

Dedham Parochial Church Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 14th June 2022 at Dedham Vicarage

At 7.30

Present: Peter Wilson (PW) (Chair), Vee Druitt (VD), John Reed (JR), Liz Reed (LR), Sharon Sarson (SS), Lynne al-Sad (LAS), Helen Sims (HS), Richard Hopkins (RH), Paul Brebner (PB)

Apologies received from Akshay John, Gabbie Watson, and Linda Redlich.

The meeting opened with a prayer.

1. Missioner appointment status.

PW reported that following advertising of the posts, three expressions of interest had been received, but no applications had been received so far. There was one more week of advertising.

However, the Deanery had organised detailed plans as to how the interview process would take place, along with arrangements for giving any applicants a tour of the various parishes on 14th July, with interviews taking place at Dedham on Friday 15th.

PW would circulate the full programme for the two days, and requested a feedback on who will attend on 14th

2. Archdeacon Visit on 13th July.

Archdeacon Ruth will come to Dedham to install all the Deanery Church Wardens at an 8 pm Service at which around 60 people will be likely to attend.

Doors will open at 7pm in order people can meet and so we will be providing refreshments, and a number of people volunteered to help Maria Johnston. PW will circulate a reminder on this nearer the time.

3. Heating project.

Since the last meeting the Chancellor had signed off the approval for the Gas boiler, and Cadent would be installing the gas supply between 23rd and 26th July from the High Street to the former toilet building.

Thameside Mechanical had promptly provided a revised quotation, which not surprisingly included a 15% increase in cost due to all the changes in economic climate, since last October. The overall pre-VAT cost is now £83,161, and work will start as soon as the materials are procured, and is a priority project for Thameside.

PB agreed to look at the security issues whilst the materials are on site awaiting installation.

4. Finance.

JR confirmed that end year Gift Aid tax letters had all gone out to our donors.

Invoices had gone out to 77 Advertisers in the Parish Magazine, and over £10k, half of the total had been received and banked.

A legacy would be coming to St Mary's from the Estate of Ian Sutherland in due course.

JR gave a summary of the 2022 to date Parish Share for the Deanery including the 8 other Rural parishes apart from Dedham. This showed a concerning position where payments to the end of April were well below the pro rata Assessment for 4 months, and also much lower than 2021 at this stage. Dedham had paid £16k so far, the same as 2021, but is £8k (33%) behind the 4 month Assessment.

Finance/cont'd

In addition, the Diocese had just issued details of the new Parish Share system to be introduced from 1.1.23. This had been approved by the Diocese and consultation will continue on the detailed arrangements. Between August and October this new Hybrid system, will see the Assessment on the Deanery as a whole, and the individual breakdown by Parish/Benefice. It will take time to review the detail, but one concern was the apparent removal of the part of the Administration fee for Weddings and Funerals that is retained by the Parish. JR agreed to look at the new system and see what impact it would have on our finances.

5. Organ/Kelvedon Singers Concert.

Kelvedon were providing a Free concert on 3rd July, and we would be providing refreshments. Tickets were £15 per head, and were not going particularly well with only 45 sold to date. This event is in aid of the new organ.

However, there had been a development regarding the interest we have in the Pipe organ at Glasgow. They are anxious to get a decision on their deadline for removing the organ from the premises, and we hope that this can be delayed further, but more should be known after Friday 17th

Meanwhile, despite Antony approaching some specific individuals, there is still no-one willing to take up the challenging role of Fund raising Chairman.

The PCC had given Antony the go ahead to approach former interested parties, who had indicated they would put donations into the Organ Appeal Fund. Thus far there had been no money forthcoming.

After discussion, the meeting agreed that the PCC should hold a specific meeting with Antony to discuss the future way forward, given the absence of a Chairman and early stage donations.

6. Any Other Business.

- (a) LAS raised the subject of having the Parish Magazine printed out of recyclable paper. The current printer could be approached to see if something can be done.
- (b) VD reported that Christina Volkman had resigned from her post as Benefice Eco officer, and Sara Marshall had volunteered to take over the role.
- (c) VD also said that a new Prayer Board was being installed, in memory of the late Mick Burleigh

The Meeting closed at 8.40.

The next PCC meeting was moved from 12th to the 19th July at the Vicarage at 7.30