

A Report from the meeting of the PCC held on 26 July 2022

The Revd Canon Deb Smith held the chair, and eighteen members of the PCC were in attendance.

Previous meeting -

The draft minutes from the meetings held on 5 July were accepted as a true record. Two items arising from that meeting were carried forward again as the local church sub-committees hadn't reported back to the PCC. These were: a list of people to attend the refresher training prior to being authorized as **Chalice Assistants**, and the historic position regarding **planned charity giving**, with a view to collating a cross-parish approach to outward giving.

A written report was presented and the PCC encouraged the planning group to move forward with the **Churchyard Project at SMBRI**, as a community facility.

Safeguarding – The Parish Safeguarding Officer was welcomed to the start of the meeting and embellished her written report. There is a rolling programme of SG training and DBS compliance.

Health and Safety – Mike Gittins has been appointed as the Parish H&S Officer, and we welcomed his written report. Initially he will be focusing on the monuments in our churchyards and completing the risk assessments for all six churches. All local church sub-committees will invite him to meet with them in situ.

The Team Rector's report:

Lay Training is the key message in her report, with various local opportunities being created for this. A wide variety of different roles will be explored and developed, so we are all asked to engage in supporting these. Building Lay Ministry will be a vital aspect of our future life together.

We will be welcoming **Bishop Rufus** and his wife from Lainya, South Sudan, on Thursday 11 August, prior to their attendance at the Lambeth Conference. Details of the programme for the day will be announced in due course.

Practical Group Activity – we broke into small groups and began to think about how we can build an efficient storage space for all the parish documents in an online cloud. There are several ways in which we might depict the parish structure, as illustrated by this activity, but it did demonstrate that we can discuss and work collaboratively with the common goal of reducing duplication, ensuring accuracy, and sharing resources. The planning group will continue with this work.

Parish Sub-Committees:

Finance Sub-Committee –

Janet Shaw, the PCC Treasurer presented the 6month budget. We acknowledged the positive aspects and considered the challenges ahead. She is very grateful for the support of FinCom as well as the local treasurers/bookkeepers.

A suggested response to the diocesan survey was considered by the PCC and following discussion our answers to each question were agreed. The deadline for submission will be met.

Fabric Sub-Committee –

SMBRI were given permission to apply for a List B authorization to adapt the shutters in the belltower.

Vision Sub-Committee –

An active group of PCC members are engaged in moving forward with the ideas that emerged from the PCC Away-Day in May. A 'roadshow' is being planned to visit each church congregation during the autumn, so further details will be shared in due course.

Other Points:

- Unauthorized kerbs and chippings have been placed around a plot in the Old Church Churchyard, Bothenhampton and the Diocesan Chancellor has asked the PCC for a response before she gives a ruling on what action she will direct is taken.
- The Ecclesiastical Insurance Co requires the PCC to identify church activities for which we require insurance cover. This item is specific to HTBOT but presumably will apply to all the churches too.

The next meeting of the PCC will be 6 September 2022.

Ends.

Bridget Trump, PCC Secretary