

# Dedham Parochial Church Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at Dedham Vicarage

Present: Rev. Antony Wilson (ACW), Paul Brebner (PB), Vee Druitt (VD), Richard Hopkins (RH), Liz Reed (LR), Linda Redlich (LDR), John Reed (JR), Sharon Sarson (SS), Gabbie Watson (GW), Lynne Al-Sad (LAS)

Apologies received from Peter Wilson and Helen Sims

1. The meeting followed on from the Joint Dedham/Ardleigh meeting.
2. The Minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2021 were approved with no amendments.

Matters Arising:

- (a) The Friends of Dedham still needed a PCC representative on it's Committee.
  - (b) DELT: The PCC approved unanimously, a proposal that Sharon Sarson would represent the PCC on the Dedham Educational Lectureship Trust.
3. Resourcing:
    - (a) Finance:

JR had previously circulated the Finance report and was awaiting completion of the Quarter 2 Management Accounts, which would be circulated later. It was expected that Income had largely held up, but with no major one-off donations, the half year income would be down on this time last year.

Expenses had been kept well under control, and with the pandemic closures, basic running costs would also be below 2020 at this stage.

The General Fund has maintained it's positive trend with over £18k held at 30<sup>th</sup> June, but it should be understood that the Parish Share being paid monthly is at a level below the final figure for 2020.

The recent announcement that ACW will be leaving the benefice, will have some impact on the finances for the second half of 2021, and the Finance Committee were meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> July to decide on the key factors to consider when the 2021 Budget Review exercise is undertaken. (JR/PW).

The only major activity in the other Church Funds was the Gutter Replacement Project that cost £21,545, and which was covered by £15,000 of Grants leaving £6,545 to be paid out of our Repairs and Maintenance Fund.

3 (b) Buildings:

- i. Quinquennial review due in 2022.  
Gutters had now been replaced along with downpipes and a further leak adjacent to the porch fixed in July. A drainage leak has been covered by insurance, subject to £100 excess.
- ii. Boiler- In PW's absence, PB gave an update to the meeting. There had been a series of visits from various Contractors, following the Diocesan Advisors report, which ruled out several alternative energy solutions, and recommended pursuing either a Gas or Electric

boiler solutions. The electrical route was proving difficult to establish a company with enough expertise compatible with our needs, but the discussions held did seem to show it would be a very expensive system to run. Therefore, the main effort was in finding the best contractor to implement a double Gas boiler system, having first connected a gas supply from the roadway. The various quotations are now being assimilated before moving forward. (PW)

- iii. Organ Project-Antony Watson joined the meeting and referred the PCC to the July 2021 report. Antony outlined the three alternatives to replace the existing organ, and a broad estimate as to cost. The Organ Committee were recommending Option 2, the procurement of a refurbished pipe organ, with a timescale of 3 years to carry out the refurbishment, and to raise the money for this major fundraising project. There would be an Organ Recital by Antony on Bank Holiday Monday, followed by an after service Meeting on Sunday 26th September to be advertised widely to attract interest. The existing Organ Committee believes it has fulfilled it's remit, and the September meeting should look to the formation of a new Committee, to formulate a clear policy for the next major step forward.
- iv. Vicarage Land Sale- The donors have now withdrawn their offer to help buy the land which would have provided a Graveyard extension, and so the project at this stage is not going forward. However, the Diocesan land sale to the Peachey's is still going forward. The Wall adjacent to the High Street could be rebuilt in September.

### 3(c) People and Staff:

Claire Arculus would be leaving on 28<sup>th</sup> August and it was hoped to have a replacement in post before she leaves to ensure continuity.

The departure of Antony, in late September, would mean an increased workload, particularly for the Churchwardens, and everyone was anxious that all the Service arrangements currently operating, would be continued with the help of the many volunteers and lay people. It was pleasing to report that Carol Mitson was expressing the wish to return to help lead some of the Services.

### 3(d) Communications:

The new disclaimer had been included in the latest Parish Magazine, following PCC approval on 26<sup>th</sup> May.

3 (e) Operations: Nothing to report.

### 3 (f) Governance:

Safeguarding- RH gave an update on progress, and confirmed that there was now a system in place to enable Charlotte Parker to follow up on any outstanding individual safeguarding certification.

The PCC unanimously approved the proposal for safeguarding in reference to the weekend Camp Out from 20<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> August

3 (g) (h) There was nothing to discuss on Charity Commission, GDPR.

3 (i) H& S records need to be updated re lifting of Covid restrictions.

4. There had been no Correspondence received by the PCC .

5. Any Other Business:

- (a) The Duchy Barn report from their meeting held on June 28<sup>th</sup> had been circulated by VD.
- (b) A proposal had been received from David Jewell, representing a group of friends of the late Roy Laverick. It asked for the approval of the PCC to allow a video to be made of a “Dedham Parish Church Tower Tour”. The group would commission and finance the production, in memory of Roy, who was an enthusiastic Tower Tour guide. The PCC unanimously approved the initiative.

The meeting closed at 10.23.

The Next Meeting will be held on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30

Venue to be confirmed.