

## **A Report from the meeting of the Parochial Church Council held on 5 April 2022.**

The Revd Deb Smith attended on zoom, but the Revd Pete Stone chaired the meeting in person. There were a total of eighteen PCC members in attendance. There were four items on the agenda for discussions:

1. The proposed lighting project at Holy Trinity, Bradpole.
2. The proposed repair and reordering project at St Swithun's, Allington.
3. The presentation of the Annual Report and Financial Statements for 2021.
4. The introductory video from the Revd Keith Elford re the PCC Away-day.

### **1. Holy Trinity, Bradpole.**

The PCC meeting was held in Holy Trinity church so that we could see the current lighting in all its glory. John Preston was able to respond to questions and further explain the proposed upgrade project -

- # how it would impact the building,
- # why particular features were being highlighted,
- # the downsides of agreeing to the proposal, and
- # how it was to be funded.

A PowerPoint presentation had been circulated to the PCC prior to the meeting so everyone had had the chance to look at the general, information. John Preston (and Peter Carnell) was able to clarify the finer details and demonstrate the hardware.

- ✓ The proposal to apply to the diocese for permission to progress with the project was passed.
- ✓ The PCC committed to covering one third of the cost of the project once the quotation has been updated, as the original quote provided was pre-covid pandemic. (c£10,000 & VAT to be taken from reserves.)

### **2. St Swithun's, Allington**

Philip Sturrock presented the proposal via zoom.

He used the acronym of 3Ps: **Phasing, Positions** (appointment of key people) and **Participation** (consultation across the community and the setting up of an Advisory Panel in addition to the Steering Group).

The project being proposed is considerably bigger than for HTBRA and for the longer-term. It is to be a team initiative that takes into consideration the parish, the location of the building and the town's needs. There have been previous presentations that showed some ideas, but it was felt that the project has not been clearly defined or final decisions taken. Public consultation will be an important part of the process.

The PCC sought clarification about:

- # the feedback from the open meeting in September 2021,
- # the wisdom of embarking on a project without the funds already in hand,
- # how the project will fit into the vision for the parish (which the PCC will be discussing at length at their Away-day, and
- # how the basic plans could be widened to meet the needs of the parish going forward. Ideas for a café, bookshop and an extensive parish office were mentioned.

Revd Deb said that it has potential, but it really has to be a team initiative.

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The three parts to the proposal were all passed but there were a considerable number of PCC members who voted to abstain in each vote. (Between 22% and 45%)

- ✓ St Ann's Gate Architects Ltd are to be appointed as the project architects. (Their office is based in Salisbury.)
- ✓ An initial budget of £50,000 was approved to cover the phase leading up to an application to the National Lottery Heritage Fund.
- ✓ Permission was given to proceed with making an application through the Faculty Jurisdiction Rules for the works.

### **3. Annual Report and Financial Statements**

A draft of the accounts was available, and Janet Shaw initially thanked the contributions that the local treasurers have made in assisting her to draw the figures all together. We are constrained by a descriptive timeframe but there are certain figures which have to be reconciled, and as the final draft has yet to be produced no decision can be made this evening.

- ✓ The proposal for the Standing Committee to meet to approve the accounts was agreed, with the additional request that local treasurers are invited to attend, so that a financial bias is deliberately sought for the group.

### **4. The PCC Away-day – an introduction from the facilitator, the Revd Keith Elford.**

Together we watched the video where Keith spoke about the background work that the Ministry Team have already explored and the vision that the PCC will be amending, modifying and/or developing when we meet on 14 May.

He set us questions to think about as our preparation:

- # Who are we and what's going on in the world?
- # What is God calling us to, that is both relevant but also allows us to remain ourselves, but move forward with integrity?

He challenged us to think about our local congregation, our community of Bridport, the national church and the situation in Ukraine too. Our worship traditions, how we are affected by local tourism, employment, housing, transport, annual traditions, mission, use of our resources, what works well, what less so, what does the future look like?

### **5. AOB**

1. It was noted that there are three more Safeguarding courses arranged and in the diary.
2. The Team Service will be on 8 May in SMBRI at 10am, followed by the Meeting of the Parishioners (to elect churchwardens) and the APCM (to elect the PCC and accept the Annual Report and Financial Statements).

The next full meeting of the PCC will be held on **Tuesday 7 June 2022.**

*Bridget Trump*  
*PCC Secretary*

Ends.