

**MINUTES OF ST GEORGE'S PCC MEETING HELD ON
THURSDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER 2020 AT 7.30pm VIA ZOOM**

Present: Chris Gadd (Churchwarden)(Chair), John Hood (Churchwarden), Fr Colin Lawlor, Barbie Lloyd (Deanery Synod), Mo Peters, Malcolm Brewer, Ian Gibson, Sandra Hewett, Jane Cook (Secretary)

			<u>ACTION</u>
		Opening Prayer – Everyone joined in reading the Leading your Church into Growth Prayer which Chris put up on the screen.	
1.		Apologies for absence: Anne Morgan, Sara Pask (Treasurer) Did not attend: Candy Williams (Deanery Synod), Marian Haughton	
2.		Minutes of last PCC meeting on 10th June The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record.	
3.		Matters Arising <u>Page 1, Item 2</u> – Malcolm confirmed that this was all sorted. <u>Page 2, Item 3b)</u> – Malcolm said these 3 actions have been sorted. <u>Page 3, Item 4</u> – This will be discussed under Hall Committee. <u>Page 3, Item, 5</u> – this has been sorted. <u>Page 4/5, Item 6</u> – Risk assessments in place. <u>Page 5, Item 9</u> - Ian said he contacted Shirley with a suggestion that we hold a raffle on 5 th December at the Christmas Bazaar if this is allowed to happen. Ian said he will probably get the raffle tickets printed anyway as he has to give 6 weeks notice for printing. Fr Colin said the Gift Day Sacrament Act of 1547 is being challenged over the common cup rather than individual cups so people could receive both the bread and wine but this may take a very long time.	IG
4.	a)	Charity Treasurer's Report Lynne McNeill said that there is nothing to report since the previous PCC meeting on 10 th June.	
	b)	Appointment of Sara Pask as Treasurer Chris said that Sara Pask has willingly agreed to become our new Treasurer and needs to be formally appointed. This was proposed by Jane Cook, seconded by Ian Gibson and agreed unanimously.	
	c)	Treasurer's Report In Sara's absence Jane read out her report as follows: "Apologies that I can't attend tonight's meeting. I hope that you have all received copies of the June, July and August financial overviews. It was decided by the Fabric & Finance Committee that the Budget, which was set at the beginning of this year, was no longer realistic in view of the financial impact that Covid 19 has had upon this Parish. A revised Budget was produced and this appears in the July 2020 overview onwards. This year has seen our income drop like a stone although our outgoings remain mainly the same. In order to meet our commitments we have had to withdraw £30,000 from our UTB account so that we should be able to meet our commitments. The funds have been received into our bank account this month and will show in September's overview. As a	

	<p>Parish, we are very fortunate that we have savings that we can fall back on and I am grateful to all those people who worked so hard in previous years so that we can be in this situation. It is impossible to predict whether we will be able to fund raise more normally next year or if we will have to delve into our finite reserves.</p> <p>Our Fundraising Committee had only just put in place a couple of events to bring in some much needed income, however, as you will probably know, the Table Top Sale planned for 26th September has had to be cancelled due to “The Rule of 6”. This has come as a blow to our fundraising efforts and if any of you have any good ideas as to how we can raise funds within the Covid 19 guidelines, please speak to Shirley Vann.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chris showed the new budget on the screen so everyone could look at it and Chris went through it. Fr Colin said this highlights just how dependent we are on fundraising. • Mo queried the amounts for Sunday School and Pastoral and also asked why the Book Stall is costing £270. Malcolm said he was not sure why this was and Jane was asked to contact Sara to answer this query. • Malcolm said we received £30,000 on 7th September and £5,000 of this has been returned to the buffer account which he had previously agreed with Dawn and the balance will clear our parish share up to and including December. • Ian asked if the Diocese had been asked about our financial situation as all parishes must be in the same boat. Chris said he attended a Zoom Deanery meeting in Fr Colin’s absence last Saturday which turned out to be all about money and Victoria James is looking into the parish share but could not make any promises. Extending the payment times would not help anybody. Fr Colin said he had a meeting with the new Archdeacon who also indicated that this is being looked into but could not say anything definite. • Fundraising is down by a huge amount this year but the Gift Day this Sunday may help a bit. • Chris said there is a possible ray of hope with our insurers. The background is that, at the outset of the pandemic, we made an enquiry as to whether our losses were covered. They rejected our claim. Chris then registered our interest with a test case in the High Court being brought by the Financial Conduct Authority against a range of insurers. The judgement has just been released and, in general terms, came out on the side of the policy holders. We are now going to drop a line to our insurance brokers following the High Court ruling to see what they have to say. 	<p><u>ACTION</u></p> <p>JC/SP</p> <p>CB/MB</p>
d)	<p>Fabric & Finance and Quinquennial Committee Report</p> <p>Minutes of the meetings on 15th July and 24th August have already been circulated.</p> <p>The accounts for year ending 31st December 2019 were circulated on 6th August and agreed by all PCC members.</p> <p>John went through the 24th August minutes which Chris put up on the screen.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 2 metre strips are in position and he is meeting with Shirley & Robert tomorrow to set the church out ready for people to come and make their donations. • John said he has been unsuccessful in contacting the contractors 	

