

# Parish Church of St Luke – Holmes Chapel (Church Hulme)

## Minutes of the Parochial Church Council

held in The Massey Room

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022, 7.30 pm

		Actions
	<b>Present:</b> Canon Rob McLaren (Vicar and Chairman), Janet Chettle, Peter Cotton, Valerie Cragg, Tim Fryer, Stephen Haigh, William Hall, Yvonne Janvier, Trevor Jenkins, Fiona Pullé Alan Rickards, Barbara Smith, Steve Smith, Jayne Weaver, Charlotte Webb	
1.	<b>Welcome and Opening:</b> – Rob welcomed everyone and set the context by focusing on Article 14 from the 39 Articles of Religion of the Church of England. 14. Of works of Supererogation Prayers were said	
2.	<b>Apologies for absence:</b> – Wendy Macdonald	
3.	<b>Chairman’s report:</b> - Rob is addressing several important issues:-  a) Pastoral Care -There is a meeting coming up soon to discuss the way forward. b) Finance issues - As we approached Thanksgiving Sunday the Standing committee recognised there were certain things to be put to the congregation and they were communicated through a letter. There was a positive response to this with a 60% return and 30% of the congregation pledged to increase their giving. c) Due to Leadership - we have been able to get outstanding projects done and we will continue with this. Not least because prices are continuing to go up. d) Re-establishing large seasonal services - this did not work at Harvest, but we hope it will work at Christmas with numbers being better this year. Plans to support this include the magazine, social media, a banner on the Church railings, and an invitation. e) Churches together are having problems with printing the Christmas card. We may be doing our own. The Comms Team will be asked to help with an email that can be passed on. The PCC expressed its opinion that it wished for the Churches Together card and delivery to happen, if possible, but we can have invitation cards available for the Christmas Market. This does not allow very long but Rob will produce this.	
4.	<b>Minutes of the meeting on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2022</b> – these had been circulated. The Minutes were adopted by those present, and proposed by Peter Cotton, and seconded by Alan Rickards. The Minutes were signed by the Chairman.	

	Thanks were offered to Jayne Weaver for compiling the Minutes.	
<b>5.</b>	<p><b>Matters arising from the previous meeting (not dealt with elsewhere on the agenda).</b></p> <p>The Data Privacy Notice has been updated by Steve in his new role as Data Protection Officer. The item on audio-visual will be covered in AOB – there is a report provided.</p>	
<b>6.</b>	<p><b>Warden’s report:</b> – A report had been circulated with the agenda. Broadband in the Church was mentioned, and this will be covered in AOB as it links to the item on audio-visual. There was an explanation for becoming an Eco- Church in which we would demonstrate our care for God’s world. This is undertaken by the completion of a questionnaire. And there are three levels that can be achieved. There is a website devoted to it that contains a lot of information and support. A champion was asked for and Charlotte volunteered.</p>	<b>Charlotte</b>
<b>7.</b>	<p><b>Financial Report:</b> - A report had been circulated with the agenda.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) A proposal was made to merge the Fabric and Maintenance Funds. They both relate to the upkeep of the Church and would be a Church Fabric Fund. This was proposed by Trevor and seconded by Jayne with a unanimous vote from the PCC members.</li> <li>b) The Fabric and Maintenance funds were previously classified as restricted funds. This would imply that money had been donated for the specific purpose of Church maintenance or was donated as the result of an appeal for such. As this was not the case but was money allocated for that purpose by the PCC the true classification for these funds should have been designated (unrestricted). It was proposed by Trevor to make this change to the new merged fund and seconded by Yvonne with a unanimous vote from PCC members.</li> <li>c) The Lighting project is underway, and we have paid out already £42K but we should be able to recover the VAT</li> <li>d) The Pew Cushions are finished and paid for from donations.</li> <li>e) William is in the process of closing the old bank accounts</li> <li>f) A question was raised about the balance in the Fabric Fund - £50K</li> </ul> <p>Rob thanked Trevor for all his hard work which was echoed by the PCC members</p>	
<b>8.</b>	<p><b>Safeguarding</b> – nothing had been raised. Rob had approached a person who had responded and offered themselves as a permanent replacement, Allan Whiston. DBS checks and training would need to be completed. He would also need to be co-opted onto the PCC. It was agreed to follow this up.</p>	<b>Rob</b>
<b>9.</b>	<p><b>Lighting project</b> – This has been started today 14<sup>th</sup> November by Lighting Dynamics and AJ Electrics. They estimate it will take 18 working days Most should be completed before the last three days when the programming of the system will take place.</p>	

	<p>Alastair is overseeing this. A question was raised over whether the pew cushions had been removed and yes, they have in the necessary areas.</p>	
10.	<p><b>Church Hall Chairs</b> – these are due to be delivered in a week’s time and Rose Hill in Wilmslow are supplying them. The Church Hall committee is looking at options for the old chairs and will deal with them. The new red chairs will be moved into the Massey Room. They can also be taken easily into Church if needed. The new chairs will go on moveable brackets so will be easy to store.</p>	
11.	<p><b>Any other Business- Proposal for upgrading the audio-visual system.</b> A paper had been circulated in advance of the meeting and Tim went through this. The total cost of upgrading the system would be in the region of £10K. Installing Broadband in the Church was discussed with the suggestion of a mobile link due to the nature of the building. A question was raised over whether we can use the money from the sale of the vicarage and that we need to be clear on what the restrictions are. It was commented on that it might only be possible to use these funds with the streaming option. A point was raised that this has come straight after Thanksgiving and that we are spending a lot of money at the moment. It was commented on that the perception of a number of people is that the Church has plenty of money. Some people also feel that any money should be spent on outreach possibly through employing a youth worker. The point was made that a great deal of the money that has been spent has been through donations and that we need to make it clear where this money has come from. A question was asked on how the new system would help people who were hard of hearing. It was agreed that this needs to be considered in any upgrade. It was mentioned that if we were able to stream events then we could charge for this. It was agreed that we would come back to this at the January meeting. However, it was mentioned that the current equipment is starting to fail. Rob will check with Ian Bishop regarding whether this would meet the requirements for the use of the money from the sale of the old vicarage.</p>	Rob
12.	<p><b>Future PCC Meetings</b> (normally 7.30 pm 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday in the month – the venue will be confirmed when the agenda is sent out)</p> <p><b>9<sup>th</sup> January 2023</b> <b>13<sup>th</sup> March 2023</b></p> <p><b>Annual Church Meeting Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2023</b></p>	
13.	<p><b>Close of Meeting</b> – there being no further business the meeting closed with Prayer. The meeting closed at 9.00pm</p>	

