

Holy Cross Church Binsted Parochial Church Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 5th February at 2pm at Manor Cottage the home of Angela & Nial Dunne

Those present: Rev Matt Boyes [Chairman]; Christopher Ogilvie Thompson [Assistant Priest] Cathie Weldon [Church Warden]: Kathy Ogilvie Thompson; Andrew Croom-Johnson [Treasurer]; Jonathan Bourne; Nick Carter: Angela Dunne [Secretary]

MB left the meeting at 3.35p.m. CW took over chairing the meeting.

		Action
1	<p>Welcome and opening Prayer MB opened the meeting with a reading from Acts and then a prayer</p>	
2	<p>Apologies Andrew Hunter Johnston, Kay Hunter Johnston, Stella Croom-Johnson, Pam Smith</p>	
3	<p>Minutes of the meeting held on 6.11.2023 Approved and signed by MB</p>	
4	<p>Matters Arising from previous PCC minutes</p> <p>5.2 [f] Friends of Binsted Church from 20.3.2023 The following proposed resolution by CW and Seconded by JB was discussed and agreed upon which included a revised paragraph D for the terms of reference. Proposal: - Binsted Church PCC resolved to form a sub-committee of the PCC to raise funds to assist with the conservation of the fabric of Holy Cross Church, Binsted. The sub-committee's initial terms of reference are set out in the appendix below. These can be amended by the PCC at any time. Amendment to paragraph D in the terms of reference to read:- "There must be sufficient signatories [if possible, this number should be four] to enable at least two individuals to sign every cheque; The friends' treasurer, in consultation with the PCC Treasurer, will hold sole responsibility for all banking arrangements, and will report any financial activity to the next friends' Committee meeting. " Next steps and Action;- KHJ to meet with the members of the local community who have expressed an interest in the friends scheme or have been approached, to form the subcommittee. Unfortunately, Luke [manager of the Binsted Inn] has left and the Headteacher of Binsted Primary School is retiring in July 2024. A vote of thanks was given to KHJ for all her hard work towards researching and putting forward a formal proposal for the Friends Scheme to move forward and get started.</p> <p>10[b] MB asked if the sub-woofer had its cover now in place. CW agreed to check this.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">KHJ</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CW</p>

	<p>5 [c] NC reported that Jason [who lives opposite the Church] has helped him with some maintenance tasks recently. He has expressed that he is willing to take on a more active and planning role in the future and hopefully may be willingly to take over this responsibility from NC in the future.</p> <p>11.1 Churchyard extension from 20.3.2023 – KOT reported that she has had two quotes for a new fence to be put up which will separate the new graveyard area from the field. Before accepting one of these quotes, NC will enquire whether Jason is willing to assist with the installation of the new fence. She is planning to level the existing slag heap and sow new seed by the summer. Work men employed by Mill Court will do this work. It was agreed that in the future the spoils from digging a grave will be taken away by the grave diggers and that the cost of this will be incurred by the deceased families.</p> <p>9. Single Parish – MB stated that the PCC’s of Bentley, Binsted, Kingsley and Oakhanger have agreed to form a single parish. However, the PCC of Froyle only agreed by one vote and this is insufficient for them to be included at this time. Further discussions and meetings will take place with Froyle PCC and a new vote will take place in March 2024. MB said that a single parish will be formed by the above parishes even if insufficient members of Froyle PCC agree. There will be resolutions proposed at the forthcoming APCMS for the other churches to move forward with the process which will include the involvement of the Bishops Councils and other necessary Church bodies. This could take up to nine months. In the meantime, a new name for the newly formed Benefice needs to be thought of.</p> <p>11.4 Reredos –lots of discussion took place regarding where to locate the reredos now that it was no longer being positioned behind the altar. It was agreed to hold the next PCC meeting in the Church so that the reredos could be viewed in different places. This would make it easier to see it in situ and make a final decision. Meanwhile CW agreed to ask Ricky Crimes regarding the condition of the reredos and whether it was necessary to polish or re stain it.</p> <p>10 [b] Foundation governor to Binsted school AD has completed a three year term of office and will need to be proposed to continue this role in March 2025.</p>	<p>NC</p> <p>CW</p> <p>ALL</p>
<p>5</p>	<p>Safeguarding - [a] AD had spoken to Susan Bourne who reported that no safeguarding issues had been reported. In addition, Susan informed her that her core training is valid until May 2025. [b] MB reported that not all PCC members are compliant with their safe-guarding training. AD agreed to contact the relevant people who needed to do this asap.</p>	<p>AD</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>Finance- 5.1 Report from the Treasurer – ACJ</p>	

