

## PARISH of STAPLEFORD TAWNEY with THEYDON MOUNT

PCC Meeting Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021, 7.30pm  
via Zoom

**Present:** Revd John Fry (Chair), Maggie Dennis, Colin and Edna Flint, Debbie Lee, Graeme Logan, Martyn Lockwood, Anne Padfield, Cindy Pridmore, Jo Shephard, Gill Southall, Jack Stewart

1. The meeting opened with prayer
2. **Apologies for absence** Revd Carol Newnham
3. **Minutes of the last meeting** held on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021 were amended and approved. The short meeting after the APCM on 18<sup>th</sup> April, appointing Cindy as Treasurer and Anne as Secretary, was included as part of the APCM minutes
4. **Proposals for items under AOB:** Pets Service, organists
5. **Matters arising from the minutes of the March**
  - a) 4G router. John would ask Gary Newnham to contact Christine and action.

### 6. **Vicar's report**

Confirmation service, 30<sup>th</sup> May: This would be one of the last services taken by Bishop Peter. There were 4 candidates. Booking places through the Parish Office would be essential, unless we were able to be outside.

John would check with the Bishop as to whether organ music would be needed. Edna had already booked Christine Gwynn, and the PCC would prefer music, even if singing was not permitted. John would liaise with her.

Maggie explained that the church, chapel and choir stalls could hold 26 people when distanced, and a few more if there were family groups of 3 or 4 in a pew. If the router was set up by then, the service could be live streamed to others. The ground outside is fairly uneven.

Carol Newnham may take a 10am service at Theydon Garnon at the same time.

EFDC had agreed a grant of £4,000 for improvements to Theydon Bois church hall, which would include partitioning off an area for the Parish Office, rather than Sarah working from home.

### 7. **Churchwardens' reports**

St Mary's: Maggie reported that the church continued to open on Wednesdays and Sundays, and that two visitors had volunteered their help – one with church cleaning, and the other with painting the churchyard benches. The forward altar had proved successful and there were no current plans to revert to the sanctuary position. The sinking slabs would continue to be monitored.

Martyn Lockwood suggested planting a tree in the churchyard for Maurice Padfield's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday (Sunday May 23<sup>rd</sup>). He would pursue. As the 23<sup>rd</sup> was a Mount Sunday, and the 30<sup>th</sup> was the confirmation, John would invite him to the Tawney service on June 6<sup>th</sup>, with fizz and cakes to celebrate.

St Michael's: The hatchments would probably be ready to rehang at the end of June or in July, but not necessarily the text boards.

John Fry reported that due to recent changes in marriage register legislation, he would remove one current marriage register from each church for deposit in Chelmsford and leave the other in the safe.

**8. Treasurer's report**

Cindy reported that there was £31,257 in the current account at 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021. The investment accounts were unchanged.

A Smart Meter had been installed at Mount church at the end of March. Another had been requested for St Mary's, which is 3-phase. They don't currently supply Smart Meters for 3-phase but may do in the future.

John reported that Chelmsford was aiming to become an Eco-Diocese and was inviting churches to sign up for an Eco-church award. Debbie Lee agreed to take on the role of "Environmental Champion". Proposed by Gill Southall, seconded by Cindy Pridmore and agreed. She would be sent the relevant information.

**9. Safeguarding**

Martyn Lockwood has completed part two of his training. The updated posters have been displayed in both churches.

**10. Deanery Synod**

The next meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> May also related to the Environment. Archdeacon's visitations were due and records etc would be inspected by either the Rural Dean or lay Chairman, dates to be agreed. The swearing-in of churchwardens would take place at St John's Epping at 7.30 on 30<sup>th</sup> June.

**11. Any other business**

Pets Service: Hopefully to be held outdoors on July 4<sup>th</sup>. The accordionist would be booked if possible. Edna would liaise with Stephen, who will probably feel able to return in August.

After 21<sup>st</sup> June, when Covid restrictions should be relaxed, Gill and Maggie had discussed holding a Parish Lunch, and something harvest-related in September/October.

**12. Items for next meeting**

John encouraged members to look at "Living in Love and Faith", a national initiative, to formulate a parish response.

**13. Date of next meeting**

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> July, 7pm in the Parish Room.

The meeting ended with prayer.