

The Parish of St Mary-the-Virgin, Wivenhoe
Minutes of the PCC Meeting on Monday 12th December, 2022 at 7.30pm

Welcome & opening prayer: Erwin read a poem by Malcolm Guite which was written for Christmas

Present: Erwin Lammens; Douglas McCormick; Graham Wadley; Rick Cawley; Heather Edwards; Sue Jones; Bonnie Hill; Jane Taylor; Margaret Allison;:

Apologies: Sandra Osborne; Claudia Alsdorf; Revd. Sara Batts-Neale; Greg Butler; Glyn Stanway

Conflict of Interest. Graham Wadley; Jane Taylor and Heather Edwards – Church Fees within Minute 2022\131 Finance

Conflict of Interest & Fit & Proper Person Forms. Forms had been completed and only one was now outstanding.

Minute 2022\128

Minutes of the PCC meeting held on the 8th November 2022 were approved.

Minute 2022\129 Matters Arising

- a) **Organiser for the 2023 Coffee rota** Sandra and Kerry will organise the rota and supplies. Thank you to them both for volunteering it is much appreciated.
- b) **External lighting** – there are some lights that have been installed but this is a temporary fix and more is required in the future. The Council have helped with the gritting of the path recently
- c) **Assistant Verger** is still needed. The Verger normally is available but on the few times that they are not available someone is needed to fill in.
- d) **St Mary's T-Shirts** – Heather has not found a supplier who would be prepared to print a few and it may be found to be divisive – perhaps for members of The Way.

Minute 2022\130 Correspondence

- a) An email had been received from the Diocese regarding a grant to cover energy costs. The full text of the email had been shared with the PCC prior to the meeting. It was decided that the PCC should apply for the grant – the form will be completed by Douglas McCormick. 12th January 2023 deadline.
- b) Letter from the Royal British Legion thanking St Mary's for the £450.00 donation to the Poppy Appeal.
- c) An email from Penny Lane TV Makers who produce ITV's Love Your Weekend with Alan Titchmarsh. They are interested in coming to do a segment at St. Mary's which would highlight St Mary's the Bellringers, James Dodds and Wivenhoe. The PCC were in favour of finding out more. Bonnie will contact the company and let them know.

Minute 2022\131 Finance

- a) Cash in funds as at 30th November 2022

	Nominal Account Name	October 2022	November 2020
Free of restrictions	General fund for running Church	£80,879.05	£76,683.15
Restricted	Bell fund	£11994.67	£12,014.67
Restricted	Choir fund	£755.27	£800.27
Restricted	Fabric general	£1,219.91	£1,219.91
Restricted	Fabric - Janet Ashton legacy	£10,000.00	£10,000.00
Restricted	Sheila Carrick legacy	£500.00	£500.00
Restricted	Hugh Brogan legacy	£5,000.00	£5,000.00
Restricted	Janet Richardson legacy	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
Restricted	Delia Schafle legacy	£22,500.00	£22,500.00
Restricted	Jane Cole legacy	£10,000.00	£10,000.00
Restricted	Flower fund	£719.15	£719.15
Restricted	FOSM	£8,229.36	£8,229.36
Restricted	Cory maintenance fund	£2,375.00	£2,395.00
Restricted	Organ fund	£370.00	£370.00
Designated	Sunday Club	£1,454.44	£1,504.44

Restricted	Wivenhoe St Mary's Music Society	£2,523.68	£3,675.97
	Transformation – Main Appeal	£1,100.00	£1,100.00
	Transformation rolling total	£67,297.61	£67,297.61
Total Funds		£227,918.14	£225,009.53

Notes:

Douglas thanked people for those who have increased their giving recently. The general fund in fact is decreasing. The cost of energy was £3500 previously on but it could rise to £11,000. The decision about the amount that we need to pay for our Parish share is still to be agreed. End of Year accounts schedule still needs to be put into place. Douglas is still waiting for a meeting with Ian Dimmock.

b) Church Fees for 2023

The proposed fees had been circulated with the meeting agenda for the PCC's consideration. Douglas McCormick proposed the adoption of the fees and this was seconded by Sue Jones and agreed unanimously.

Minute 2022\132 Fabric & related matters – Douglas McCormick & Sue Jones

The Minutes of the Fabric Meeting which took place on 30th November 2022 had been circulated to the PCC in advance of the meeting. These were duly noted.

A new mat will be purchased to extend the main door entry mat.

Rectors Vestry needs new heating and an approach needs to be made to obtain a new heating unit. The robes are damp and the photocopier is not working properly.

Minute 2022\133 Mission & Ministry Partnership - Erwin Lammens

A meeting to explain about the plans for the creation of a Charity for projects for children and youth in Greenstead and St Anne's took place at St John's. It was attended by a dozen people and three persons came forward to become a trustee. More trustees are welcome. The working title of the Charity is 'Jubilee Foundation' but as there are several other charities named like this, we are asking for suggestions of a better name.

The next pastoral event organised by the pastoral teams in the MMP will be arranged in March or April. This time St Mary's will be hosting it. Gill Strudwick is our link person with the other pastoral teams in the MMP on behalf of St Mary's.