	<p>ACJ had sent the PCC a spread sheet of income and expenditure for the period 1st January to 31st December 2023 via email prior to the meeting as well as details outlining the current financial position as at 31st January 2024 with accompanying notes. A copy of these is included in the minute file.</p> <p>[a] ACJ clarified some points made in his written report, particularly that £12,000 is still required to pay back the loan of £35,000 for the work on the Spire. He stressed that the regular giving contributions from the parishioners only just cover the monthly Common Mission Fund payment to the Diocese and that the plate collections taken during the services does not cover the cost of the other bills accrued to keep the church running.</p> <p>[b] MB stated that Binsted PCC owes Bentley PCC £6,500 [to be confirmed by Steve Fice] to cover the cost of Sam and Gemma’s salaries. COT is going to ask Steve Fice the amount owed before 31st December 2023 as this amount should be recorded in last year’s accounts.</p> <p>[c] All agreed that the congregation has been generous with their “giving” recently and supported the fund-raising appeals, but they need to be aware of the current financial situation and be asked to help again. MB said that the newly formed Friends Scheme will help in the future and the financial responsibility will be shared by the community. NC said that a legacy of money will be paid in due time to the church, but this will not happen immediately.</p> <p>[d] ACJ said that he was asking on behalf of the bell ringers that the PCC agree in principle to pay £750 which is half the cost of new pulleys to be purchased. The bell ringers will pay the other half. All agreed and MB said that a note of thanks should be made to the bell ringers for their generosity.</p> <p>5.2 Fundraising – no major fund-raising events have been planned. AD is running two further line dancing classes in aid of the Spire Appeal. A Cantique concert is possibility being planned in the Autumn this year.</p>	<p>COT</p> <p>MB</p> <p>KHJ</p> <p>AD</p>
<p>7</p>	<p>Youth work provision – NC and AD attended the Kings Arms open morning and were very impressed with the work and provision they are providing for young people. The benefice is paying £3,500 annually to help fund their work. Some of our young people go to the sessions and enjoy their time there. Kings Arms are looking for more volunteers.</p>	
<p>8</p>	<p>Feedback on recent events</p> <p>8.1 Remembrance service</p> <p>8.2 Christmas Fair – 2nd December – there is a suggestion that the length of the fair is extended. This needs to be thought through and further discussions to take place at a later date.</p> <p>8.3 Village Advent calendar</p> <p>8.4 Real Nativity 15th December – again there was feedback that this could be a little longer, [perhaps an extra carol] but all agreed it was very successful. Thanks were given to Becky who did a great job organising it but MB said that she didn’t want to be responsible for it every year. Chris</p>	<p>AD & ALL</p>

