

St. Andrew's and St. Peter's Church, Toller Porcorum

Meeting of the Parochial Church Council held in the church

Tuesday July 16th 2020

Minutes of Extra ordinary meeting

Present: Rev'd David Baldwin; David Wallbridge; Judy Miller; Keith Miller; Thelma Billen; Mike Boardman; Jo Stephenson; David Ennals.

Apologies: Paul Leppitt

Agenda

1. The Rector opened the meeting with a time for prayer.
2. Approval of minutes from June 9th: signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.
3. Matters Arising: builders begin work on the tower July 27th. Architect attending in August to check progress. DE followed up on the chancel and confirmed that the Church Commissioners were not liable for the chancel. JS stated that the builders wanted a hedge trimming back to ease access, but wasn't sure where. DE stated that he had trimmed the hedging on rear steps and path. JS was to email DE with guidance on the hedge in question.
4. Discussion of ongoing communications on church matters: a few grievances were aired: JM challenged JS that she sent brusque emails which were hurtful. JS offered an apology. Another example of bad feeling originated from the fact that the Churchwarden didn't attend the church for 3 months during January to March because services were held in the village hall; KM had shouldered much of the responsibility during this time. Surely, the position held of Churchwarden is for 12 months a year not 9?
A few guidelines were agreed: a) decisions should be collective b) emails should be sent with greater consideration and especially the replies c) telephone calls are preferable to emails as the receiver cannot detect the tone of message with emails. d) DB proposed: if a decision is to be made then this must be communicated to the Secretary who will make a joint decision after meeting with or discussing it through with the Rector. This will then be shared with the PCC. e) Regarding the building work KM, DW are to form a building work sub-committee who then refer any problems to JM as Secretary.
JS requested that she is embraced as part of the church congregation.
5. Any other business: i) Church path hedge: a resident in Church Mead requested that his side of the church hedge be cut. The PCC agreed it was not the responsibility of the church. ii) MB concerned about cash flow and was concerned that the parish share could not be paid in full, but the Diocese are happy for the payment to be made once the VAT has been claimed back from the VAT paid on the building works.

iv) Concern over a Fookes family headstone: the process to be followed is that the family are to be contacted. If no response, then the headstone must be laid down flat. v) DE concerned that JS had asked Jess (grass cutter) to reduce size of wild-life meadow. It was agreed that the PCC go forth and agree on its perimeters. This was duly completed and DE would communicate this to Jess. In the process the Rector and DE laid flat onto the grass two gravestones.

6. The Rector closed the meeting (before going forth outside) with a prayer offering thanks for the work of PCC members and guidance by the Holy Spirit on the directions of the PCC into the future.

DE 2115 hours