**Church of St Nicholas Remenham**

**Minutes of the Parochial Church Council Meeting**

**Thursday 21st October 2021 7.30pm**

Present

Father Jeremy Tayler (Chair)

Charlotte Every, Churchwarden

John Laing, Churchwarden

Sue Laing

Hugh Whitfield

Paul Sermon

Mandy Sermon, Secretary

**Prayers**

1. **Apologies:** Anthony West, Sarah West, Nigel Gray
2. **Minutes of meeting held on July 15th 2021** Charlotte Every proposed that the minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting. Sue Laing seconded. Father Jeremy signed the minutes.
3. **Matters Arising** John Halsall has responded to the request for a meeting with Father Jeremy, the Church Treasurer and the Churchwardens. Sue Laing is to write a letter to Park Place.
4. **Finance Report** Nigel Gray had sent an update on the financial situation. He reported that the finances were relatively healthy. Gift aid giving and donations have increased and estimated income from the fundraising letter is £3000. Over the year so far there is approximately £16,000 excess income over expenses that are similar to those of last year. The switch to a new electricity supplier has paid off. The Hall Fund has benefitted from increased hirings. 90% of the Parish Share had been paid and it was decided that the balance could now be paid. In the light of any future problems, the PCC passed a resolution that the Parish Share should only be paid from income and not from reserves. This was proposed by Sue Laing and seconded by Paul Sermon. All agreed.
5. **Fundraising** Sue Laing suggested that the sponsored walk around the parish undertaken previously could be repeated. Hugh Whitfield suggested that maybe a First Aid Course could be arranged. He will look into the possibility.
6. **Churchyard Clean Up** Thanks were expressed to Nick Austen for mowing the upper churchyard which is looking much better. Further work with hedges and trees is necessary and this will be assessed before another working party is arranged.
7. **Parish Hall** Father Jeremy will select one of the suggested dates for the Parish Hall Committee Meeting. One of the topics for discussion would be the celebrations of the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee on 5-7th June 2022. There will be a Church Service on the Sunday and a street party in the afternoon.
8. **Quinquennial Report** John Laing had produced an executive summary that is attached to these minutes. It was noted that the fee has yet to be processed. John Laing will make enquiries.
9. **Any other business** The PCC would like to express its thanks to Sally-Anne Plunkett for managing the Church flowers. The Rector will write a letter.
10. **Future Dates**

**PCC Meeting** Thursday 2nd December 7.30pm

**Remembrance Sunday** Sunday 14th November

**Patronal Festival** Sunday5th December

**Carol Service** Sunday4pm19th December

**Christmas Eve** 9pm Holy Communion

**Christmas Day** 11.15am Children’s Service

The meeting concluded with Father Jeremy saying the Grace.

**1.00 QUINQUENNIAL REPORT EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

1.01 The Church is generally well maintained and overall is in good condition. The Churchyard is also well

cared for.

1.02 Since the last inspection repairs have been carried out to the fabric of the Church which will have long

term benefits.

1.03 There remain several outstanding defects listed in the previous quinquennial inspection report that

require attention. These are highlighted in section 2.02 of this report. Where appropriate these have

been relisted in the current report.

1.04 The report notes several defects that require attention. I have listed five items as requiring urgent

attention. Three relate to periodic inspections and testing of the electrical system, lightning conductor,

and fire extinguishers. All have been delayed by the Covid-19 pandemic restrictions. I am aware that

the PCC are arranging for these to be carried out. Of the remaining two, one is to clear debris in the

back gutter above the South Aisle. This is to prevent the risk of a roof leak. The final item is the

replacement of a missing tread on the fixed ladder in the Tower. The space is unlit, and the missing

tread makes the ladder unsafe.

1.05 I do recommend that the regular checking and maintenance of the rainwater disposal system is a

priority. Keeping this in tip top condition will reduce the risk of rising dampness that has in places

affected the walls and floors.

1.06 Of the other defects schedule I would recommend prioritising the roof repairs listed under category

B. Attending to these should prevent future water ingress. In particular, the Tower roof requires

attention and tiled roof of the Vestry needs replacing.

1.07 There are numerous repointing and stonework repairs that require attention. These can be attended

to in a phased programme, ideally during this quinquennial period.

1.08 I have also noted that brick repairs are required on the Churchyard boundary walls. It would be

prudent to attend to these to prevent further deterioration of their condition.

1.09 Other defects requiring attention are listed in the report.