



		Actions
	<p>April proposing approval ready for the APCM on 9<sup>th</sup> May. He had received email and telephone support for (and no objections to) the proposed approval. A short form of the 2020 financial statements was published on the website and copies made available in the church porch as required under the Church Representation Rules.</p> <p><b>b. Treasurer's Report</b> - William Hall gave a short report on Church finances<sup>4</sup>. There were no questions.</p> <p>Rob thanked William for his diligent management of parish finances in the continuing difficult situation and for his personal help in solving some of the financial issues associated with the move from the old vicarage.</p>	
7	<p><b>Church Council Appointments</b></p> <p>Under the Church Representation Rules 2020 the new Church Council is now responsible for appointing Sidesmen at its first meeting rather than the APCM. Rob explained that it is appropriate for the Council also to appoint the Assistant Churchwardens as well as the Church Council Officers at the same meeting.</p> <p>The secretary had circulated a list to Council members before the meeting of the proposed appointments to be made or confirmed until the 2022 APCM<sup>5</sup>. Rob asked if all those listed (particularly those proposed to be Sidesmen) had confirmed they were willing to carry out their duties. Alastair Cragg confirmed that this was the case and, in particular, all those nominated as Sidesmen had indicated their willingness to act at services once COVID-19 restrictions were further relaxed.</p> <p>The following appointments were made to the Council to serve until the 2022 APCM:</p> <p><b>Assistant Churchwardens</b> – Peter Cotton, Stephen Haigh and Yvonne Janvier: proposed by Rob, seconded by Alastair;</p> <p><b>Sidesmen</b> - Darren Cottier, Douglas Cragg, Richard Gabbittas, John Jack, Glen Jackson, Sandra Jackson, Trevor Jenkins, John Land, Alan Lane, Anne Lane, John Oram, Jean Paton, Rod Pickles, William Pullé, Lew Riches, Pat Riches, Lucy Suchland and David Thompson; proposed by Alastair, seconded by Yvonne Janvier;</p> <p><b>Vice-chairman</b> – Alastair Cragg: proposed by Rob, seconded by Barbara Smith;</p> <p><b>Secretary</b> – Janet Chettle: proposed by Jayne Weaver, seconded by Steve Smith;</p> <p><b>Treasurer</b> – William Hall: proposed by Alan Rickards, seconded by John Oram; and</p> <p><b>Electoral Roll Officer</b> – Steve Smith: proposed by Tim Fryer, seconded by Trevor Jenkins.</p> <p>The following Officers of the Council were confirmed to serve until the 2022 APCM:</p> <p><b>Data Protection Officer, Health and Safety Officer and Parish Giving Officer</b> – Jayne Weaver: proposed by Alan, seconded by Alastair;</p> <p><b>Director of Music</b> – Wendy Macdonald: proposed by Alan, seconded by Alastair;</p> <p><b>Fire Safety Officer</b> – Peter Cotton: proposed by Alan, seconded by Alastair;</p> <p><b>Genesis Leader</b> – Fiona Pullé: proposed by Peter, seconded by Val Cragg;</p> <p><b>Safeguarding Officer</b> – Paula Lavin: proposed by Peter, seconded by Val.</p>	

<sup>4</sup> See Appendix 2 for text of William's report.

<sup>5</sup> See Appendix 3 for list of proposed PCC appointments.

