**PARISH OF ST PETER’S, COLCHESTER**

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parochial Church Council**

**held on Monday 4th July 2022**

Chairman: Revd Mark Wallace

1. **OPENING BIBLE READING & PRAYER**

The Vicar opened the meeting with verses from 2 Corinthians 4:5-7 and led the meeting in prayer.

1. **APOLOGIES**

See Appendix 1.

1. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8TH MARCH 2022**
2. The previous Minutes were approved *nem con* and signed by the Vicar.
3. No matters arising.
4. **SHORT REPORTS**

The reports had been circulated prior to the meeting and the PCC spent time discussing various points, focusing on the Vicar’s pattern of ministry and options for the best way forward (item 4b &c). The PCC wishes to seek the best process to address workload issues that continue to hamper the Vicar’s ministry.

**ACTION:** It was decided that the Vicar, the Churchwardens and possibly volunteers among PCC members, should confer to consider further how best to reduce the administrative burden on the Vicar: to include consideration of next steps re the redevelopment project and the option to engage an external church consultant.

1. **SPOTLIGHT REPORT: BUILDINGS, FABRIC & MAINTENANCE**

The PCC discussed the required Action and Decision points that were highlighted in the report.

Item 1b) (Church roof) **ACTION:** The Vicar and Mrs Wendy Whitfield will liaise re establishing a contract for regular clearing of drains and gutters and will present a proposal to the PCC.

Item 2f) (Church - internal) **DECISION:** The PCC agreed to dispose of the church piano. Mrs Wendy Whitfield will action the disposal.

Item 7a, b & d) (Redevelopment Summary). **ACTION:** The PCC decided to pause the required actions until the Vicar, the Churchwardens and PCC members (as in item 4 above) have met and discussed options.

Item 8c) (Church Hall roof). **DECISION:** The PCC decided to put the work on the flat roof over the toilets on hold and instead focus on the internal ceiling repairs.

Item 9d) (Church Hall – internal). **DECISION:** The Vicar will circulate the detailed estimate for repairs once available and seek the PCC’s counsel on whether to go ahead with the repairs of the hall ceiling or not. Mrs Bernice Watts will ask Colchester Borough Council to confirm whether money from the S106 grant can be spent on this kind of repair work or not.

Item 13c) (Church Hall heating). **DECISION:** The PCC decided to put the boiler replacement on hold and instead focus on the internal ceiling repairs.

Item 14b) (Churchyard). The item regarding the steps near the church hall was not addressed at this meeting.

Item 16a) (Churchyard – southern border). **DECISION:** The PCC gives its consent to Birkett Long’s request to engage their dispute resolution team.

1. **THE MAIDSTONE COMMITMENTS**

The Bishop of Maidstone has encouraged churches to review his recently outlined commitments.

Proposal: That the PCC considers being willing to make these commitments and over the next few months work on how to meet them.

Result: This was agreed *nem con.*

1. **ANNUAL REVIEW OF PARISH SAFEGUARDING POLICY**

Proposal: That the PCC accepts the Safeguarding Policy as presented at the meeting.

Result: All in favour.

1. **CORRESPONDENCE**

8a) Dr Matt Cox and Mr Richard Lawn will liaise over costs involved in transferring the church website to another web hosting company.

8b) This was addressed under item 5 (Buildings, Fabric & Maintenance Report, item 7).

8c) The PCC decided to donate £50 towards Revd Canon Paul Norrington’s retirement.

8d) This was addressed under item 5 (Buildings, Fabric & Maintenance Report, item 16a).

1. **AOB**

None.

1. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 5th September for full PCC meeting.

1. **CLOSING PRAYER**

Various members led the meeting in closing prayer.

**APPENDIX 1**

Mr Ed Bradley present

Mr Duncan Breckels present

Dr Matt Cox present

Mr Trevor Froude present

Mr Tim Hearn apologies

Mrs Anne Kavanagh present

Dr Mick Kavanagh present

Mr Richard Lawn present

Mrs Val Morris present

Mrs Clare Reid present

Revd Mark Wallace present

Mrs Bernice Watts present

Dr Dan Watts present

Mrs Wendy Whitfield present