

**ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY CHURCH
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**Minutes
Monday 8th August 2022**

Attendees : Fr Quentin Jackson, Kit Tranmer, Mike O'Sullivan, Matthew Ives, Rob Fernandez, Paul Turpin, Debbie Giddings, Andrew Dodd , Sarah Dodd, Donna Patros, Michelle Spears, Lorna Spears, Fr Isidore Faloona, Geraldine Mansbridge.

Apologies for Absence: Peter Robson

Fr Quentin welcomed returning and new members to the Council.

Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Following a secret ballot Kit Tranmer was elected Chair.

Election of Vice Chair

Mike O'Sullivan was elected Vice-Chair.

The Year Ahead

Kit invited the Council to consider how they want to work together in the year ahead. This could include an away day or just the regular meeting cycle. It was agreed to proceed on an ad hoc basis and review at each meeting.

Minutes

The minutes of the June meeting were approved.

It was noted that the roofing contractors had responded to the questions raised following the last premises inspection.

AGM

It was agreed that the draft minutes of the AGM be published on the website.

Two matters arose at the AGM, which require consideration by the PPC:

- Cycle Shelter
 - Michelle reported that she had arranged for a contractor who installs cycle shelters to visit the site and provide an estimate. This would be presented to the PPC with a location plan for approval in due course. It was noted that three quotes would be needed for the Finance Committee prior to any final decisions.

- Altar Hand rail
 - Concern was raised again about the difficulty some parishioners have in using the altar steps. It is recognised that this does present a health & safety hazard and consideration should be given to installing a handrail. It was agreed that Kit would address this matter with the Friars in the first instance and report back.

Review Parish Committee(s) Membership/links

It was felt that this was an important engagement role for each PPC member as this enables any areas of concern to be addressed in a timely way. Michelle & Geraldine agreed to draw up a list of groups with contact information and allocate a PPC member accordingly. An item would be listed on future agendas for any issues to be addressed.

Review PPC Constitution

It was agreed to consider any proposed changes to the PPC Constitution prior to the AGM meeting in 2023 as any proposed changes will then need to go to that AGM for ratification.

Tennis Club

The request for flood lighting to be installed on the tennis courts was considered. It was agreed to support the application for planning permission at this stage only. If and when this is received the matter must be brought back for full consideration at an appropriate meeting of the PPC

Candle Stand – Our lady's Altar

The PPC agreed to the replacement of the candle stand on Our lady's Altar. The new stand will be safer and would address the health & safety concerns and encourage parishioners to use the available slots on the stand only.

Future Projects

Sarah expressed a wish for the Parish to help with children and families who are facing difficult wellbeing concerns and/or financial hardship. She suggested that as a first step St Thomas' could work with BCCS and our Schools to support children with wellbeing needs. It was agreed that Kit and Sarah would explore what could be done and report back. In order to avoid any delay in supporting any proposals it was agreed that next steps could be addressed through email for any approvals, which would also need to be considered by the Finance Committee.

Car Park

London Borough of Redbridge are introducing more parking permit zones in roads near the Church and this is likely to have an impact on the car park. Consideration

may therefore need to be given to regulating access to the church car park. It was agreed to explore what the options for regulation could be and report back in due course.

In the interim it was agreed to continue with the Church school allocation of no more than 21 spaces for staff working part time but that this would be reviewed in December 2022.

Planned activities

It was noted that the summer fete raised approximately £6K. Congratulations were extended to all those who made it such a successful occasion.

- **Future events**
 - 24 Hours Adoration – PPC Lead Debbie
 - Bereavement service – PPC Leads Michelle & Lorna
 - Christmas Fayre – PPC Lead Mike O’Sullivan

Next Meeting

This will be held on 10th October at 8pm