

The Parish of St Mary-the-Virgin, Wivenhoe
Minutes of the PCC Meeting on Tuesday 11th October 2022 at 7.30pm

Welcome & opening prayer: In the absence of Erwin who was attending a Deanery Course Douglas McCormick took the Chair. Romans 12 v~~4~~⁴⁻² 4-8 and a prayer from The Holy Common Book of Prayer Evening prayer.

Present: Heather Edwards; Sue Jones; Greg Butler; Bonnie Hill; Jane Taylor; Eric Jakens; Margaret Allison; Sandra Osborne; Claudia Alsdorf; Douglas McCormick; Sara Batts-Neale;

Apologies: Erwin Lammens; Glyn Stanway; Graham Wadley; Nick Gustard; Rick Cawley

Conflict of Interest. None

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

Minute 2022\100

Minutes of the PCC meeting held on the 13th September 2022 were approved.

Minute 2022\101 Matters Arising

- a) Queen Elizabeth's funeral on the big screen – it seemed to be a successful day and taken up by a number of people.
- b) Heritage Day – a good number of people attended.

Minute 2022\102 Correspondence

- Thank you email from the Bishop of Gibraltar in Europe to thank St Mary's for the £1040 donation to the Ukraine Appeal operated by USPG and the Church of England.
- A thank you note had been received from the Wivenhoe Food Bank for the Harvest donations which were passed to them recently.
- Erwin had sent his thanks for the book token and money recently presented to him to mark a "0" birthday.

Minute 2022\103 Finance

Cash in funds as at 30th September 2022
Statement

	Nominal Account Name	August 2022	September 2022
Free of restrictions	General fund for running Church	£90,960.57	£88,767.54
Restricted	Bell fund	£11,974.67	£11,994.67
Restricted	Choir fund	£755.27	£755.27
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	£7,980.36	£8,209.36
Restricted	Cory maintenance fund	£2335.00	£2355.00
Restricted	Organ fund	£370.00	£370.00
Designated	Sunday Club	£1,429.44	£1,454.44
Restricted	Wivenhoe St Mary's Music Society	£2,060.35	£2523.68
	Transformation rolling total	£62,831.88	£61,859.69
Total Funds		£231,636.60	£230,328.71

b) **Notes:**

1. The overall Funds balance exactly with our various bank accounts and those held in the CCLA investment account. The split between the nominal accounts reflects the

Treasurer's understanding of those accounts.

2. The Parish Share proposed for 2023 shows a 27.18% increase moving from £70,464 to £89,613 per annum an increase of £19,149. The alternative proposal for a net 5% increase has been communicated to the Deanery and a response is awaited.
3. The account for Wivenhoe St Mary's Music Society needs adjusting to reflect various recent events.
4. Gift Day results had not been received but the figures will be available soon. Approximately ~~thirty four~~ people stayed for lunch in the annexe after the service.
5. Annexe fund – query about payment from charities account to general fund as only Annexe appeal identified, payments seem to have continued from at least one personal account. Douglas will follow this up.

Minute 2022\104 Fabric & related matters – Douglas McCormick & Sue Jones

- a) Replacement stone to Choir Vestry entrance – this will be sorted very soon.
- b) **Roof repairs** – Bonnie had met with James Stalley and pointed out the work that has been identified by Simon Marks when he visited. There was grass growing in the gutters on the north side and this will be cleared as part of the work undertaken. A quotation is awaited.
- c) **Quinquennial Report** was received from Simon Marks on the 10th October and was circulated to PCC and Fabric Team members. The report commended the PCC for the standard of the building.
- d) **Skirting around one of the nave columns** is loose – this is on the snagging list and will be addressed.
- e) **Fabric Meeting needs to be arranged.**

Minute 2022\105 Mission & Ministry Partnership - Erwin Lammens

Plans to set up a MMP Charity for projects for children and youth in Greenstead and St Anne's with the name of Jubilee Foundation is under construction. We are currently looking for potential trustees and partners.

The next pastoral event organised by the pastoral teams in the MMP will be arranged at the next meeting. Gill Strudwick coordinates this event on behalf of St Mary's pastoral team.

Minute 2022\106 Adult & Children's Ministry – Erwin Lammens

Children's and Youth ministry

The Sunday Club has participated at the Free Family Fun Festival in Castle Park on 24 September. The Festival is organised by Christian churches in Colchester and all churches of the Deanery are invited to join. It was a successful day of outreach with long queues also at St Mary's stall – up to 20 minutes waiting time. Leaflets about the work with children and youth at St Mary's were handed out. Thank you for your donations of toys and teddy bears etc. for the price giving. We welcomed between 200 and 250 children at our stall. The organisers counted around 3000 people attending the event.

The Way has now resumed its fortnightly gatherings and meetings continue to be successful.

Erwin and Heather had a meeting with the Diocesan Youth Ministry Coordinator Dot Salmon. The timing and planning of Heather training as Youth Minister was discussed. All being well Heather will be authorised as St Mary's Youth minister on 17 June at Chelmsford Cathedral time TBC.

The schools for diverse reasons (new staff, a surge in Covid, etc.) have decided not to attend Harvest Festival. The All Together team has put together a great service. Donations were gathered for Beacon House, Night Shelter, Women's refuge, Wivenhoe Foodbank, and local residents. Soup Run is no longer organised. People are told to go to Beacon House for a meal during day time.

One of our Sunday Club leaders, Kerry Rooke, is running the London Marathon on 2 October. She has chosen St Mary's Wivenhoe as her charity. The evening before the marathon sponsors had donated £610 which is a third of Kerry's target for St Mary's.

Adult ministry

The first Café Chill was well attended (21 people). The next one is on Sunday 16 October. Do pop in to encourage Teresa Warren and her team from 1 until 3.30pm.