Revd. Andy Sachs is moving from St Johns Church in July 2023 and so the role will be vacant for a while.

Minute 2022\134 Adult & Children's Ministry – Erwin Lammens

This Advent several events will be organised for children and youth and their families.

The November non-pupil days at our primary schools were an opportunity to invite pupils to the showing of the movie 'Nativity!'. The response from Millfields Primary School to the invitation was great.

Teresa, Heather and Sue leaders organised a disco evening on a Saturday from 6 until 8.30pm with DJ Jonas. Ten youngsters turned up and had fun, as well as the leaders.

St Nicholas welcomed 96 children in church with their parents and grandparents. Father Christmas was very busy at the Christmas Market. Christingle was attended by 134 children and 214 adults. Broomgrove Junior and Infants Schools and the Wivenhoe Youth Choir took part.

Next youth events in the diary are the Nativity Play on 18 December at 10.30am and Crib Service on 24 December at 4.30pm. After the Nativity Play the Sunday Club will held its annual Christmas party in the annexe.

While during the last three years numbers of baptisms had dropped, 2023 is promising with 4 baptism bookings in January, February and April.

Adult ministry

Café Chill is attracting a good number of people on a Sunday afternoon.

Our five candidates from St Mary's have been confirmed by Bishop Roger on Sunday 27 November at St John's church. A follow-up meeting has been arranged for January. Congratulations to Maureen, Gary, Nyali, Kerry and Sam.

Minute 2022\135 - Safeguarding - Gill Black safeguardingstmarywiv@gmail.com

I have recently completed my PSO training and on 9/11/22 I had a very useful and productive meeting with Erwin

In the New Year after recovering from my second cataract procedure I intend to :-

- Ensure that the Safeguarding poster is visible in Church – currently decision has been made that it will have just my email not telephone details.
- Have the Safeguarding details laminated and place on the back of the toilet doors with non-

- marking white blue tac so people can record them in privacy
- To contact Theresa asking for her teams DBS status and safeguarding training dates
- To ask current PCC members for their safeguarding training dates and needs, especially the Leadership team
- To ask the Diocese for examples of sheets to record Safeguarding issues, to then share the examples with Erwin so a Safeguarding folder can be compiled
- To meet with Lyn Smith re DBS issues and Church members status

Minute 2022\136 Health & Safety – James Peters - Nothing to report

Minute 2022\137 To receive reports and take questions on the reports from the following committees.

- Fundraising Committee** – December Market was a very successful evening – the first big event organised by Heather as co-ordinator of the fundraising team. An excellent result raising over £1300 for St Mary's and bringing lots of smiles and community spirit to start the Christmas festivities. The PCC congratulated Heather and her team on an excellent event.
- Catering** – Mary Jakens – nothing to report
- Worship Group** – Graham Wadley – nothing to report
- Colchester Deanery** – Rick Cawley – no report
- Wivenhoe Churches Together** - no report
- FOSM** – Bill & Vivien Eborn – FOSM attended the Christmas Market
- Pastoral Visitors** – no report
- Administration** – Lynne Horner – nothing to report
- Spirituality Steering Group** – Janet Driver – nothing to report
- Church Bookings** – a very busy month a schedule of bookings was circulated.
- Bellringers** – no report
- Electoral roll** – Vivien Eborn - no change

Minute 2022\138 – Community – Peter Hill Chairman of the following groups

Friendly Club & Café

We continue to be busy with about 60 people in church every week including a large number of volunteers who act as Receptionists to ensure everyone receives a warm welcome, a large team to make teas & coffees and to make sure tables are supplied with quantities of biscuits and people with unlimited tea / coffee, and other volunteers to act as hosts at these tables.

Not all of our visitors come each week, although there are a lot of regulars who are there every week. They really value the Club. Some people only come every now and again.

We are planning a Christmas Party on Thursday 15th December with a Choir to sing Christmas Carols and mince pies for everyone (and probably some music to which to dance too).

This will be our last meeting before Christmas; we will be meeting again on Thursday 29th December 2022

The PCC were very grateful for the financial contribution they make to the church.

Wivenhoe St Mary's Music Society

Our sixth and final concert of 2022 was held on Friday 18th November with the Wivenhoe Orchestra and special guests Colchester Sax Quartet. It was a splendid evening of fine music and much appreciated by more than 80 people, resulting in a handsome profit.

I now need to organise a meeting to finalise this year and start working on a programme of 6 concerts next year. At least three of the concerts we put on this year we will invite back again next year by popular demand.

It looks to me that we will be able to declare a profit from these concerts of just over £2,500 which is very pleasing.

Minute 2022\139 GDPR, Communications & Licensing Report – Marika Footring. - Nothing to report

Minute 2022\140 Overseas – Rosemary Murchie – an email has been sent with Christmas greetings and blessings to those in Namelemba.

Minute 2022\141 Any Other Notified Business

- John Dowden and Hilary Cook** had covered for Graham Wadley whilst he was unable to undertake his role as Director of Music a small gift will be organised.

b) Next Meeting:

The next PCC meeting will take place on Tuesday 10th January at 19.30 in the annexe.

The meeting closed at 20.32 and concluded with those present joining together in saying The Grace.