

**PARISH OF SANDERSTEAD**

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON 9<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2018**

**AT ST ANTONY'S CHURCH**

**Present:** Canon Martin Greenfield (MG) Chair for items 18/32-34 and 18/39-42, Rosemary Kempzell (RK) Chair for items 18/35-38, Rev Jeremy Groombridge (JG), Lynne Davison (LD), Jeremy Dearden (JD), Veronica de Grasse-Grant (V de G-G), Linda Etheridge (LE), Mike Fixter (MF), Piers Hubbard (PH), Gill Pates (GP), Mike Rowland (MR), Marc Smith (MS), Barbara Webster-Dudley (B W-D), Kevin Wright (KW), Chris Babbs (CB) Secretary

**Apologies:** Rev Susan Atkinson-Jones (SA-J), Indrani Balachandran (IB), Susan Thomas (ST), Richard Wragg (RW)

**18/32 WELCOME/OPENING BIBLE READING & PRAYER**

MG welcomed everyone to the meeting, with special thanks to the congregation of St Antony's for their hospitality. LE then read from Mark 4 and led us in prayer.

**18/33 NOTIFICATION OF ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The secretary had some issues to report concerning the 2018 accounts.

**18/34 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16/5/18**

The minutes were agreed as a true record and duly signed. There were no Matters Arising which would be covered by the substantive agenda.

**18/35 TEAM RECTOR'S NOTICES**

MG mentioned:

- Our Children & Families Pastor, Annalie Taylor, had been in post for some four weeks. Her brief in this first term was to watch and learn. She needed to meet St Antony's and St Edmund's and learn about their children's activities.
- All Saints' caretaker, Owen Griffiths, had resigned and been replaced by Ben Coburn who had previously fulfilled that role.
- It had been suggested that Lent activities in 2019 could be in the afternoon, rather than/in addition to the evening. There was quite some interest in this. A "straw poll" revealed a 50/50 split in preferences for the afternoon or evening.

**18/36 SANDERSTEAD REVIEW**

The review team (Ven Paul Bryer, Archdeacon of Dorking) and Rev Robert Jenkins, Assistant Archdeacon of Surrey) met with PCC on 22/8/18. The Secretary had provided a great deal of background written material. Interviews with individuals/groups would be held on 11th and 18<sup>th</sup> October. Written submissions should be made by the end of that month [*subsequently changed to 18/10/18 CB*]. As far as was known, the team were not talking to

any of the non-Anglican congregations in the area. The team were due to report to the Bishop of Croydon by Advent Sunday.

### **18/37 IMPLEMENTATION OF GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATIONS (GDPR)**

The All Saints' GDPR team had kindly produced a report on the state of play at their church (it having been previously agreed that the other churches would follow All Saints' lead on this issue). PCC noted the paper, with thanks to the team. MF was available to answer questions but none arose.

### **18/38 THE PCC'S DEALINGS WITH ORBITAL TECHNOLOGY**

- (A) From the Chair, RK set the scene for the debate. The events described in the paper had been very difficult for all concerned. Many people had engaged in much soul-searching about the role they had played. The paper itself had been very difficult to produce as the issues were so sensitive (as indicated by the fact that the issued document was version 4b). But the key issue was governance policy for the future, not raking over the past.
- (B) PCC was in accord with this view and accordingly noted the account of events in the paper, and the rationale for the decision to pay Orbital's reduced claim, before moving to discussion of the way forward.
- (C) CB reported on some key points made by others who had seen the paper: whether the definition of the scope of the proposed process was right (in the sense of being too restrictive); and whether it needed to be placed within a wider governance framework.
- (D) Points made in discussion included;
- We needed clearer authorisation processes between PCC meetings;
  - In particular we needed to look at the role of Standing Committees, particularly those of DCCs (because PCC standing Committee tended only to fulfil specific remits from PCC);
  - We did have the opportunity in current circumstances for the PCC to be more active on appropriate issues.
  - We had to recognise the distinction between the PCC's legal accountability for all activities within the parish and the DCCs' practical responsibility for activities within the individual churches.
  - A useful formulation in considering governance was "RACI": **R**esponsibility, **A**ccountability, **C**onsultation, **I**nformation.
- (E) The conclusion was that while the forward-looking part of the paper was heading in the right direction, more work was needed, particularly in terms of a wider governance framework. CB would consult with others skilled in this area and bring forward another paper to the December meeting. **ACTION: Chris Babbs**
- (F) PCC emphasised the need to continue to adhere to existing policies and processes while this work was in progress.

### **18/39 CLERGY HOUSING AND CHURCH FABRIC ISSUES**

#### **(A) ST ANTONY'S VICARAGE**

CB had been approached by the Archdeacon as to whether he had received a substantive reply to the letter he had sent to the Diocesan Secretary, on behalf of

PCC, about the poor management of the building problems at the Vicarage. On being informed that we had not received such a reply, Ven Chris Skilton had said that he would follow up.

