



# All Saints' Church

Preston on Tees

## Minutes of the PCC Meeting on Monday 20 April 2020, 19.30 by Zoom Conference

	<b>Present</b>	<b>Action</b>
	Paul Arnold, Debbie Bunford, Lucy Falcus, Lawrence Gnanaraj, Simon Honeywell, Martin Howard, Karen Killick, Kathie Lambert, Stuart Levin. John Littlehailes, Scott Linnett, Pamela Rushton, Richard Spratt, Ian Taylor, John Taylor, Margaret Vaughan, and David Warren. <u>Chair</u> : John Lambert. Observing, Jonathan Backhouse.	
<b>1</b>	<b>Opening Reflections and Prayers</b> Karen Killick said that she has drawn upon two of the epistles, James 1.2 and 1 Peter 4.10. She said that, as a solicitor, she loves words and the precision which they can command. The Greek word used for trials in James is the same as used in the Lord's Prayer, in Jesus' parable of the good Samaritan, and in the description of Paul's shipwreck. It refers to a variety of deep difficulties. The other word used, referring to God's grace means variegated, of many colours. In testing times God's grace comes to us in many forms. God knows the grace we need for the trials we face. He covers us with the rainbow colours of His grace. That grace restores: we are told to be strong in the grace. Karen suggested that we think, in silence, of a trial we or someone known to us is going through, and that we pray for God's multicoloured grace to be covering those under trial. After a time of silence Karen in prayed thanks for the work of God in our lives, and that we can be strong in the grace. She prayed for the meeting and for all who are taking part, for strength and wisdom, and that we should listen to one another, and, together, finding the way ahead confidently in the name of Jesus.	
<b>2</b>	<b>Apologies for Absence, and Declaration of Conflicts of Interest</b> Apologies had been received from Lawrence Gnanaraj. There was a declaration of a conflict of interest in agenda item 10 by Jonathan Backhouse.	
<b>3</b>	<b>Approval of Minutes of meetings of 23 March and 6 April, 20 January 2020</b> These minutes were agreed, with none against, but with four abstentions for the meeting of 23 March, and one for the meeting of 6 April.	<b>John Littlehailes</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Correspondence</b> None.	
<b>5</b>	<b>Matters Arising (not covered elsewhere on Agenda)</b> Pamela Rushton asked about progress on, item 6, (23 March). No specific email group has been set up, but there has been a lot of phone contact. The Life Groups are connecting among themselves, and the church are making their next priority the especially vulnerable within our number. John Lambert believes that all of these are covered but we cannot be certain. To ensure that none is being missed, the church data base is being checked out, starting with the 09.00 congregation.	<b>Shiromi Davison Sandra Griffiths</b>

	Paul cautioned that while a Facebook account can be useful, it may be susceptible to access by others outside the group.	
<b>6</b>	<p><b>Financial Update</b></p> <p>Kathie Lambert referred the PCC to the already circulated finance paper. Giving is down. Giving by envelope significantly so, mainly due to the church being closed, so this normal pattern of giving has been interrupted. Experience shows that, in general, such giving is only delayed. As a church we are spending less. So far, 558a and 558b are up to date on their rent payments. While Gift Aid is apparently outstanding, it has been paid into our account, but after the period covered in the report.</p> <p>It was suggested that we could provide a website address for use by givers, but it was felt that using more modern methods of giving may prove awkward for some. Kathryn Belmont has transferred back £2,000 into the general account. In general, we are, so far, still in a strong position. The finance team were thanked for their work.</p>	
<b>7</b>	<p><b>Safeguarding Report</b></p> <p>Nicola Wrightson talked of the advice circulated to the PCC from SAFEcic. Online training can continue, but clearly no group meetings are possible. It seems that there have been some problems with on-line training, but this has not been widespread. David Munby (he and Jill have found a house locally) cannot officiate until he has had safeguarding training, but we believe he should be able to preach, and a date has been set in early July.</p>	<b>Nicola Wrightson</b>
<b>8</b>	<p><b>Wardens' Update</b></p> <p>Karen said that with the church being closed, not much has been going on. She has talked to the tenants, who were pleased to have the opportunity to talk with her. She made the point that, as we feared, they may not manage to pay rent next month, but time will tell.</p>	
<b>9</b>	<p><b>Staff Management Team</b></p> <p>Debbie Bunford said that the two members of staff have been furloughed and the correct procedures were adhered to. All the staff are being paid their full salaries. The process for reclaiming 80% of the salaries from the government opened today and John Belmont is putting in a claim on our behalf.</p>	
<b>10</b>	<p><b>Secretary: co-option of Jonathan Backhouse</b></p> <p>Jonathan Backhouse left the meeting for this item. John Littlehailes told the PCC that Jonathan Backhouse would be picking up the Secretary's job after the May meeting. He therefore proposed "<b>That the PCC co-opt Jonathan Backhouse onto the current PCC</b>". This motion was seconded by Lucy Falcus. The motion was carried with one abstention. It was pointed out that, as is the case for all the PCC, he will need to be elected at the delayed APCM. John Lambert expressed the PCC's thanks to John Littlehailes for his years of service in the role.</p>	<b>John Littlehailes Jonathan Backhouse</b>
<b>11</b>	<p><b>Treasurer's Post</b></p> <p>Richard Spratt, currently Assistant Treasurer, will pick up the finances from Kathie until he is able to hand over the post to Kevin Storer. Richard will remain as Assistant Treasurer until he moves to St Paul's, Newtown, next</p>	<b>Richard Spratt</b>

