

PARISH of STAPLEFORD TAWNEY with THEYDON MOUNT

**PCC Meeting Wednesday 3rd March 2021, 2.00pm
via Zoom**

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

1. The meeting opened with prayer.
2. **Apologies for absence** Revd Carol Newnham
3. **Minutes of the last meeting**, held on 10th February 2021, were amended and approved.
4. **Proposals for items under AOB:** None
5. **Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting and from the Benefice meeting** held on 11th February 2021
 - a) 4G router proposal: It was agreed this would be useful, even after services resume, and it was understood that it should be useable at both churches. Expenditure of up to £100 (proposed by John Fry, seconded by Cindy Pridmore) was agreed. John would ask Gary Newnham to assist.
 - b) The Archdeacon's presentation on 11th February, concerning the diocesan financial shortfall, was discussed. Views were expressed on the transparency of diocesan accounts, the designation of "house for duty" as amber (implying not essential, despite the major contribution made by Carol), and the potential for streamlining diocesan posts and committees.
John reported that the full accounts were available on the Charity Commission website. The Theydons is fortunately a benefice with a secure future, because in total it pays its way. The Diocese had recently appointed a new Head of Finance, and a Parish Share review was imminent.
6. **Vicar's report**

The Bishop of Barking would be taking a confirmation service for the benefice at Stapleford Tawney on 30th May, Covid19 permitting.
An outdoor Pets service at Stapleford Tawney was planned for July 4th.
To help grow the church, a wider variety of services would be planned.
7. **Churchwardens' reports**

St Michael's: Jo had already circulated her report by email.
Malcolm Eckton had repaired the leak between nave and chancel, and would be starting work on the new cremated remains area. A small area of flashing on the tower roof would be repaired. Cindy would arrange a fire extinguisher check.
The car park area would be officially entered on the Land Registry.
Hatchments: £400 had been gratefully received from the publicity in the benefice notice sheet. The last three hatchments were with the conservator, and the fund was sufficient to allow the Charity boards to be restored. Gift Aid on most of the donations would be claimed. Estimates would be sought for a tower scaffold for

re-hanging. It was agreed the Hatchments Committee would be reconvened to organise a special service of celebration for the final reveal.

The first service at St Michael's would be held on Palm Sunday, March 28th at 10.45.

St Mary's: Maggie reported that footfall on the church opening days continued to be steady, and the visitors appreciative.

8 Treasurer's report and approval of 2020 accounts

The draft annual accounts for 2020 had already been circulated to the PCC and would imminently be sent to the examiner.

There was approximately £35,340 in the current account, which included £8,000 in grants for hatchment work not yet invoiced. A separate hatchment spreadsheet had been prepared.

Expenses were lower than usual because of the church closures. Our small additional contribution to Sarah Bowen's admin expenses would be paid for the whole year.

Smart Meters would be installed in both churches.

Approval of the accounts for 2020 was proposed by Jack Stewart, seconded by Maggie Dennis and passed unanimously. Cindy was thanked for all her work.

9. PCC Annual report 2020

This had already been circulated for approval. Proposed by Jo Shephard, seconded by Graeme Logan and passed unanimously

10. Safeguarding

The regulation safeguarding poster was on display in both churches.

11. Deanery Synod

Martyn Lockwood reported that there was to be a leadership meeting with the Area Deans and MMU.

12. Any other business

The Good Friday service would take a different format from usual in view of social distancing.

The service on April 18th would be a shortened Morning Prayer without communion, from 10.45-11.30. It would be followed by the APCM, held outdoors if possible.

13. Items for next PCC meeting

None specified

14. Date of next ordinary PCC meeting

The first PCC meeting after the APCM would be on **Wednesday 5th May 2021 at 2.00pm**, either in person or via Zoom.