**St George-in-the-East Parochial Church Council**

**Minutes of the meeting held via Zoom on Thursday 23 September 2021 at 730pm**

Attendance: Tricia Bing; Alan Dorji ;Jane Earl; Rob Hayward; Phil Hogan; Annadale Ramanoop; Revd Richard Springer (Rector, Chair),

Apologies for absence were received from, Francelise Mamilonne Fr Angus Ritchie, Fr Josh Harris, and Ivonne Lojan Maldonado

**1.  Welcome and introductions**

The Rector welcomed colleagues to the meeting of the PCC, and opened the meeting with prayer.

**2. Minutes of the PCC meeting held on 15 July 2021**

The minutes of the meeting had been circulated and were shared at the meeting. It was noted that there was no minute 6. and with this clarification, the minutes were AGREED as a correct record.

3. **Matters arising**

The following issues were noted: –

* Online training for safeguarding was still required and RS would circulate the links again
* RS is still in conversation with Stella as the potential Vulnerable Adults champion

**4. Notes of the Standing Committee**

The notes of the standing committee held on 3 September 2021 were circulated and noted.

**5. Finance matters**

The new format draft management accounts had been circulated in advance of the meeting. Rob Hayward talked the meeting through the more detailed analysis, noting that there were still a number of areas which needed to be updated. He also referred to the discussions he and Katie had had with Tricia about the Hardship Fund. He noted that the analysis of donations needed to be updated and that there was some further work to be done on the flat rental income. He also noted that some of the potential overspends were as the result of timing of payments and committed to having a further update for the next meeting in November.

In the ensuing discussion, the following points were made: –

* It would be helpful to have the commentary circulated with the papers for future meetings
* The salary costs for clergy and other staff needed to be disaggregated further

The meeting **agreed** to note the report, and to ask Rob and Katie to update for the next meeting with Hardship fund , staff salaries and car parking income resolved

**6. Finance procedures**

The meeting considered the draft procedures and policy for managing finances within the church which had been previously circulated. It was noted that these were based on model documents from the diocese.

The meeting approved the document and **agreed** that it should be reviewed in September 2022.

**7. Staffing issues**

The Rector referred to the paper which had been circulated prior to the meeting, setting out some proposals for staffing. It was noted that Long Okado had decided to leave, and the PCC recorded their thanks to him for the work he had done whilst in post.

It was noted that there was currently some consultation underway with church practice leaders about what the new post should cover, and PCC members were asked to send any views to the Rector.

The meeting also noted and endorsed the proposal to take Emily as a Buxton intern for a year and to ask her to support the Open Table team as part of her role.

**8. Property update**

The Rector referred to the paper which had been circulated prior to the meeting. and noted that there was further work required on works in the short term. The meeting had a brief discussion about the possible options for redevelopment of the site, including improving the flats, as well as the works needed to improve electrics and plumbing throughout the building. The recent flood which could have caused serious damage was noted, as was the need to renovate some of the flats.

In response to a question, it was noted that one of the flats is let at London living rent, one at market rent paid by the diocese and two at market rent, generating resources to support the work of the church and to meet our charitable responsibility to use our property wisely

In discussions about wider property matters, there was a brief update on the diocese plans to sell the former church property in Well Close Square, as well as thoughts about where possible funding support might come from.

The meeting **agreed** to keep the position under review and to continue to seek possible funding partners and to take advice from the Diocese, ensuring that members of the Standing Committee are involved in any meeting.

**9. Liturgy and worship**

The Rector asked the meeting for any comments on the way in which music and worship was developing under the guidance of James and Ramond. That was positive feedback about the way in which members of the congregation were being involved in music making, and in particular the involvement of young people in the church. It was **agreed** that it would be good to invite James and Raymond to a future PCC meeting.

**10. PCC Membership**

The meeting considered a draft paper which had been circulated setting out some background to membership of the PCC, as a precursor to looking for new members, given the resignations reported at the last meeting. PCC members were asked to send any comments back to JE by 4 October, so that we can have an agreed document to share with potential members, and to share through some of the parish communications.

It was noted that Alan Ramanoop might be prepared to join the PCC, and it was also noted that it was helpful to have a cycle of people joining at different times to maintain continuity, without asking people to serve for too long at a time.

**11. Actions**

* RS to circulate safeguarding links
* RS to continue discussion with Stella about the Vulnerable Adults Champion role
* RH/ KP to update and develop the presentation of the management accounts and to clarify the issues around the Hardship fund and the car parking income and staff salaries
* JE to schedule the review of the finance procedures for September 2022
* RS/ JE to invite Ramond and James to a future PCC
* RS/JE to circulate the paper on PCC membership

**12. Any other business**

The Climate Action Group had asked to make a presentation to the next PCC on some future plans for the church. This was agreed.

**13. Date and time of next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 25 November at 7 pm. The meeting will either be on zoom or in person, to be determined nearer to the date.

The meeting closed in prayer at 8.35pm