	<p>Easter, helping Kevin during the transfer. Because bank branches are closed the transfer of bank signatures is proving even more awkward than usual. To facilitate this when it becomes possible to proceed it was proposed by Martin Howard and seconded by Debbie Bunford that <b>“Kathie Lambert’s signature should be removed from the list of Bank Signatories and that of Richard Spratt replace it.”</b> The motion was passed with all in favour. It was also pointed out that we shall have two signatures to change so we need, ideally, to find a way forward which may allow these to happen together.</p>	<p><b>Richard Spratt</b></p>
<p><b>12</b></p>	<p><b>Parish Profile: the way forward</b></p> <p>John and Kathie left the meeting at this point, blessing the PCC as they went.</p> <p>Martin had sent the PCC four Parish Profiles, one from a former parish of his, which very much focussed on the family. The profile presented by St. James’ Shildon was said by members of the PCC to be very clear, and it also had lots about the wide involvement of the children of the parish. Here are various topics touched on in a wide-ranging discussion. Layout on the page is important for legibility and ease of understanding. Margaret Vaughan focussed on the viewpoint of the spouse, and his or her views on the house and neighbourhood, and what was available for the children.</p> <p>We should make it clear that there is a lot of support for the vicar; the staff provide lots of help for the vicar’s tasks and the Staff Management Team is professionally very strong.</p> <p>Lots of stuff is going on in a generous outreaching church.</p> <p>Our spiritual life should be represented in the presentation.</p> <p>A paper presentation is required, but we should consider including, for example, a video presentation.</p> <p>Margaret commented on the power of the phrase “This is where we are but we know we need to change.”</p> <p>There was discussion about the routes for bringing the vacancy to the attention of the possible candidates.</p> <p>Many people in various ministries will be needed to contribute to the document.</p> <p>We need to get a document Mark 1 to work from: a first draft, and soon. Some items, the more factual, could be done within 4-5 weeks to clear the decks for the more demanding tasks. Lucy Falcus offered to produce the drafts for the locality, deanery and diocese sections. The more difficult will take longer, but a target for an early draft of the end of May would be useful.</p> <p>Karen Killick asked the PCC to consider prayerfully whom we should choose as our parish representatives, and for each PCC member to send her some names before the next meeting of the PCC.</p> <p>St Mary’s must be involved in a joint discussion to ensure that we can be working effectively together. Debbie Bunford will make an initial approach to them.</p>	<p><b>Lucy Falcus</b></p> <p><b>All</b></p> <p><b>Debbie Bunford</b></p>

<b>13</b>	<b>AOB</b> Pamela Rushton volunteered to do the Opening Reflections and Prayers at the next meeting, <b>Monday 18 May 2020.</b> Martin Howard prayed for the PCC to be guided by God in their choice of representatives and that we will all be guided by Him during the process to come. The Grace followed, closing the meeting.	<b>Pamela Rushton</b>
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