		<p>Renovated and fears they may have gone out of business. There is quite a lot of water now coming through.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Hall valuation figure is arrived at by the annual depreciation of the original cost and bears no resemblance to its actual worth. If we sold it it would have to be valued at the time. • Electrical safety checks, PAT testing and fire extinguishers have all been done this week, emergency lighting and gas next month. • Mo asked if the Gift Day this Sunday has been advertised. Chris said the gift day envelopes have been in the pews for the last 3 Sundays, it has also been mentioned in the Bulletin, John said he has delivered some of the envelopes to people he knows are not coming to church at the moment and you can also find it on the website under donations where you can pay online. 	<u>ACTION</u>
5.		Other Committee Reports	
	a)	Hall Committee	
		<p>Minutes of the meeting held on 26th August have already been circulated.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Malcolm said that Slimming World, Karate and a new Tuesday morning baby class run by Sarah Lewis are all taking place and their risk assessments have all been received. Toddlers will not come back until at least the new year due to Covid and the fact that soft toys etc cannot be used at the moment. We are waiting to hear from the dance group so we do have hires going on. • Malcolm said we have not had anything back from Don with regard to the hire on a Sunday. We would need a risk assessment from him if he wants to go ahead. Fr Colin said he had received an email along with Tony on Sunday from Don so Malcolm will talk to Tony about this. • The Bereavement Group did not start on 14th September . Fr Colin said there was a bit of confusion and they could actually have met. • Malcolm said we have recently had to pay £275 to engineers to work on the boiler but this is now working well. • We have asked the cleaners to go back to working a 5 day week so the hall is regularly cleaned after every event. The cleaners have a job specification now and are well up on Covid as they also work in lots of doctors surgeries. • With regard to the loan agreements Malcolm Brewer proposed that we defer the re-payment of these loans for at least 12 months or until the agreed pay back date of November 2022 due to the current situation and this was seconded by Chris Gadd and agreed unanimously. • John said all the new equipment – toilet roll holders, soap dispensers and hand towel holders – have been installed and the current towels fit in the new holders. We have a year's supply. A big thanks goes to John from the PCC for all his work on fitting everything. 	MB
	b)	Social and Fundraising Committee	
		<p>Minutes of the meeting held on 18th August have already been circulated. Fr Colin was at the meeting. They talked about the Table Top Sale not now happening. Talked about the Christmas Bazaar and perhaps having a shop in the spring rather than later in the year if we can find someone to run it.</p>	

	c)	Pastoral Committee	<u>ACTION</u>
		<p>Not met.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mo said there had been a suggestion that we could have a You Tube or Zoom Bible story with a bit of chat for the children and Richard Spurgeon was going to look into it. Fr Colin spoke to Lynn Winter who is not keen to use Zoom with children. Fr Colin will talk to Richard. • Is there any news on a new Organist? Fr Colin said that Rod has put together an advert for a new organist which will be advertised in the not too distant future. • Anne had emailed Jane to say that at her friend's church in Kent they are singing with masks on which has been no problem. Fr Colin said this is illegal and they could be fined if reported. 	CL
	d)	Safeguarding	
		Sonja advised that there is nothing to report to this meeting.	
6.		APCM	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This will be held on Sunday 18th October after the 10am Eucharist. The last few years we have had between 70 and 80 people attend the APCM. Jane asked what would happen if more than 50 people wanted to attend. John said 50 was the number agreed when it was 2m distance so we could get more people in. Barbie said she didn't think we should max out on numbers as we need to keep everyone safe. John said if the APCM meeting is held in a Covid secure place we can have as many people as we can get into church safely. People could also join by Zoom but we would need to know who is actually going to be there and who will join by Zoom. We need to know this sooner rather than later. • Jane asked what happens if we don't get enough people applying for PCC, Deanery Synod and Churchwarden? Fr Colin said these positions would remain vacant. • Jane asked how the APCM will work. If people are elected in October how long do they serve for? Chris said he had spoken to the Diocese about this and the APCM will be held in April 2021 so if elected this October their first year would be up in April 2021. 	CL/CG/JH
7.		Update by Fr Colin	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harvest Festival – there was a request from the flower people not to have the Pet service and Harvest the same weekend. Pet service should have been 3rd October and Harvest the day after. It is suggested we have them a week apart so the Pet service would be the nearest Sunday to the feast of St Francis of Assisi and Harvest Festival the week after. This year Harvest Festival will still take place on Sunday 11th October and people will be encouraged to bring non-perishable goods. • I am not sure about the new rules on confirmation and baptism. There are people who want to be confirmed and we could only have a small number of people so suggest we delay until we can have more people. If the baptism is held within a church service we could have up to 50 people including the congregation. If it's outside the normal church service we have to stick to the Rule of 6. Hoping to get some more clarity on this. • As I said earlier I met with the new Archdeacon yesterday and had a long conversation. She comes from the same tradition as us and would like to preside and preach at St George's one Sunday. She has obviously looked at one of our online services and was very 	

		impressed with what we have been doing. I mentioned our concerns about our finances and she said the Diocese are very sympathetic but we are all in the same position.	<u>ACTION</u>
8.		Correspondence	
		None.	
9.		Date of Next Meeting	
		The next meeting will be the APCM which is going to be held after the 10am Eucharist on Sunday 18th October 2020 . The date for the next meeting will be agreed after this.	ALL
		Closing Prayer There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.45pm after saying the Grace together.	