

MINUTES

Present: Revd. Henry Curran, Kate Curran, Joyce Cooper, Chris Drew, Becca Haines, Debs Hunt, Ian Knight, Kathryn Hubbard, Jonathan Larsson, Stacey Mutch.

Apologies

Rosie Adsley, Fiona Houghton, Lawrence Ward.

Following clarification of guidance from the diocese requiring us to reopen the church building for services in September, Henry had produced a proposal on how to move forward.

Stacey proposed and Chris seconded *that we endorse Henry's report and intend to proceed with proposal 3 as outlined in the report*. Unanimously passed. We intend to begin live streamed services on the morning of Sunday 6 September.

We were concerned to preserve church unity by making online and physically present congregations aware of one another, and by encouraging everyone to join Zoom after services even if they arrive late after travelling home. We wanted to avoid putting pressure on anyone to attend services in person, and intend to include Bible readings and prayers led by volunteers either present in church or by video recording. Volunteer stewards and tech people also need to be recruited without pressure. We intend to continue exercising caution in safe use of buildings.

Action: Henry to communicate our decision and appeal for funding by e-mail/phone to the congregation.

Action: a volunteer from PCC to film a fundraising video for inclusion in the online service on 30 August.

Action: Henry to apply for a funding grant from the diocese.

Action: Henry for future agenda: consider adding a budget line for maintenance of video equipment.

The PCC was uncomfortable with holding Holy Communion services while part of the congregation will be unable to participate. We felt this would be divisive and in opposition to the spirit of Communion.

Action: Henry to write to the Bishop asking for permission not to hold Holy Communion services until Coronavirus restrictions are lifted. Church of England guidance supports our position. If the Bishop insists we must start Holy Communion services, they could be carried out after live streamed services instead of those present going home to join the Zoom meeting.

The PCC wished to note the Vicar's need for support from the diocese and our disappointment that this has been so lacking during the Coronavirus crisis. Henry felt this could be communicated to the Bishop later, as he is also under pressure at this time and needs our support rather than complaint.