**(B) ST ANTONY'S CHURCH**

The emergency lighting had been replaced. The Quinquennial Inspection was also being planned.

**(C) ST EDMUND'S**

An old asbestos-lined fire-door had been removed (by a specialist contractor in accordance with the relevant regulations) and replaced. The opportunity had been taken also to have removed, under the same conditions, other material containing asbestos which had been discovered. Planning for the Quinquennial Inspection was underway.

**(D) ALL SAINTS' - FACULTY PETITION FOR THE INSTALLATION OF ACOUSTIC SCREENS**

PCC endorsement was needed of a faculty petition for the installation of acoustic screens to muffle the noise produced by the telecommunications equipment installed in the tower. All costs would be met by the telecommunications operators. The Diocesan Advisory Committee had been consulted, and the necessary public notices displayed for the required time. PCC unanimously endorsed the project and authorised Canon Martin Greenfield and Mr Kevin Wright to sign the faculty petition.

**(E) ALL SAINTS'- OFFER TO BUY OUT TELECOMMUNICATIONS LEASE**

The Diocesan Office had forwarded a letter addressed to the incumbent of the Sanderstead benefice from APWireless (APW). KW had since had a brief discussion with the firm, on the basis of which he reported that APW were offering to buy out the lease for the remainder of its term; continue to pay All Saints' the rent; and manage the relationship with the telecommunications operators. This was against the background of new legislation, to promote the digital economy, which gave telecommunications operators significantly greater power vis-à-vis landlords than had previously been the case. Essentially, once equipment was installed, the operator was entitled to keep it in the location for as long as it desired, effectively on its own terms. The expectation of rising rentals for equipment installations was therefore most unlikely to be fulfilled; if anything rents were reducing. APW's proposition was that they would be able to deal more effectively with the operators, because of their control of a large number of sites. KW suggested that a copy of the current lease should be given to APW (having confirmed that this would not be in breach of any confidentiality clause), as a precursor to discussions with them.

PCC's view was that, whilst this was a very interesting – and potentially attractive – proposition, it fell squarely within the remit of All Saints' DCC. Accordingly the issue was remitted to them for discussion. **ACTION: All Saints' DCC Secretary**

Meanwhile, to save time, KW would approach APW to have them sign a non-disclosure agreement. **ACTION: Kevin Wright**

**(F) ALL SAINTS' – GENERAL**

The installation of drop-down screens and cameras around the church, so that images from all parts of the church could be seen by everyone, had been completed and the facilities were being used in services. The system also meant that images could be used to illustrate sermons etc. Mobile screens were also available.

The Diocesan Chancellor's authority for the removal of the north aisle pews was awaited. *[Now received. CB]*

The Quinquennial Inspection had been completed during the summer. Recommendations for immediate works were being actioned; others were being tabulated and consulted upon.

## **18/40 DCC AND SYNOD MINUTES**

### **(A) DCC MINUTES**

PCC noted with approval the following DCC minutes which had been circulated:  
All Saints' 26/6/18 & 12/9/18  
St Antony's 25/6/18  
St Antony's & St Edmund's joint meeting 11/9/18  
St Edmund's 5/7/18

### **(B) CROYDON SOUTH DEANERY SYNOD**

PCC noted the minutes of the 20/6/18 meeting. Those of the 2/10/18 meeting, with Canon Andrew White, were not yet available. However, the meeting, which was open to all, had been a highly inspiring and successful event.

## **18/41 AOB – 2018 ACCOUNTS**

### **(A) FINAL SIGN-OFF**

APCM had appointed Church & Charity Accounts Services (Mr Peter Saltiel) as Independent Examiner for the 2018 accounts, with contingent authority for PCC to appoint an accountant to provide the final sign-off, should Mr Saltiel fail to secure appropriate authorisation to do so. It had become necessary to invoke that contingent authority. Ms Tutu Taiwo of Curtlee UK Ltd had fulfilled this function for the 2017 accounts, and PCC agreed that (if willing) she should be appointed to sign off the 2018 accounts. *[Ms Taiwo has now agreed to fulfil the role. CB]*

### **(B) POSSIBLE INCLUSION OF ST MARY'S PART-YEAR ACCOUNTS**

Because St Mary's did not leave the Team until April, it might be necessary to include in the 2018 consolidated parish accounts their accounts for the period up to their departure. CB had sought Charity Commission guidance as to whether this was really necessary, but had yet to receive a reply. *[In the continuing absence of a reply, Mr Saltiel has now raised the issue with the Commission through his channels. CB]*

## **18/42 GRACE AND CLOSE**

There being no further business, RK closed the meeting with The Grace.

**NEXT MEETING 3/12/18 AT ST EDMUND'S**

CJB 17/10/18