Bible Study led by Helena Hughes has resumed. Participants study the book of the prophet Amos. Also Lectio Divina led by Ann Evershed every last Wednesday evening is open to new participants.

Confirmation classes will start on 8 October. Five candidates from St Mary's came forward. Confirmation for the MMP will take place at St John's on Sunday 27 November at 4pm.

Good feedback had been received about the Chill Café.

Minute 2022\107 - Safeguarding - Gill Black

New email address safeguardingstmarywiv@gmail.com (no s between marywiv)

Gill will be having her PSO training on 20th October and she will then have a much clearer idea of

her roles and responsibilities as a PSO and will be contacting individuals on their Safeguarding training needs.

Minute 2022\108 Health & Safety – James Peters

Nothing to report

Minute 2022\109 To receive reports and take questions on the reports from the following committees.

a) **Fundraising Committee** – no report

b) **Catering** – Mary Jakens

At the Heritage Day on 17th September over a £100 was raised by selling coffee, tea and cakes to visitors. Plans are in hand for a ploughman's lunch to be served at the Gift Day on 9th October. Thanks were given to Mary Jakens and her helpers for the excellent lunch.

c) **Worship Group** -Erwin Lammens

The Worship Group hasn't met but a few changes in worship are worth to be mentioned.

The common chalice has been re-introduced after we had received reminders from the national church and the Chelmsford diocese. People can still opt out to receive the wine from the chalice. The wafer may not be received on the tongue or dipped into the wine.

Evensong will be interrupted until the spring next year. Numbers were very low after Covid (6 or less, including the minister, organist and sidesperson).

Holy Ground will continue on third Sundays in October and November (Taizé) and reviewed at the beginning of 2023.

We are still in the trial period regarding the early communion service on Sundays. From November until March we will try 8am communion at the annexe. At the end of the trial we will compare figures with 9am communion in the annexe last year.

To make savings we will not put the heating on before and during 7 past 7 this winter. If conditions are too cold for worship we will meet in the annexe where the room is kept at a constant temperature.

We are planning to sing the Gloria again at Family Eucharists but this may take a rehearsal with choir and congregation. We haven't sung the Gloria from March 2020.

Erwin wondered if the Old Testament should be read again at Eucharist services (as recommended by the Church of England) in addition to the Epistle and Gospel Reading. Perhaps we could start by including the OT during the seasons of Advent and Lent. The PCC were content to leave the decision to Erwin.

d) **Colchester Deanery** – Heather Edwards – no report

e) **Wivenhoe Churches Together** - no report

f) **FOSM** – Bill & Vivien Eborn - the outlets continue to have steady sales

g) **Pastoral Visitors** – no report

h) **Administration** – Lynne Horner – nothing to report

i) **Spirituality Steering Group** – Janet Driver – nothing to report

j) **Church Bookings** – schedule circulated in advance of the meeting

k) **Bellringers** – no report

l) **Electoral roll** – Vivien Eborn - no change

Minute 2022\110 – Community – Peter Hill Chairman of the following groups

Wivenhoe St Mary's Music Society

The Sea Shanty concert at the beginning of September made a profit of £929 which we shared 50/50 with the two shanty crews who also raise money for charity. So our share of this surplus was £464 which was pleasing.

We are hoping we will have another sell out performance with the Churchfitters on Friday 28th October. Tickets are selling really well.

Then we look forward to a Feast of Music with the Wivenhoe Orchestra on Friday 18th November. That should be another wonderful evening.

These events are really successful and the PCC appreciated the work undertaken to bring these events to the church.

The Friendly Club & Café

The Club is still attracting around 50 - 60 people every Thursday with some people coming regularly whilst others are not always able to come. We always manage to find someone to come and entertain our visitors, whilst Sylvia Garrity manages to play the keyboard every week at the start and end of every Thursday afternoon session. We charge just £2 for unlimited cups of tea and coffee plus biscuits; this means the Church gets around £300 every two months from us.

Police Choir & Roman River Concert

There was no heating during the concert and when leaving the floodlighting was not on or sufficient. There was a difficulty in going up the path to the main gate. Reflection on whether we

put the heating should be put on and the risk with the Covid virus.

The PCC agreed that the heating should be on in the nave for appropriate services and events unless there are public health reasons not to do so.

Signage to direct people to the south door for services rather than using the north door – experiment to be undertaken.

The floodlighting has been reprogrammed so it will be coming on from 18.00 to 22.00. More external lighting to be explored.

More use of the south entrance to be made [during inclement weather-](#)

Minute 2022\111 GDPR, Communications & Licensing Report – Marika Footring. - Nothing to report

Minute 2022\112 Overseas – Rosemary Murchie – nothing to report

Minute 2022\113 Any Other Notified Business

- a) **Need for new Coffee Rota organiser and people to provide drinks** on Sunday mornings after the 10.30 service urgently required. Please let Erwin know if there is anyone willing to assist.
- b) **Change of December Meeting date** – Monday 12th December at The Rectory was proposed. The choice was given of The Rectory or the annexe – it was decided to meet at The Rectory and to change the date to Monday 12th.
- c) **Change of Annual Meeting date:** As Open Gardens is schedule to be held 20\21 May it is perhaps wise to change the date of our Annual Meeting to the 14th May. The PCC considered this and it was acceptable.
- d) **Next Meeting:**
The next PCC meeting will take place on Tuesday 8th November at 19.30 in the annexe.
- e) Sara gave an update about the University – not as busy as previously but freshers fair had 5000 attending. Students are now very much back and Sara asked for prayers for her and the students as they start their academic year.

The meeting closed at 20.24 and concluded with those present joining together in saying The Grace.