

**UNITED PCC FOR THE PARISH OF ST GILES THE ABBOT AND ST NICHOLAS,
FARNBOROUGH**

Minutes of the PCC for St. Giles the Abbot and St Nicholas, Farnborough

Sunday 21st March 2021 at 4pm

Via Zoom

Item	Description
Present	The Rector: Matthew Hughes MH , Associate Rector: Stephen Broadie SB , Claire Couldridge CC , Roger Allard RA , Linda Montgomery LM ,
1	Welcome and prayers The Rector opened the meeting with prayer
2	Apologies: Nick Joliffe NJ
3	Declarations of Interest: None
4	Minutes of previous meeting – March 2020 Proposed: SB Seconded: CC Agreed by all
5	Matters arising from the minutes: None .
6	Rector's report: The Rector reported that everyone at St Giles had been trying to keep things going during these difficult times with a mixture of services, some in church when allowed, some online and some being emailed out to people. It has not been easy but there have been benefits. It will remain as it is until social distancing is reduced as the building at St Giles is very small. Financially, the church has been able to hold its own despite the loss of income from lettings etc. However, he was pleased to report that two new bells had been cast taking the total to eight. Also, 380 people had been emailed weekly with services, bible studies and resources for prayer. Many of which have been added to the list as time in lockdown has gone on.
7	Associate Rector's report: The Associated Rector reported that he agreed that it had been a difficult time but had not been without it's positives. EG Over Christmas there was a combination of services in church, via zoom and on face book and that there had been an attendance of 440 people which was very encouraging. Also, through people's generosity, £600 had been sent to the Children's Society. A new development as a church is that since 9 th February, St. Nicholas have been operating the Community Larder working with Fairshare and the Co-op's

	<p>Foodshare. Food is distributed every Tuesday and some St Giles members have been helping with this. Through this there has been a link made with the local Keniston Housing Association which is very encouraging. Over 250 residents are being text every week to make them aware of the larder and many of the residents are making use of this. These community links, which were not there before, are very encouraging opportunities and some volunteers are coming to help when they have had no previous links with the church. Like St Giles, the church opened up again on 7th March. Stephen also reported that there had been a recent PCC quiet morning via zoom which had been a really good time of reflection and despite the difficulties, especially with finance, there was a real sense of community and everyone pulling together that had resulted in an increase in attendance when open. It was felt that many of the activities that had begun during lockdown may continue but later in the year it was felt that there is the need for a memorial service as many people are grieving and there is the need for recovery.</p>
8	<p>Financial reports</p> <p>St Giles – MH In Carol's absence, the Rector reported that despite the challenges, St Giles had managed to keep its head above water.</p> <p>St Nicholas - RA The St Nicholas 2020 accounts show an excess of expenditure over income of £22925. St Nicholas has been hard hit by the lockdown with the building closed from late March until the summer and again from towards the end of the year. Little Angels, the Nursery, returned for four weeks in June/July and resumed in September through to Christmas. Other hirers were back in September/October before it was lockdown again and the Church was also open in the period for Sunday services. The 2020 budget figure for Hall Lettings was £50000, the actual £25227 – the main reason for the £22925 excess of expenditure over income. Other fund raising, although small by comparison, also did not take place in the lockdown – Lunch Club, Parent and Toddler Group, Holiday Club and the November Autumn Fair. Giving in its various forms held up well with only a small reduction compared with budget – budget £48650, actual £47492. Obviously with the church closed for quite a long period there were no Sunday cash collections in the collection bowl. During the year we continued to pay our Pledged Offer of £52161 in full to the Diocese although for 2021 we have only felt able to pledge £41994 rather than the Diocesan Calculated Indicative offer of £52751. We have however said we will review this later in the year in the light of our finances. We also continued to pay our Church Administrator and Children and Family Worker in full as there were aspects of their jobs that they needed to continue to carry out and so would not be eligible for furlough.</p>

	<p>New stage curtains and window blinds have been installed in the main hall completing the refurbishment so we have an attractive hall for hirers when St Nicholas is open again for bookings. This expenditure was financed using Restricted Funds that had been donated for the purpose. During the 2021 summer builders will be recaulking the exterior joints between the concrete panels at a cost of £10662 including the consultant's fees. Fees of £2940 for this were incurred in 2020 financed from Restricted Funds and there is a balance of £2582 Restricted Funds available for the 2021 expenditure plus funds in the Church Hall Repair Fund at the Diocese.</p> <p>Lockdown meant that expenditure in a number of budget heads was less than budget and the three charities to benefit from our Mission Charity Giving received £1000 each rather than the £1250 in the budget. Gas, electricity and water usage has been monitored closely so that monthly payments more accurately reflect usage. In February 2020 the boiler at Church House had to be replaced at a cost of £2240 and the money for this was withdrawn from the Church House Repair Fund at the Diocese. In the early part of 2021 we have been pursuing a claim under the Equipment Breakdown section of the Church House insurance policy in respect of the boiler and in February we received the sum of £2115 from the Ecclesiastical Insurance Company. Welcome news indeed!</p> <p>The 2021 budget has been prepared on the basis that St Nicholas will not fully reopen until September 2021 and a deficit of £18350 is projected at the year end despite only pledging £41994 to the Diocese as the St Nicholas offer. The budget contains no income from services and hall lettings until September with the exception of Little Angels who are in the Leamington Room for the whole year and the London Mayoral Election on 6 May. With the roadmap out of lockdown the situation has changed and St Nicholas reopened for Sunday services on 7 March and Lucy Griffiths and Tumble Tots, our other two major hall hirers, plan to be back after Easter, which should mean that the deficit of £18350 is very much a worst case scenario.</p> <p>The Rector and Associate Rector expressed their sincere thanks to Roger and Catherine for their work with the accounts during this difficult time.</p> <p>The Rector presented the accounts to be signed off by both PCC's subject to their scrutiny by Baxters. Anyone, not attending the meetings today should register their agreement by email to LM.</p> <p>Proposed: CC Seconded: SB Agreed: all</p>
9	<p>AOB:</p> <p>Stephen shared the sad news of the death of David Allen who had been a warden at St Giles and a member of the choir. He reported that it was hoped this it would be possible to hold a memorial some time later in the year.</p>
	<p>Date and time of next meeting: TBC</p>

