

**WEBSITE MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF RUSTINGTON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY 27th April 2021 – via Zoom**

Present: All members bar one present. Rebecca (Becca) Carter (Family Support Work) was welcomed too as she was joining us for the first part of the meeting.

Devotions – We all prayed together before Natalie read 10 ‘One another’ verses – Romans 12:10, Romans 15:7, 2 Corinthians 13:11, Galatians 5:13, Ephesians 4:2, Ephesians 4:32, Hebrews 3:13, Hebrews 13:1, James 5:9 and 1 Peter 4:9.

Minutes of PCC meeting 23rd March 2021

One amendment to item 8b - first sentence to read, ‘as the treasurer mentioned earlier there were some differences in recollection of what was agreed.’

The minutes were then proposed as correct and seconded. All voted in favour.

FSW – Natalie invited Becca to speak about a proposal for a possible Church Community and Outreach Hub in Rustington.

The three areas she spoke about were.

- 1) Introduction of the FSW work, the ethos and background leading up to the pandemic.
- 2) The needs of the local Community.
- 3) Development of a Church Community Hub.

FSW work has been carried out in Rustington for the last 4 years through which a building-up of a parent Community has developed. This has been through individual support to families, monthly after school clubs and Community events such as drop in mornings at Establo, especially for those with special needs. Then suddenly all this stopped due to the pandemic. However, along with volunteers and the Chatterbooks group an almost virtual hub has been created. Food parcels and craft packs have been delivered on a regular basis to around 20 families throughout the last year.

Rustington East Ward is the 14th most deprived area in Arun out of 94 areas. 30% most deprived area for income, health and disability deprivation. There is a high percentage of SEND families seeking support along with a high percentage of isolated, vulnerable elderly residents. The pandemic has seen a 31% increase in the need of support services and the County Council are cutting services by £950,000 with Family and Community Centres being closed. The idea is to provide online services instead but for some this is not ideal so a need for outreach services is growing fast.

The main aims for developing a CCH are.

- 1) To develop a hub that will enable families and the elderly to access services and support.
- 2) To work in partnership with other faith-based communities, schools and other statutory and charitable agencies to provide the widest support possible.
- 3) To create and build a sense of Community

Natalie thanked Becca and invited members to ask questions. Do we know if Becca or the volunteers provided anything for the elderly at the present time. Becca replied that this was not within her remit at the moment and that the idea was a Church Hub not an FSW Hub. The provision of support for the elderly is something that would need to be looked at. Natalie asked what practically did Becca need? Becca said that storage space was vital along with a base/office where families can find her and seek support.

Natalie thanked Becca for coming along and prayed for her and the work she is doing. Becca then left the meeting.

Natalie felt the idea would be worth pursuing. If some members visited other Hubs, they could give feedback in due course.

Policies – Two draft policies (Volunteers and Complaints) had been circulated following the Standing Committee members reviewing and amending them to suit our needs. A few typos were amended at this point.

Natalie asked that the policies be approved. **It was proposed that the Complaints Policy be accepted.** Duly seconded. All members voted in favour.

It was proposed that the Volunteer Policy be accepted. Duly seconded. All members voted in favour.

Architect/Quinquennial – It was decided that as Richard Andrews is still our appointed architect, he should be given the opportunity to undertake our quinquennial, if he so wished but we would be happy to use someone else if he didn't want to do it.

Treasurer's Report – Financial position received prior to the meeting. No questions asked.

Safeguarding – four policies had been sent out following amendments and updates after the PCC meeting in January.

It was proposed that the PCC accept the continued approval of these policies. Duly seconded. All members voted in favour. Natalie wished to pass on our thanks to Keith for the work he has put into the policies.

Health and Safety – report sent out and no questions received.

Deanery Matters/Churches together in Rustington – nothing to report regarding CtiR. Deanery matters Natalie informed members that the Diocese are thinking about their Missional and Financial responsibilities. This means that every Deanery will be required to undertake an audit, which in turns means every Parish will have to undertake one.

Matters raised by the Vicar – the house in Henry Avenue is now vacant Laura (our new Curate) will move in around the second week of June. Following an electrical survey some work needs to be done. A couple of the rooms will need new carpets. Any decorating will be carried out after the electrical work has been finished. The Standing Committee can discuss and make decisions to speed things up if the PCC members are in agreement. All were in favour.

Natalie informed the meeting that Bob (the Parish Administrator) wishes to retire as soon as possible, and we have been lucky to have held on to him for so long. He is willing to help hand over to someone else when the time comes. A new job description will be written based on the one Bob had before publicising this within the church family. If there is no response, we will need to think about advertising the post more widely.

Matters raised by the Churchwardens – Carrie told the meeting she was still awaiting a quote regarding new gates by the Lychgate.

Any other business – Natalie thanked those PCC members who had come to the end of their terms.

The meeting closed at 20.50