

St Andrew's Church, Sandon
PCC Meeting Minutes
Thursday 7th November 2024 at 7.30pm
in the St Andrew's Room



The Church of England
in Essex and East London
Diocese of Chelmsford

1. Opening prayers were led by Judy Cecil
2. Present: Colin Bryan, David Farrar, Janet Terry, Alison Read, Andy Horne, Cathie Horne, Richard Cecil, Judy Cecil.
Apologies for Absence: John Gruby, Christine Mennie and James Colbeck
3. Minutes of PCC Meeting of 26th September 2024: David Farrar proposed, Alison Read seconded and all agreed these as a true record of the meeting. Also agreed notes of meeting with Boreham on 21st October.
4. Matters arising. None
5. Notification of any other business. None
6. Parish Council (James Colbeck not here)
7. Finance: Nick had sent a report. He asked for permission to reduce money in one of the fixed term savings accounts, but after discussion decided to leave as is and rely on using the 32 day account if needed. The organ is to be tuned November 8th, so Nick will expect an invoice for that (about £150)

ACTION NICK

Looking to the future: Parish share is likely to increase by £2-3k to pay for 0.25 of a priest and 0.5 of a house cost if sharing with Boreham, or if a House for Duty (HfD) priest for Sandon then SSM priest but 1.0 house cost.

At present income is slightly down and expenses slightly up. So be aware and maybe need to advise congregation with an update about giving.

8. Deanery Synod: Judy had sent a report. Election to Diocesan synod of 2 lay members resulted in Gavin Adlington and Eleanor Evans being elected. Judy was asked to write to the deanery chair asking whether/when the original question from the PCC will be discussed, as although interesting information was shared at the last deanery synod the quandary of providing communion services without sufficient clergy cover had not been addressed.

ACTION JUDY

9. Discussion following the joint meeting with Boreham PCC: Impressions of disunity at Boreham and not very positive feelings. Since joining Boreham for Sacred Space people seemed more friendly and prayerful. Boreham seem divided and in a rush to find new clergy as the few people leading are getting tired.
After meeting with churchwardens (CWs) it seems good to produce profiles and compare visions/expectations. Agreed the 2 PCCs would each compose a profile and see whether they point to sharing the same priest or looking for 2 HFD priests. Richard read a letter received from the Archdeacon's PA re section 11 of the Patronage Measure, next steps and timetable. Richard proposed we set about preparing a Parish profile for St Andrew's Sandon and suggested we meet as a PCC to 2nd or 5th December with the Archdeacon and have a meeting before that to start our profile. Following the guide from the Archdeacon it was agreed we will all think about a profile and bring ideas to a meeting on: Thursday 21st November 7pm-8.30pm SAR.

ACTION ALL

10. Worship and other plans for Advent and Christmas. Advent course planned and advertised. Cathie suggested we sing some Advent hymns rather than carols during Advent. Looking ahead Richard will invite the Archdeacon for Easter Sunday. Carol service is on 15th December at 4pm – Richard has invited Sandon school choir but they are already booked. Emma Shorey runs the Community choir and they may be willing. Church Choir will be singing. Readings: maybe ask Andy Weaver, James Colbeck, Jane Clark, Jean Blake, Jennifer Price, Sarah Fitzwalter. Colin suggested Boreham Ladies might be willing to sing for us at a concert. Colin to make enquiries. Judy to co-ordinate. Plans for the 'Nine lessons and Carols', including mulled wine and mince pies. Judy will ask Diocese property department about condition of the Rectory and perhaps request some of us take a look at it, via Rene (Archdeacon's PA). Property Dept 01245 294471 Email: propertyhelpdesk@chelmsford.anglican.org ACTION JUDY
Crib service will be planned by Worship planning group who will meet on Wednesday 20th November at 9.15am in church.
ACTION Worship Planning Group
11. Fabric Report (Richard, Andy). Richard has submitted a DAC application requesting help in deciding what is the appropriate action to take with the pax. i.e. removing it from the safe where it is deteriorating in the slightly damp conditions. The Friends meet next on 14th November with some discussion around improving the constitution. Richard Cecil Proposed 'We ask the friends to organise repointing of the tower including raising money, agreeing a specification in consultation with churchwardens and architect and requesting quotes. Churchwardens will apply for a faculty, then the Friends can action the work'. Seconded by David Farrar and agreed by all. Richard reported that the Electrical inspection, by Danbury Electrics had made several recommendations. To prevent danger the main heating switch box on the tower stairs needs better protection together with some other similar work at cost of £278 +vat. Agreed this needs doing. Decided not to carry out Code 3 improvements re RCDs or surge protection devices. Agreed we do carry out the outside lights time switch improvement for £293 +vat. So looking at spending about £600. Proposed by Richard Cecil, Seconded by Andy Horne and all agreed. ACTION RICHARD
Cycle rack now in use. Agreed we ask for contributions via a bucket and the card machine, on weekly email and at Sunday services notices from 17th November.
12. Agree who will represent PCC on Friends committee: Friends Constitution indicates 6 committee members are elected at their AGM from the friends. 1 from the Parish Council, and 3 from the PCC. Judy Cecil proposed from PCC we appoint 2 churchwardens Richard Cecil, Andy Horne and also David Farrar, Cathie Horne seconded and all agreed. Judy email Mike Worboys. ACTION JUDY
13. Safeguarding Report – Alison had nothing to report.
14. Future PCC Meeting Dates (7:30 pm) in church
7pm on Thursday 21st November meeting to discuss parish profile
7.30pm on 2nd or 5th December for section 11 Patronage Measure meeting with the Archdeacon date as he prefers
12th December 2024 PCC meeting at 7.30pm
15. Any Other Business
Offers to lead prayers to begin next PCC meeting. Nick volunteered.
16. The meeting closed with the Grace at 9.20pm