

PARISH of STAPLEFORD TAWNEY with THEYDON MOUNT

**PCC Meeting on Wednesday 14th September 2022 at 7.00pm, Parish Room,
Stapleford Tawney**

APPROVED

Present: Revd John Fry (Chair), Maggie Dennis, Colin and Edna Flint, Debbie Lee, Martyn Lockwood, Anne Padfield, Cindy Pridmore, Gill Southall.

1. The meeting started with a reading and prayer for the late Queen. Updates were given on Jack Stewart and Bernie Pridmore, both in Harlow hospital.
2. Apologies for absence were received from Jo Shephard and Revd Carol Newnham.
3. The minutes of the last meeting held on 13th July were approved.
4. Proposals for any other business: provision of a card reader
5. Matters arising from the last minutes:
The Diocese had corrected the parish population from 632 to 362.
6. Vicar's report
 - a) John's DBS had been renewed for 3 years
 - b) Wendy Thompson had offered to fund a memorial to the babies who had died during the time when Hill Hall was used as a maternity unit, September 1939-September 1940. Martyn Lockwood had researched hospital records and would liaise with Wendy.
 - c) An All Souls service would be held on Sunday November 6th at Tawney at 10.45. Also at Theydon Bois at 4pm.
7. Churchwarden's reports
 - St Mary's:
Maggie reported that the Quinquennial inspection had taken place. The report had not yet been received, but Martyn Pattie had looked at the mosaic reredos fixing and thought it was safe. There were other minor defects.
 - St Michael's:
In her absence, Jo had sent a report in advance:
 - a) The memorial stone for Sir Phillip & Lady Veronica Bowyer-Smyth has been cleaned & renovated by the family

- b) Quinquennial inspection 2022 was completed late August. The report will state that only 2 repairs (there are some minor) need to be completed urgently, as follows:
- i) A small section of outer wall of the tower is missing & will allow ingress of water.
 - ii) The wooden box enclosing electrical wiring (right of main door) needs replacing.
- Malcolm Eckton to be appointed for this work.

The proposal to end the contract for the burglar alarm would be discussed at the next meeting, when Jo would be present.

8. Treasurer's report

Current account £33,346
CCLA accounts: Tawney £9900
 Mount £9400
Capital reserve £11,100

Insurance premiums for both churches of about £1300 each had been paid. The Statement of Assets and Liabilities required by the Diocese would be sent in due course.

John Fradd and Cindy had been in touch, and they would arrange payment for churchyard maintenance for the last two years, not yet invoiced. In future Cindy would suggest agreeing with John a standard annual cost for the contract as a whole.

Charity funds: Trustees are Cindy Pridmore, Martyn Lockwood, and Alan de Ferry, who keeps the records.

9. Allocation of Parish Share

The new system requires £117,000 for the benefice as a whole. The formula for allocation between parishes had been updated to take more factors into account. Average attendance at Tawney and Mount was 28 per week. An index of "multiple deprivations" assessed the parish as 66/450 (most deprived 1, least deprived 450), ie more deprived than Harlow.

Using the new formula, we were being asked for £12,966 for 2023.

As a comparison, for 2022 we had been asked for £14,500, but had only paid £12,000.

It was noted that Theydon Garnon is embarking on a major re-roofing project, involving a six-figure sum.

After discussion it was proposed that we would pay the amount requested, but not the voluntary addition suggested by the Area Dean.

Proposed by Martyn Lockwood, seconded by Maggie Dennis, and agreed unanimously.

10. Future events

An events meeting had taken place on 6th September and had planned a programme up to Christmas. The forthcoming lunch in October and quiz in November were in hand.

The Swing Band had been approached for an outdoor event in Tawney churchyard and June 2023 was suggested.

Anne would send the events list to Tim Adams and Sarah Bowen for wider circulation.

11. The next Deanery Synod meeting would be on 28th September.

12. Any Other Business

a) Discussion of the cremated remains area protocol would be tabled for the next PCC meeting. It was noted that the burial of Graeme Logan's ashes would take place after the service this Sunday 18th.

b) Card reader. Martyn Lockwood suggested that providing a card reader in Tawney church would increase donations by visitors. He would research costs and practicalities.

13. The next PCC meeting would be held on November 9th at 7pm via Zoom.