

## VESTRY REPORT

### Vestry January 2021

- It was agreed that Julia get the Vestry minutes approved by email, so that a version could be submitted to the next Church magazine within the month. People who submit questions to Vestry will receive a written reply within two weeks of a Vestry meeting.
- Martin reported on the income and expenditure to the end of November. Regular annual donations are likely to fall and Hall Rental will be lower as Angela Watson is now not allowed to continue her classes. The actual amounts are difficult to guess. Salaries have increased due to the extra cleaning of the Church and Hall as have administrative costs but Heating and Lighting costs are down. The deficit next year is still expected to be around £60,000.
- The Church has been notified of a legacy from Colin Murray, in the form of shares. Vestry approved that the shares be sold by the solicitors on our behalf.
- Megan raised an issue at the last vestry about returning the Furlough Scheme money that we had been given (£3661). Vestry agreed to give this amount to charity.
- The Diocese has asked if we will donate our Quota discount which amounts to £800 to one of three causes: i. Diocese- for admin expenses; ii. Other Churches- COVID support fund; iii. Additional Mission and Ministry support for Charges. Vestry supported the Furlough money plus the £800 being split equally between ii and iii.
- Marie has reduced the Photocopier options to one, and will arrange a trial as soon as the COVID-19 situation allows.
- Nicki reported that the festival of Light raised £830 in donations plus £500 promised by the Coop store. This is to be split between Oxfams Community Church to feed the people and Make 2nds Count. The baubles on the Christmas tree raised £545 for Make 2nds Count.
- Nicki and Vestry expressed thanks to Pentland Men's Shed for giving their time to create the Nativity scene. They are already planning for Easter and an Angel to add to the Nativity scene for next year. They do not want any money but it was agreed that we would consider making a donation.
- Nicki reported that the three Christmas services were all full and the Midnight Mass recording was well watched on YouTube.
- Caroline had submitted a written report to Vestry, which will be printed in the magazine. Vestry acknowledged that it has been very difficult for Caroline, as she arrived just as lockdown 2020 began.
- Rolf and Nicki have been leading Assemblies for all the local Primary Schools on Zoom. Nicki would like Caroline to take her place from the beginning of January.
- Iain provided vestry with a spreadsheet summarising the work completed, required, planned and in progress with cost estimates.
- The Church Noticeboard is in position and being used and people have been looking at it.

- We have received 3 quotes for the roofing repairs and stonework required. One quote is significantly cheaper than the others and our Architects are checking that all of the work is being covered by this quote.
- The siting of the Defibrillator may need to be reconsidered as informal consultations with a Historic Environment Scotland member and the Council, suggest that it may be easier to get permissions if it is sited somewhere more out of sight.
- Options for ways forward with respect to renewing the Church lighting had been sent to Vestry. Wendy suggested that we should wait and replace the lighting as a project within the Phase 1 Church Development plan. Vestry agreed with this and so no further action will be taken for now.
- Options for: double glazing; secondary glazing; refurbishment of the Rectory windows, had been sent to Vestry for consideration. Vestry unanimously agreed on the Lodge Restoration option, refurbishing the existing frames and replacing the single glazing with 12mm Slimlite/Slimline double glazed units at an approximate cost of £30,820.
- The Church Architects are searching for acoustic and heating consultants to advise on moving the organ speakers out of the Lady Chapel and how to heat the transept, and front and back of the church separately. Lockdown has now slowed progress with this. We need to make sure that any possible Organ replacements will fit into the new space and the same for replacement speakers. Philip (also David Turner) requested more space to sit when the organ is moved to the site of the current pipe organ.
- The Architects have proposed a ramp from the exit area to the courtyard into the choir vestry as a way to connect the Church and Hall. Vestry asked for a diagram to better understand what is involved.

*The full minutes are available from the Vestry Secretary. An electronic version can be requested by email, contact: [julia.roberts01@btinternet.com](mailto:julia.roberts01@btinternet.com)*