**Parish of Deddington with Clifton and Hempton**

*Minutes of the PCC meeting held on Wednesday, 14th September 2022 at 7.30pm in the Cotswold Room of the Deddington Arms*

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| **Present:** |  |  |
| Rev. Annie Goldthorp | Sarah Banes | Caroline Condon |
| Angela Faint  | Olivia Fenion | Meriel Flux |
| Iain Gillespie | Stan Nelson |  |
| **Apologies:** Jane Green | Heather Nason | Sue McCouaig |
| **Item** | **Notes – *MEETING MINUTED BY ANGELA FAINT*** | **Action** |
| **1.** | **Opening Worship** |  |
|  | Annie had chosen a reading from John 14 to illustrate the Queen’s faith in God, which underpinned all she did for our country. A prayer was offered up for the Queen. A prayer was offered up for the meeting. |  |
| **2.** | **Living Faith (40 minutes) Vicar** |  |
|  | Annie reported that the Diocese had advised about the protocol involved with services and more practical aspects pertaining to the Queen’s death, including the raising and lowering of flags at certain times, and thanked all those who helped during this period. As the BBC has waived licence rules for the transmission of the Queen’s funeral, we could show it in church, but it was felt that people would prefer to watch in their own homes.Annie also thanked Iain and Stan for their hard work in preparing for Area Dean’s inspection which was successfully completed and for which we received praise**Winter Fuel Crisis** – Dan Desmond has arranged a meeting at Holly Tree to address this likely problem forecast for this winter. He and Annie have had an informal conversation around what could be done to support people through it and have come up with the idea of a **weekly ‘open church’ day**. The church would be heated all day (solar panels and the fixed tariff contract put us in a good place to help) with lunches, hot drinks and amusements offered for all in need. We should be able to find supporters in the community to help us run this. Dan also wondered if those who feel they don’t really need the £400 to be given by the Government, might give it to support the church’s efforts, but as Olivia pointed out, if not the entire grant, maybe people might be able to give a smaller donation. In summary, the open day was an idea **the PCC agreed to pursue**.**Possible Organ Fundraisers** – Ed Button who is a member of The King’s Singers and an old school friend of Annie’s son Jeremy, has offered to organise a recital in Deddington church in memory of Trevor Barr, their recently deceased Master of Music, free of charge in aid of the Organ Fund. This will be on 1st April 2023. Jo Drake invited the Cambrian Male Voice Choir to sing at her father Norman’s memorial, and is keen to invite them to Deddington again in aid of the Organ fund. However, the cost of £1,200 would be prohibitive. But Steve Miller, who used to be on the Friends of Deddington Church Committee, runs a business called Smile Music which puts on musical events. He has volunteered to help us with the Cambrian Male Voice Choir as they would potentially be quite a good fundraiser. He felt with incentives such as ‘golden tickets’ it would be possible to sell at least 100 tickets. The **PCC thought we should proceed with this**.**Eco Church** – Deddington church has recently been awarded the Eco Bronze Award, thanks to Annie’s enthusiastic piloting of this initiative. Viviane Hall has been invited to be her Eco Champion. The next step will be an Eco Fair in February 2023 with a theme of environment and all things green. Caroline has joined the venture. Stan reported that Lesley is no longer using non-environmentally friendly oasis for her church flower arrangements and it was agreed that other flower arrangers should be encouraged to follow this example (with reference to Jean Dipper). Meriel has been carrying out investigations into how we can recycle packaging that cannot be put in our blue bin e.g. pet food packs. Pets at Home will take them if they’re washed out first. We decided that a poster advising people of this and where they can recycle individual items could be displayed in the church. Caroline thought that WRAP might have a suitable printout.A request has been received from Deddington Environment Network for permission to use the church as a base from which to sell eco refill products. After thorough discussion at tonight’s meeting, the members were conscious of a number of possible pitfalls including who and how money would be exchanged, and decided to decline the request.**Harvest Supper and Festival** – These events had to be postponed in respect for the Queen’s passing and it had been hoped that they could be rescheduled. But this had proved impossible so will be cancelled this year. The meat and other ingredients already purchased will be redirected towards our ‘open church’ lunches. |  |
