

PARISH CHURCH OF ST MARY REDBOURN

MINUTES OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
MEETING HELD BY ZOOM ON WEDNESDAY 11TH NOVEMBER 2020

Present: The Vicar John Davie Celia Forbes David Forbes Stephen Gell
Ralph Goold Brian Hayward Sarah Hill Sue May Jim May
Keith McAdam Michell Parry-Slater Lesley Poulton Alan Simkins
Kay Vernon Paul Vernon David Walker Clive Williams Mike Wood
Ruth Hughes Jan Lang Deni Ennals Daphne Fisher Julia Jeffs
David Mitchell Ailsa Hulme

Apologies for Absence: Ailsa Hulme Julia Jeffs

The Vicar opened the meeting at 8.15 pm with a prayer

1) Minutes of the PCC Meeting held 14th October 2020

The minutes were approved as drawn and signed as a true record. There were no matters arising.

2) Ministry and Worship

Our return to worship inside the church has been successful, there being extra services with socially distanced seating. The need to use face coverings was as specified by government. Now we are in lockdown again, and inside worship suspended for the time being. However, the church is kept open between 10 am and 5 pm for private prayer and meditation. It remains to be seen whether lockdown will finish on the 2nd December. In the meantime, we continue to offer our services on line.

All Souls special service was offered by Sue May and was very well received – thank you Sue. There were 45 people present in church for the service.

Carol Services for the 29th November and 20th December are being compiled ready for on line distribution.

Christingle – this service will not be possible to hold in church this year. We are considering putting out a short film of how to make a Christingle so that the youngsters can make their own.

Lights of Love – a number of enquiries have been received already, so the Vicar is looking into the possibility of having a shortened service outside on the 13th December at 5 pm.

Crib Services - will not be able to be held this year, even if church worship is allowed. The congregations normally run to several hundred, which would make this impossible.

However, it may be that an outdoor drive through nativity display could be held along the church drive. The Vicar will be looking for volunteers to be part of this on the day.

Christmas Services – Christmas Eve 11.30 pm., Christmas Day 8 am and 10 am, plus an online offering as well

Christmas Trees – we are very lucky to have once again been offered Christmas trees, both for the inside of the church as well as one for outside.

Common Round – all our services as detailed above will be advertised, the print run will commence in around 10 days. It is not known if Churches Together will circulate their usual card.

3) Safeguarding

Will **Please insert your report here**

4) Finance

Mike's report had been circulated prior to the meeting, and was discussed. Mike has made some adjustments to the budget, but it looks as if we will still be solvent at the year end. Our Parish Share has been paid in full. It has been customary for the PCC to donate a sum to the CFC for their chosen charity each year. In view of the current restrictions it is unlikely that this will be done in 2020, but the current recipient will carry on for a second year. The return to the Charities Commissioner has been sent off – thank you Brian Gunson. The transept is not being let at present, so the need for cleaning is diminished. We will look at the situation at a later meeting, but in the meantime our cleaner has been asked to help with the church cleaning instead.

5) Christmas Hamper Scheme

One of our new members, Deni Ennals, has taken on the considerable responsibility of organising this. Flyers have been put round every house, and donations requested to cover the costs of providing hampers. They will be offered to all families in need in the village so that none go hungry on Christmas Day. The Doctors surgery and the schools may be able to make recommendations, and the scheme will be advertised on social media. The scheme will be administered in total confidentiality. Application forms are available in the south porch. Distribution will be on the 22nd December, well in time for Christmas Day. We will search out some options for storage prior to that date.

Thank you, Deni, for offering to organise and run the project.

6) Fabric

Smiths of Derby are still trying to sort the problems with the tower clock. The wardens are still trying to sort out the ownership of the dangerous tree in the churchyard. The fire extinguishers and the boilers need to be serviced, and the insurance policy for the roof alarm has been renewed. A new design has been drawn up for our crib in church to replace the old model which has given decades of faithful service. The new, lighter design will make the erection much easier.

7) Charitable Finance Committee

The current restrictions have curtailed fund raising this year. The craft sale planned for the end of November will not take place as hoped, although it is hoped that we will be able to offer Christmas related items for sale at some stage.

8) Churchyard

There are a lot of leaves to clear up, especially on the church drive. Although the Community Pay-back volunteers will be working this coming Saturday, rain is forecast which will stop any leaf clearance. It is hoped that a few volunteers will put their names forward to clear up when there is a dry day.

9) Ancillary Buildings Committee

Jim had circulated his report prior to the meeting. He will arrange for some photos to be available regarding the replacement of the roof tiles to the transept.

10) Stewardship

The planned giving via the white envelope scheme has passed its sell by date as it costs a lot to have the envelopes provided and printed. Jim will try to get people to use the standing order scheme where possible instead.

There being no further business, the meeting closed with the Grace at 10 pm.

Next Meetings

9th December Standing Committee (this meeting may not be needed)

6th January 2021 Full PCC