	<p>Wilson [a school parent] was happy to provide the lighting again and MB had given him a thank you present.</p> <p>8.5 Village carol singing</p> <p>8.6 Christmas services</p>	
<p>9</p>	<p>Planning Ahead for Future events</p> <p>9.1 Messy Church – 18th February NC will not be available to help this month due to him recovering from an operation.</p> <p>9.2 Ash Wednesday 14th February at 6.30pm Binsted Church</p> <p>9.3 Lent MB said that there is no Passover supper this year because although David Perryman has done a great job over the years, it is good to have a “breather” and re-visit the event in the future.</p> <p>9.4 Easter Good Friday 29th March meditation service 12noon – 3pm Easter Saturday vigil 9pm– 10pm at Bentley taken by Ian Black [new event] Sunrise service at Bentley 31st March Easter Sunday 31st March in Binsted There will no Easter service in Kingsley.</p> <p>9.5 FOBS Easter fair on Saturday 23rd March FOBS would like the Church community to be involved. AD to liaise with this. It was suggested that the bell ringers are approached so that the children and adults could try their hand at bell ringing under supervision.</p> <p>9.6 APCM – 5th May after the 9.30 am service – there was discussion about the unsuitability of this date as it was a bank holiday weekend and various PCC members will be away. An alternative weekday date was suggested, Monday 13th May at 7.30pm in the Church. This will need to be confirmed with MB. If this date stands AD requested that the APCM reports are sent to her by 20th April at the latest.</p>	<p>AD</p> <p>Report writers AD</p>
<p>10.</p>	<p>Fabric Report - SCJ had sent out her fabric report to all members of the PCC prior to the meeting. A copy of which is in the minute file. After some discussion regarding the different quotes that SCJ had received regarding the remedial work on the tower floor, it was proposed by NC and seconded by KOT that, “The “PCC wishes to proceed with the quote from Moulsoford Ltd subject to a site visit with Jack Regan and Ricky Crimes and a Church Warden. All agreed. PCC members expressed their frustration that there is still quite a lot of Conal’s building equipment both inside and outside the church, including fencing and the skip. In due time, after the tower floor has been repaired by a different builder [see above] it will be the job of the church architect to</p>	

	ask Conal to remove all his equipment and enquire about the end of project cleaning of the church and the Westcott Chapel.	
11.	Toilet project – delayed proposals presented to the PCC due to AHJ not attending the meeting, but these will be discussed at the next PCC meeting held in March.	AHJ
12	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>12.1 Stella’s Update – MB informed the PCC that SCJ had informed him that she wishes to step down as Church warden at the forthcoming APCM. He acknowledged that we all owe her a “huge debt of thanks for her work overseeing the fabric of the church, especially during the difficult period through Covid, organising the repairs to the church after the storm damage, applying for numerous faculties and keeping us all informed.” All the PCC members agreed.</p> <p>12.2 CW has agreed to continue as Churchwarden for another year. Her term of office will end at the APCM in 2025.</p> <p>12.3 AD confirmed that she will be resigning her role as secretary to the PCC at the APCM this year, but that she would like to continue as a PCC member and keep the church informed of school related business as she is a Foundation Governor.</p> <p>12.4 In response to a question from JB about the bell ringers’ money held by the PCC, KOT and ACJ informed him of the historical relationship regarding the bell ringers money. The money is kept in a restricted account which is their own money as it was difficult for them to get their own bank account. It was agreed that the PCC keep this money as a restricted fund which they use to pay for things needed which enables them to ring the bells successfully, i.e. to buy new ropes and for heating in the bell tower. KOT said that some of these things should have been paid from PCC funds in the past but we as a PCC are now fully supporting them. In addition, it had been recognised that the bell ringers have recently given donations to the East window appeal and the tower floor.</p> <p>12.5 Due to the resignation of SCJ and AD at the APCM this year, it was felt that the congregation should be informed of these vacant positions very soon. It was requested to ask MB to outline a “road map” regarding these positions with regard to the single parish integration on the horizon.ie. the position of secretary to Binsted PCC will not exist in its current form when the single parish is established.</p> <p>12.6 COT proposed that we start the PCC meetings earlier. It was agreed to trial a 1.30pm start in the future.</p>	MB

13	<p>Dates and venues of next meetings</p> <p>18th March next PCC Meeting to be held in the church. APCM - Proposed change to Monday 13th May at 7.30pm, instead of 5th May in the Church.</p> <p>NC closed the meeting with a prayer.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 4.10pm</p>	