| **3.** | **Fabric (10 minutes) Iain Gillespie** |  |
|  | **Church interior Lighting** – Neil Skinner has still not been in touch to estimate for this, so in the meantime, Iain has bought 4 LED floodlights which he hopes a well-wisher with a long ladder will install for us!**South Porch roof** – Iain is exploring whether this repair can be done on the Archdeacon’s ‘say so’. He has emailed DAC for their answer on this but doesn’t know how long before they reply. If we don’t hear from them soon, we may wish to use the money for other repairs. In the meantime, we have received an estimate from Alcock’s to repair the porch roof (£12,428) and the PCC agreed that Iain should accept it.**Tree growing from the building** – The Fire Brigade have inspected the site and are considering whether they can deal with removal of the tree. If not, we should seek a tree surgeon. A bramble bush has also been spotted growing on the roof. |  |
| **4.** | **Finance (5 minutes) Iain Gillespie** |  |
|  | Iain presented the PCC with the Treasurer’s report. Funds are gradually creeping up (General Fund £26,704 minus £4,201 for parish share, Fabric Fund £24,963 (£24,024) and the Organ Fund is building up well (£13,780). The interest rate on the deposit account has crawled up to 1% and the cheque charge has come down slightly. As income from church hire increases, we are building the fund up. £1,654.70 is expected from Southern Electric as Feed-in-Tariff payment from PV cells on the south aisle roof. |  |
| **5.** | **Deanery Synod Report (5 minutes) Angela Faint** |  |
|  | Next week’s meeting has been cancelled as it’s on the same day as the Queen’s funeral. The booked speaker on the Church’s response to environmental issues is fortunately able to attend the next meeting on 28th November, to which all those in the church/community who are interested in this subject are invited to come. More details nearer the time. The Diocesan Environment Team are arranging a webinar at 7.30pm on 3rd October for Deddington and surrounding Deaneries, to disseminate guidance, advice, and practical examples on how to reduce energy costs in churches. If you are interested in tuning in, please contact AF for the link.There will be a **morning** of workshops – Youth Work, Generous Giving and Ministry in Nursing Homes, at St Francis Church on Saturday 4th February. These are for everyone in the Deanery. Please contact AF for more details.We are all being asked to use the Deanery Facebook as part of the drive to improve inter-church communications. Olivia volunteered to routinely send details of events, regulars and one-offs. |  |
| **6.** | **Health and Safety (5 minutes) Stan Nelson** |  |
|  | Nothing new to report, but following on from Caroline’s concern about the **state of the noticeboard** at the side of the church (see agenda item 10) there was discussion around its replacement. It has now become hazardous (rear door falls away) and not particularly effective. She visualises e.g. a template that could be customised for different events and possibly relocation in a more prominent position. It was agreed that we should fund a new board.Stan remarked that the churchyard is looking great and thanks to the gardeners are herewith minuted. |  |
| **7.** | **Safeguarding** |  |
|  | Not reported on. |  |
| **8.** | **Sustainability Survey – ECO Church update Annie** |  |
|  | Dealt with under Living Faith (item 2). |  |
| **9.** | **Fundraising Olivia Fenion with Meriel Flux and Stan Nelson** |  |
|  | Meriel has looked into what grants may be available for the church to access. There are 5 possibilities specific to our fundraising for the organ, which will be investigated. It has also been noted that many bodies will only allow one grant from a village, but this should not interfere with our collaboration with the Friends of the Church, as they are not intending to seek grants, but rather to use village links. Andrew Green has stated that they can raise money for the porch repair and the lighting, but not for the organ. |  |
| **10.** | **Church exterior noticeboard** |  |
|  | Dealt with under Health and Safety (item 6). |  |
| **11.** | **Minutes of previous meeting - 30th May 2022** |  |
|  | These were agreed to be correct and signed by Rev Annie Goldthorp. |  |
| **12.** | **Matters arising** |  |
|  | A confidential item was reviewed. |  |
| **13.** | **Any other business (5 minutes)** |  |
|  | Possible sale of fridge and Yamaha piano, suggested by Iain.Angela will send Olivia a link to Piano Auctions as a first step. | Angela |
| **14.** | **Date of next PCC meeting** |  |
|  | Monday, 14th November 2022 – Wednesday, 18th January 2023 |  |
| **15.** | **Closing prayer** |  |
|  | The meeting closed at 8.55pm with The Grace.  |  |