens.

**MB, KHJ  
AHJ CW  
SJC**

[c] Due to a future application being made to grant making trusts who will hopefully give funding for the new toilet and catering facilities, it is recommended that a quantitative surveyor is employed. AFK has recommended a surveyor to do the necessary work for £5,000+ VAT.

**AHJ  
KJH**

The PCC agreed that AFK's surveyor recommendation is approached to carry out the work at a cost of £500 +VAT

**It was proposed by KHJ Seconded by SCJ**

10	<p><b>Fabric Report</b></p> <p>SCJ had sent out her fabric report to all members of the PCC. A copy of which is in the minute file.</p> <p>[a] SCJ asked for approval for the treatment caused by the death watch beetle in the tower to be carried out at a cost of £504.00 plus reclaimable VAT. This was Seconded by KHJ. All agreed.</p> <p>[b] Weathervane – SCJ has been advised that this is unsafe and needs to be taken down by the builder. It is proposed that this will be mended and restored and put back before the scaffolding is taken away. It is in hand that SCJ will be sent costings to do this work. She will then email the details to all the PCC members in due course for approval for the work to be completed.</p> <p>[c] SCJ proposed that an anemometer is installed on the Church tower. This will be wired to a display which is linked to the Wi-Fi system inside the church. She explained that the wind readings will be useful evidence for any further insurance claims due to storm damage occurred in the future. The approximate cost is £700. SCJ suggested that the cost is redeemed from a fund-raising draw to involve the whole community. Details to be finalised and advertised in the near future. This was seconded by CW and all agreed.</p>	<p><b>SCJ</b></p> <p><b>SCJ</b></p>
11	<p><b>Service patterns</b></p> <p>MB said that he has been reviewing the service patterns. He aims to have two Holy Communion services each weekend in the Benefice and that there is scope for lay lead worship and preaching. In addition, he wants the communities and new people in the area to be able to identify the different services on offer so that they can choose which to attend. He said it is important to reach out to the communities and to increase our mission in Kingsley and Oakhanger.</p> <p>NC commented that it would be ideal not to have a service on the same Sunday at Kingsley and Binsted. If this clash didn't happen it would encourage people to attend a Kingsley service and vice versa. MB thanked him for this suggestion.</p>	<p><b>MB</b></p>
12	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p><b>None</b></p>	
13	<p><b>Dates and Venues of next meetings in 2023</b></p> <p><b>PCC meeting on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March – Manor Cottage, Blacknest 2pm</b></p> <p><b>APCM 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2023</b></p>	
14	<p><b>Closing prayer led by MB</b></p> <p><b>The meeting closed at 5.00pm</b></p>	