

# **Dedham Parochial Church Council**

Minutes of the meeting held on **Monday 11 January 2021** via Zoom, *immediately after the Joint PCCs meeting*

Present: Paul Brebner (PB), Lynne Al-Sad (LA-S), Vee Druitt (VSD), Richard Hopkins (RH), Linda Redlich, John Reed (JR), Liz Reed (LR), Gabbie Watson (GW), Peter Wilson (PW), Sharon Sarson (SS)

Apologies: Rev A Wilson (attending Ardleigh PCC)

9, 10. The minutes of the meeting of 24 November 2020 were agreed and there were no matters arising.

**11a.Finance:** JR presented the finance report. He began by thanking Sara for the effort she had made in bringing the figures together in spite of her recent illness. Sara is still not 100% but continues to work on the accounts. John said he is still on a learning curve and the books are complex, but together with Sara there is a good team with Katrina and Claire who are doing sterling work collecting/posting and paying bills. The final account only has a few minor adjustments and entries to put through which will not make a material difference. The general Fund is standing at £24.3k so that the previous resolution of the PCC to pay a Parish Share uplift of £9306 is possible, and it was endorsed by the PCC to pay a Parish Share of £52574 for the year ending 31 December 2020 (Proposed by VD and seconded by SS) This leaves Approximately £15k in the general fund including £9k as a carry forward buffer. The 2021 Budget already approved by the PCC is for a Parish Share of £47929. Following a question from PW, JR explained that this does not include any income from fund raising but does include 17 weddings and a 5% uplift in giving. Initial thoughts were that we could increase the budget to £52574 as a result of the higher carry over in the general fund, and this was proposed and seconded and agreed by the meeting. However post meeting information has been received that some weddings have already been cancelled, and in the light of this and other Covid uncertainty it has been decided to maintain the budget as originally proposed at £47929 but to keep in mind a “target” figure of £52574. John thanked the whole team of Sara, Claire, Katrina, David and David for their efforts and support.

**11b Fabric :** PW reported on the following:

- (i) Farsi stone: a replica has now been produced and together with a brass plate explaining the stone has been placed in a wooden frame on the wall outside the entrance to the toilet.
- (ii) Gutters: there was some delay with the papers for the faculty which has been resolved and we await receipt of the faculty
- (iii) Organ: Still currently on Hold
- (iv) Vicarage land: The Diocese have agreed to sell a portion of the vicarage garden to a householder whose boundary abuts on to the vicarage garden. A donor has agreed to purchase for the church an adjacent part of the garden as an extension to the cemetery, and to pay all costs including legal fees, relocation of the shed and boundary fencing; there will therefore be no cost to the church/PCC. This purchase is conditional on the Bishop being prepared to consecrate the land and the DAC raising no objection to relocation of the shed. The donor will appoint a solicitor to act for him and the Church has proposed that Birketts be considered along with the donor's choice. The PCC expressed its gratitude to the donor and asked if they could be identified; PW said he would ask the donor if they wished to remain anonymous. The PCC expressed the wish that the hedge be left in position (PW to speak to Donor)

**11c/e. People and Operations**

The church cleaning rota is complete until the end of January. With no indication of when Andrew will return it was agreed that VD would extend the rota until the end of February: additional volunteers are encouraged to join the existing team.

**11d. Communications:** nothing to report

**11 f Governance**

1. Safeguarding: RH agreed to take on the role of Safeguarding Officer. The Safeguarding Policy had been circulated to members for review and there were no comments. Adopted for 2021-22
2. Charity Commission – no update
3. GDPR no update
4. H and S no update

**12. Correspondence to PCC:** none

**13. AOB Mission Support:** members thanked and congratulated Lynne and Ruth on raising the sum of just over £2100 in what has been a very difficult year. Discussion took place as to where the money should be distributed and it was agreed that £1000 would go to the Van de Ruits, £1000 to Korban (a charity in Colchester that supports young people who are homeless) and the remainder to Beacon House

**14. Date of next meeting:**

15 April 7pm to approve the 2020 accounts.

Joint PCCs 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at 7.30pm

The APCM is 25 April 2021