		<b>Actions</b>
	<p>All the proposed appointments were approved <i>nem. con.</i> by a show of hands.</p> <p>The following co-options were made to the Council until the 2022 APCM:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Val Cragg and Ray Davies: proposed by Peter, seconded by Jayne.</p> <p>This proposal was approved unanimously (Val abstaining) by a show of hands.</p> <p>Alastair noted that three former Sidesmen had not stood again this year after many years of diligent service – Kevin Fryer, Bill Paton and Jane Massey. Similarly, Wendy Bond, had now retired as Electoral Roll Officer and Steve Smith after five years as Secretary. Alastair asked that the Council’s gratitude should be formally noted for their long service and commitment in the parish. This was unanimously agreed.</p>	
<b>8</b>	<p><b>Organ &amp; Lighting Projects</b></p> <p><b>a. Organ Replacement</b> - Steve gave an update. Refurbishment of the Heswall organ is continuing well in Cartwrights’ workshops. All 1084 pipes have now been individually cleaned and checked for correct speech. The new console with new pedalboard and adjustable stool is nearing completion (estimated early June) at the sub-contractors P&amp;S Organ Supplies in Suffolk and will be collected by Cartwrights to be fitted with the necessary electrical contacts and electronics in their workshops. They envisage starting the removal of the existing organ in mid-July and completing the whole project during August. For safety reasons and because scaffolding will be in place for some of the project, the church will need to be closed for 2-3 weeks and services held in the Church Hall. [Cartwrights know that the church needs to be open for the wedding on August 5<sup>th</sup> – no organ music has been promised.] Church View residents and Cheshire East Council will need to be advised of potential parking disruption during the works.</p> <p><b>b. Lighting Project</b> - Alastair and Rob reported on this. The promised revised project specification and quotation have now been received from Lighting Dynamics. It will give us a modern, energy efficient, low maintenance, flexible LED based lighting system which will allow limited colour washing of the chancel/sanctuary roof when needed and ready control of lighting in different parts of the church. The specification and costing are being finalised so that faculty approval for the project can be started aiming for project completion later this year.</p> <p><b>c. Organ &amp; Lighting Appeal</b> - The appeal fund now stands at nearly £67,000 (83.75% of our initial target of £80,000) which is encouraging. However, the target may need to be raised to ensure that the higher cost of the revised specification for the lighting project can be met.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>Secretary</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Alastair</b></p>
<b>9</b>	<p><b>Relaxation of COVID-19 restrictions</b></p> <p>Rob introduced brief discussion of the implications of the further relaxation of COVID-19 restrictions under the roadmap announced by the Prime Minister.</p> <p><b>a. Church Hall</b> - the Hall Committee had recently met to review the possibility of reopening for limited hire. They concluded that, subject to careful control, the hall could be used again for children’s activities, but regular hall hirers had declined to take up the option. However, the new Church Exodus group was considering using the hall for its Tuesday meetings.</p>	



## **Appendices to the minutes of PCC meeting 10 May 2021**

### **Appendix 1**

#### **Chairman's Report**

At the first meeting of the last PCC in October, I spoke of the need to do a building job: to call on the Lord to build His people, to develop the buildings, and to address our top-heavy age-profile challenge.

We have made some progress, even in this frustrating time of lockdowns and limitations. Our Organ & Lighting Appeal is progressing well. The organ work is scheduled for July/August. The lighting work has a good spec. and we are preparing for a faculty application.

Now we need to consider how to restart our activities, with a view to helping our longer term aims for a better age-profile, seeking to grow in every age bracket. What will the new normal look like for us?

We would, I think, be unwise to go back to where we were 18 months before. Time has passed. We have changed and developed. There is a level of enthusiasm about our 10.30 service, with its more visual culture and mix of classic hymns and genuinely contemporary songs. We would lose some momentum, maybe cause some discouragement or even disillusionment if we tried to go back to old patterns. We should probably plan for the 10.30 service to feel something like it has felt for the last 15 months.

There is also a chance to grow our 9am Holy Communion as a classic liturgical service with good hymns on a good organ. It will have a stronger identity for potential newcomers if we continue the development of a consistent choice of liturgy. Out of necessity we no longer alternate Prayer Book Order 2 (older English) with Order 1 (newer English). We have established a weekly liturgy combining the two: Prayer Book Order 2 (newer English).

There is still a place for our said 10.30am Holy Communion on Wednesdays, especially for the older end of our age-profile.

