**NOTES FROM THE P C C MEETING**

**HELD ON 21st MARCH 2024**

**CONFIDENTIALITY**

Fr Michael reminded members that confidential matters needed to be kept within the meeting and not discussed outside it. An edited version of the minutes (omitting confidential details but adding context, where necessary) was published in print and on the church’s web-site.

**PCC FINANCIAL LIABILITY**

A copy of the Diocesan PCC Financial Liability Statement was circulated to PCC members for signature.

**ADOPTION OF THE FORMAL SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT 2024**

The House of Bishops’ “Promoting a Safer Church – Safeguarding Policy Document” was AGREED. A formal safeguarding statement was signed by the Vicar and Churchwardens and would be displayed in the Church and in the Church Hall.

**APPOINTMENTS**

The following were AGREED:

**Officers:**

**Chairman** The Rev’d Michael Payne

**Vice Chairman** Dennis Ashurstor Rob Hollands

**Treasurer** Barbara Potter

**Secretary** Mike Welch

**Electoral Roll Officer** Doreen McIntosh

**Sub-committees:**

**Standing Committee –** Fr Michael, Dennis Ashurst, Doreen McIntosh, Barbara Potter, David Rawlinson, Mike Welch.

**Fund Raising & Social Committee** – Fr Michael, Jenny Rawlinson,

Barbara Potter, Janet Trevor. Co-opted: Sylvia Casey, June Cook, Mavis Prater.

**Nursery School Management Committee** *(Church representatives)*

- Fr Michael, Ann Ashurst, Caroline Brignall.

**Other Appointments:**

**Data Protection Officer** **-** Mike Welch

**Parish Safeguarding Officer** **-** Janet Trevor

**Health & Safety Officer -** Les Munns

**Churches Together in Gravesham –** Sylvia Munns

Fr Michael thanked all office-holders and subcommittee members.

**NURSERY SCHOOL** – An increase in staff remuneration was agreed, effective from 1.4.2024.

**NEW HYMN BOOKS** - These had now been received.

**TREASURER’S BUSINESS** – The budget monitor for February 2024 was reviewed and consideration would be given to ways of reducing the deficit. It was AGREED that there should be no change in the Hall and Powerhouse hire rates. It was AGREED that the open collection, on days to be agreed would be donated to the following charities: The local Samaritans, Poverty & Hope, Bloodrunners, Diocese of Bo (Sierra Leone), Hope Gardens (S.India), Water Aid.

**MISSION, OUTREACH & YOUNG PEOPLE**

Fr Michael said that at a recent Retreat led by the Archdeacon, participants had been asked to focus on what they were doing which was bearing fruit and prayer was sought for joyful growth and collaboration amongst churches. He added that St Aidan’s actively engaged with the wider community in a number of ways, e.g. Christian Aid, Children’s Society, Diocese of Bo, Warm Spaces, Computer Courses, Away Giving days etc.

**SAFEGUARDING** – Progress in renewing DBS checks was noted. Churchwardens had now received training relevant to their responsibilities. Some outstanding Basic Training would be arranged.

**PRAYER BOOK SOCIETY (PBS)** – Fr Michael said that St Aidan’s used the Book of Common Prayer on a regular basis although the Common Worship remained the usual rite. The PBS promoted use of the Book of Common Prayer and it was AGREED in principal that St Aidan’s should join become a member of the PBS who would add the name of St Aidan’s to its list of churches offering BCP-rite worship,.

**LIVING IN LOVE & FAITH** – The Church of England’s current position on this issue was considered. Fr Michael said that the Church had much further work to do on the theology and he hoped that the Church of England’s final position (which was likely to take many years to crystallise) would keep the focus on love.

**FIRST AID TRAINING** – Arrangements were being made for existing First Aiders to receive refresher training.

Mike Welch 17/4/2024