

PARISH of STAPLEFORD TAWNEY with THEYDON MOUNT

**PCC Meeting Wednesday 3rd November 2021, 3.00pm
St Mary's church, Stapleford Tawney**

APPROVED

Present: Revd John Fry (Chair), Maggie Dennis, Debbie Lee, Martyn Lockwood, Anne Padfield, Gill Southall

1. The meeting opened with a reading and prayer, remembering especially Graeme Logan.
2. **Apologies for absence** Colin and Edna Flint, Cindy Pridmore and Jo Shephard.
3. **Minutes of the last meeting** held on 1st September 2021 were approved.
4. **Proposals for items under AOB:** Organists and payments
5. **Matters arising from the minutes of the September meeting:**
There were none.
6. **Vicar's report**
 - a) Graeme's funeral was to take place on Thursday 4th November at 2.00pm at Tawney. Arrangements were in hand.
 - b) Tina Bellamy's funeral would be on Wednesday 24th November at 12.30 at Mount. It was felt that the current delays between deaths and funerals, which had started pre-pandemic, were unacceptable.
 - c) A webinar about a future system for the Parish Share was to be held. John had details.
 - d) Janet and Rodney Lyons had enquired about booking a gravespace at Mount by faculty. As members of the Electoral Roll, they were entitled to a plot without needing a faculty, unless they wished to reserve a particular location. If so, it would entail a one-off fee and an ongoing payment of £150 a year. John would explain this to them before progressing the faculty to check they had realised. The PCC resolved that they approved of granting a gravespace reservation faculty to Janet and Rodney if applied for. Agreed unanimously.
7. **Assistance at communion**

It is now allowed for any PCC member to assist with the chalice. It was proposed that Gill Southall should be authorised to administer in general, ie in the community. Agreed unanimously.

It was suggested that we revert to using two separate readers for the first and second lessons, rather than one person reading both. It was thought unnecessary to change back, and that we would continue with one, which was consistent with Theydon Bois and Theydon Garnon.
8. **Christmas services**

Christine Gwynn was booked for all three. Numbers were usually very low for the Christmas Eve service at Mount. Additional advertising via the neighbourhood WhatsApp group and the Moletrap would be tried, and attendance reviewed.

9. **Recorded music for services**

The Panasonic system currently in use involves a lot of setting up work by Colin, and more up-to-date systems are available. A fairly simple replacement with thousands of hymns would cost about £500. The PCC authorised Martyn to consult with Colin, Edna and Christine. Gill would ask her son about the best speaker to use.

10. **Queen's Platinum Jubilee, June 2022**

Theydon Mount Parish Council had proposed using Mount churchyard for a jubilee lunch on Sunday 5th June, combined with the Parish Councils of Theydon Garnon and Stapleford Tawney. This was agreed.

Theydon Garnon PCC would be lighting a beacon on Thursday 2nd June, to which all churches in the benefice are invited.

11. **Churchwardens' reports**

St Mary's: Maggie reported concerns about the bells. It was thought that the ropes might be in poor condition and need splicing where they had abraded against the apertures, but it was many years since anyone had inspected them. John would ask Mike Coggins of Theydon Garnon if he would be willing to inspect.

St Michael's: Jo had sent an estimate for improving the lighting in the nave, of £430 + VAT. This was approved.

12. **Treasurer's report**

Cindy was unable to attend the meeting, so this report was received later:

Balance at the Bank in the current account: £ 24,700. The CCLA Accounts are as before, no deposits or withdrawals. The bills are all paid up to date.

The electricity account has not been changed yet (this was discussed at the previous meeting).

Following John Fry's discussion with Theydon Mount Parish Council, they have agreed to give us £500 toward the upkeep of the church grounds, yet to be paid. An invoice is to be sent to them from the Parish office.

The churchyard maintenance fees for 2018 & 2019 are still unpaid. An agreement was made with John Fradd regarding not paying for about a third of 2019 and this had not yet been discussed with him.

The cost of renovating and re-hanging the hatchments is believed to have now been covered. Cindy will check at the end of our financial accounting period (end of Dec 2021).

13. **Safeguarding**

All members of the PCC would be expected to do the basic safeguarding training. Martyn would send a link.

14. **Deanery Synod**

The next meeting would be on 17th November. The consultation document '*Living in Love and Faith*' would be the subject of a Lent course in 2022.

15. **Any other business**

- a) Organists' payments: In the absence of Colin, Edna and Cindy, discussion would be deferred until the next meeting.
- b) The Biffa enquiry was ongoing.
- c) The wildflower seeds had been sown.

16. **Items for next meeting**

None identified

17. **Date of next meeting**

Wednesday 2nd February, 3.00pm in the Parish Room.

The meeting ended with prayer.