There will still be a place for Zoom services, particularly daily offices such as 9am Morning Prayer Monday to Wednesday, although it would be good to hold it in church once a week, maybe Thursdays. There are other details to discuss as well. Now is not the time to finalise plans. It is likely that we won't restart our 10.30am Sunday service in church, until we are permitted to sing properly. And we're best to wait until the organ work is complete. Regarding our church groups, there is a mixed picture. Some such as the Growth Groups have grown and flourished in the last 15 months. Other groups and activities have not met or been active at all. We need conversations to see where we are up to. It is time to reconsider our vision and the possibilities as we seek to get going again. We can't just assume things. I aim to visit the overseers of groups over the next couple of months and would be grateful for knowledge of what peoples' thoughts are for the future.

It's a big challenge for us. We need to be wise and bold, prayerful and forbearing, as we seek to build the people of God and develop our buildings to God's glory.

**Canon Rob McLaren - May 2021**

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## **Appendix 2**

### **Treasurer's Report**

Since our last PCC meeting limited church services have resumed and I have received envelopes from those who have attended. Unfortunately for those who are still shielding or are unable to attend for other reasons it is still difficult to obtain their donations. We look forward to the time when normal services will be open to all when this problem will disappear.

Thanks to Jayne's efforts we received a total of £15,845 from Gift Aid tax repayments from the last tax year which was very welcome. I had budgeted for £17,000 this year so we are a little short of that figure. However, our day-to-day income for the first 4 months of the year stands at £44,673 which compares very favourably with income of £45,157 this time last year.

Our expenditure so far this year has been higher than in 2020 due to Council tax and other utilities on the old vicarage, 74 London Road which will not be repeated as the house was sold at Easter. At the end of April our expenses stand at £39,455 compared to £35,593 in 2020.

Most of our magazine advertisers paid for their adverts to appear in 12 editions last year. As the magazine was not published for some months in 2020 Alan has allowed them to carry forward part of their subscriptions into this year. I estimate our lost advertising income this year could be as much as £5,000 though the precise sum is difficult to quantify at this stage. Personal subscribers are being asked to pay for both years in one payment later this year.

This year the diocese has taken pity on parishes struggling to pay their Parish Share and not imposed an annual increase of 2.5% as has been the case for the last few years. As a result we have been charged only an extra £604 this year making our total for 2021 only £81,109. The cost of maintaining a member of the clergy is about £64,000 this year and for many years this parish has been required to pay for 1.25 clergy persons to help other parishes in our deanery meet their shares also.

### **Organ and Lighting appeal**

Our appeal figure now stands at nearly £67,000 or 83.75% of our target of £80,000 which is very encouraging. The fundraising committee has a few more local businesses to tackle and further donations from the general public in Holmes Chapel would be welcome to enable us to achieve our target.

### **William Hall – Hon Treasurer – May 2021**

## Appendix 3

### Appointments to be made/confirmed at the Council Meeting - 10<sup>th</sup> May 2021.

<b>Assistant Churchwardens</b>	Peter Cotton Stephen Haigh Yvonne Janvier
<b>Chairman</b>	Rob McLaren
<b>Vice-chairman</b>	Alastair Cragg
<b>Secretary</b>	Janet Chettle
<b>Treasurer</b>	William Hall
<b>Data Protection Officer</b>	Jayne Weaver
<b>Director of Music</b>	Wendy Macdonald
<b>Electoral Roll Officer</b>	Steve Smith
<b>Fire Safety Officer</b>	Peter Cotton
<b>Genesis Leader</b>	Fiona Pullé
<b>Health &amp; Safety Officer</b>	Jayne Weaver
<b>Parish Giving Officer</b>	Jayne Weaver
<b>Safeguarding Officer</b>	Paula Lavin
<b>Sidesmen (18)</b>	Darren Cottier    Douglas Cragg Richard Gabbittas    John Jack Glen Jackson    Sandra Jackson Trevor Jenkins    John Land Alan Lane    Anne Lane John Oram    Jean Paton Rod Pickles    William Pullé Lew Riches    Pat Riches Lucy Suchland    David Thompson

### Proposed Co-opted members of the Council until the 2022 APCM:

Val Cragg and Ray Davies.