

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

### **Minutes of the meeting held via Zoom on Thursday 20 May 2021 at 730pm**

Attendance: Tricia Bing; Claire Deegan; Jane Earl; Rob Hayward; Phil Hogan; Claire Moll; Franceline Mamilonne; Annadale Ramanoop; Revd Richard Springer (Rector, Chair),

Apologies for absence were received from Louise Barling, Alan Dorji, Fr Angus Ritchie, Fr Josh Harris, Ivonne Lojan Maldonado, and Shermara Fletcher

#### **1. Welcome and introductions**

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

#### **2. Minutes of the PCC meeting held on 18 March 2021**

The minutes of the meeting had been circulated and were shared at the meeting. The minutes were AGREED as a correct record.

#### **3. Matters arising**

The following issues were noted: –

- James Batty had been appointed to the music role and would start on 13 June
- It was noted that a report on property use would be brought to the next PCC RS/KP

#### **4. Elections and appointments**

The Rector referred to the recent APCM and noted the appointment of Annadale and Fran as churchwardens.

The meeting confirmed the appointment of the following people: –

Treasurer – Robert Hayward

Secretary – Jane Earl

Safeguarding officer – Claire Deegan

Electoral roll officer – Long Okado

#### **5. Safeguarding update and policy statement approval**

Claire Deegan attended the meeting and updated the PCC on current position on safeguarding. She presented the draft policy statement, and the PCC agreed this for the forthcoming year, and authorised its signing for publication in the church and on the website, once the spelling of Annadale's surname had been corrected.

In her general update, Claire noted that there had been fewer disclosures during the pandemic period, that her focus had been on ensuring that all training was up-to-date. She asked all PCC members to ensure that they had completed their training, and to let her have confirmation once this had been done. She offered to provide some help to anyone finding difficulty in accessing the online training resource.

Questions were raised about whether there was any delay on DBS checks, and on who the vulnerable adults champion was. In relation to this latter question it was noted that it had previously been Shemara as it was linked to the open table. It was agreed that Richard

Springer would follow up on a potential volunteer. He also expressed his thanks to Claire for her work on behalf of the meeting.

## **6. Giving campaign**

Richard Springer introduced a discussion on the planned campaign to increase giving to the church and as part of this asked the meeting in small groups to talk about their experience of what approaches have worked elsewhere, and the emotions generated from discussions about giving.

In the course of discussion, the following points were raised: –

- Giving is not just about money, but it's also about use of time and skills
- Giving is a personal matter, and needs to be made as simple and intrusive as possible
- Church giving is part of our Christian duties
- Giving needs to be for something, and therefore it's important to explain the costs of running the church, and of our mission activities
- Communication of what we need needs to be in a number of different formats – direct address from clergy, information boards, and references in parish emails and similar communications.

Richard intended to use 3 Sundays in June to preach on issues around giving, and to encourage people to get back into the habit of regular contributions, either by use of the about to be acquired donation points, or through things such as standing orders. Richard closed the debate by asking PCC members to continue to think about how they can support the campaign in June through prayer, conversations, and sharing stories about giving.

## **7. Lockdown update**

Richard updated the meeting on the current plans which were not to make any changes until after the 21<sup>st</sup> June, which time it was hoped that all restrictions would be lifted. He hope that it would also be possible for the PCC and others to organise some outdoor social events in the summer in order to begin the process of encouraging people to come together.

## **8. Eastminster update**

Richard referred to the brief update in the calling papers for the PCC with the plans for St Katherine Cree to become linked to St George in the East as a result of Josh being appointed as associate priest, under the guidance of Angus. Details about how this would all work will be shared as they become clearer, but it was noted that this had no financial pressure on St George in the East.

## **7. Summary of agreed actions**

- Ensure safeguarding training completed and CD notified - all
- Produce a paper on property use with a recommendation – RS
- Continue to seek a Vulnerable Adults Champion- RS
- Reissue the current pattern for PCC meetings bi-monthly JE

## **8. Date of next meeting**

Thursday 15 July at 7.30 pm

The meeting closed with prayers of thanks at 8.35 pm

