

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Tresham Church Committee on 'Zoom' at 10.00am, 26 January 2021

Present: David Bradbury, Richard Goodenough (chair), Mary Kingston, Simon Lee and Susan Whitfield

Apologies: Janet Bradbury, Richard Kingston and Kay Pettifer

1. Minutes of last meeting held on 22 January 2019 were approved and signed. No meeting was held in 2020.	Action
2. Matters Arising	
a. The requirement to photograph contents and building features for insurance purposes is still outstanding; RG to clarify the need.	RG
b. Quinquennial Inspection <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. RG has acquired the fittings and altered the drainpipe. ii. Necessary masonry repairs will be reviewed at the next quinquennial in 2022. iii. It remains difficult to clarify ownership of the land and walls and what rights of way exist. 	SW
c. SW may have found someone to repair the notice board by the church gate. The church would pay for the materials.	SW
3. Treasurer's Report and Accounts	
a. RG summarised the financial position, in particular reporting the continuing deterioration of the annual deficit on the General Fund increasing from £436 to £641 and projected to be about £900 in 2021. This was due to a sharp fall in income resulting from fewer services thanks to Covid-19 and the ever-rising Parish Share.	
b. Our total worth stands at £40,751.	
c. RG will ask Phillipa Ellis to examine the Report and Accounts, which were otherwise approved .	RG
d. RG to publish the Report and Accounts on www.tresham.org.uk and www.achurchnearyou.com websites.	RG
4. Donations to Charities	
The donation of £25 to Glos Historic Churches Trust occurs (and has done for several years) by standing order; with no Christmas Service there was no collection for GARAS.	
5. Parish Share	
a. We have agreed that our Share should increase to £987 for 2021 maintaining our percentage of the total PCC Share at 16%. Though the diocese did not levy an increase, the PCC decided to round up their percentage of the total Benefice Share.	
b. It was felt that we should resist any attempt to see this increase further even in the face of pressure for the PCC to accept a higher proportion of the Benefice Share, e.g. from 7% to 9%.	

6. Fundraising	
a. DB thought villagers would be keen to celebrate coming out of Covid lockdown and this could be with a traditional music event with proceeds split between church and village. All hoped that this might be by late summer.	DB
b. KP had previously suggested that villagers be approached to contribute through the Parish Giving Scheme. SW felt that it should be possible to invite villagers to make a regular contribution by Standing Order. SL suggested an approach along the lines of a substitute 'collection'. SW volunteered to draft a document for the Committee to consider. RG said that several villagers had responded to an appeal during the year but that it felt burdensome to ask again in lieu of the Christmas service. He pointed out the distinction between fundraising to meet on-going costs of the church like Insurance and Parish Share compared with one-off projects like repairs to the Nave ceiling. It is often easier to raise money for projects.	SW
7. Office Elections	
RG will continue as Treasurer and Philippa Ellis as Independent Examiner. Both were thanked for their contribution.	
8. Other Business	
a. Ceiling Repairs and Re-ordering <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. SW reported that our recently appointed architect, Dr Jessica Holland from Insalls, is coming to survey the ceiling on 16 February. Cracks have been spotted in the nave ceiling. ii. On receipt of Dr Holland's report the village will be consulted about options for the future re-ordering of the church. As a first stage, it may be necessary to remove some of the pews and level the floor if repairs are required to the ceiling. 	SW
b. It was remarked that SL had managed to secure funding for Well Hill steps. SW wondered if SL might be able to seek funding for improvements to the paths to the church.	SL
c. Due to Covid-19 the church has been closed to the public so there is no programme of services for the time being. RG will continue to update www.tresham.org.uk and www.achurchnearyou.com accordingly.	RG
d. DB wondered if the Committee felt that the village would like to see a continuation of the traditional Carol Service if this could be arranged for 2021. The answer was a resounding 'yes'!	DB
e. Thanks once again were expressed to Richard Kingston for his regular cutting of the grass and to others who carry out cleaning and maintenance in the church and churchyard, particularly SW.	
f. There being no other business the meeting closed at 10.40am.	