

Rector: Revd. Canon Richard Grosse

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## **Minutes of Vestry Meeting held by Telephone Conference On Friday 3rd April 2020 at 7.30 pm**

**Participants:** Revd. Richard Grosse (Chairman) Mark Seymour, Elizabeth Roads, Judith Poulton, Alastair Gardner, James Gardner, John Willis, Mary-Clare Brown, Margie Stephen, John Dymond, Susan Forsyth

1. **Welcome:** The Rector welcomed all to the meeting and opened with a prayer.
2. **Apologies:** None
3. **Approval of the Minutes of Vestry Meeting dated 17th January 2020**

The minutes were approved. Proposed by Judith Poulton and seconded by James Gardner.

### **4. Eco Congregation - Church Heating and Grants, and Rectory Insulation**

Christopher Roads had prepared a report which is attached to these minutes and explained that he was working on acquiring grants towards the new heating system for the Church. The Rector thanked him for all his endeavours.

### **5. Financial Report and Treasurers Matters**

Alastair Gardner (Treasurer) had prepared his report which is attached to these minutes. He explained the current financial position to the meeting and because of the lock down and coronavirus things were difficult at the present time with no income coming from Sunday services, together with investment income dropping by 20%.

Discussion took place regarding continuing to pay Maria the Church Cleaner, and although she had refused to take payment at the present time, members felt that she should be supported. Judith Poulton agreed to intervene with a view to her receiving some income from Church funds.

## **6. Secretary's Correspondence and other Matters**

The Church Inventory is in the course of preparation and almost finalised. Mark Seymour thanked Elizabeth Roads for all her help with this.

Members agreed to participate in the Church Open Day in September and Mark Seymour agreed to organise this.

The Old Roll of Honour found in the Vestry has now been framed and is hanging in the Vestry.

An old sketch of the Reredos behind the alter has also been found and it was agreed that this should be framed and put on display.

## **7. Concerts and Events**

Christopher Roads had prepared a report attached to these minutes.

He outlined the situation to the meeting and spoke about the new St Marys Business Forum and also the situation regarding the concerts which have now had to be cancelled. He explained that there was a £300 surplus in the Concert Account and it was agreed that this could be used to compensate the two cancelled performances.

Christopher also informed the meeting that the Concerts would like to Commission a Compilation of St Mary's Marches, to be written by the Band Master of the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, Mr Boyle, who lived at Touch near Stirling and had local connections. This was agreed.

Christopher Roads, Mary-Clare Brown and Alastair Gardner agreed to discuss how much the Concert income should support the Church. It had been suggested that we were not paying enough to individual performers.

The Rector thanked Christopher for all her hard work.

## **8. Fabric Matters**

A summary of The Quinquennial Review had been circulated. Most recommendations were minor. The birds nests are to be removed later in the year. It was suggested when this is done netting is added around the bell tower to prevent nesting birds gaining access again.

The Electrical Installation Inspection has been carried out on the Church. The Rectory will be done during the interregnum. PAT testing had been done by Tam Mackie the electrician who raised some concerns about the heating system in the Church and some of the actual heaters under the pews.

The Rectory renovation will be carried out after Richard and Melanie have left the property and a schedule of works will be produced later.

The Rector thanked Mark Seymour for his input in these matters.

## **9. AOCB. None**

The Rector closed the meeting with a prayer.

At the end of the meeting Mark Seymour thanked the Rector for all his work over the many years that he has been Rector of St Mary's; we will miss him and look forward to seeing him from time to time after his retirement.

The Rector responded by thanking everyone saying that he will be sad to go and had enjoyed every minute of his time at St Mary's.

Mark Seymour asked that Richard thanked Melanie for all she has done for the Parish over the many years they have been with us.