



THE DIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK

DIOCESAN COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES

Summary of the Diocesan Council of Trustees' Meeting 14 November 2020

The Diocesan Council of Trustees (the umbrella body incorporating the Bishop's Council, Diocesan Board of Finance, the Parsonages Board, and the Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Committee) met 14 November via Zoom. The meeting was chaired by the Bishop of Southwark, Alan Saunders, and the Archdeacon of Reigate. The agenda covered the following:

Welcomes, Prayer and Apologies

Trustees were welcomed and the meeting began with prayer, led by the Bishop of Croydon.

Declarations of Interest

The Chair asked for declarations of interest from Trustees on items of the Agenda.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting and Matters Arising

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Management Report, including Seals Report

The Management Report was presented to Trustees which incorporated updates which were not necessarily covered in the main agenda, the Seals Report and Key Performance Indicators.

Covid-19, lockdown, and the Diocese

The Bishop of Southwark gave an update on developments following the second lockdown and advice offered to parishes and deaneries from the Coronavirus Task Group. Although this was a difficult time for churches and congregations to gather in fellowship, there was also excitement about the new opportunities for being *church* in new ways.

2020 & 2021 Annual Objectives in the context of Southwark Vision

Trustees were presented with a review of the 2020 Annual Objectives, in the light of Covid-19, and the key themes moving into 2021 incorporating annual objectives in line with Southwark Vision. These were to be presented to the Diocesan Synod at its meeting on 5 December.

Strategic Development Funding Update

The Deputy Diocesan Secretary, Jackie Pontin, updated Trustees on projects linked to Strategic Development Funding. Impact Risk Assessments had been made for all projects and a review to *re-baseline* statistics in light of Covid-19 was to be undertaken in early 2021.



Together Southwark

Trustees received a paper outlining the Church Urban Fund's intention to withdraw funding from the Together Southwark initiative. As a separate Charity Trustees were asked to confirm their support for the Diocese to become sole trustees of Together Southwark and agree its membership. This was taken by formal vote and was unanimously approved.

Audit Tender Recommendations

A review had been undertaken to review, and tender for the Diocesan auditors. This had taken place and following the approval of the Audit & Risk Committee's recommendations the Diocesan Council of Trustees unanimously approved Buzzacott as Diocesan auditors for the 2021 end of year financial period.

2021 Budget & 3 Year Forward View

Trustees were presented with the budget, in light of Covid-19, and the challenges that have come from it. Parishes had been generous in resourcing Southwark Vision through the Parish Support Fund and it was acknowledged that the next three years would be financially difficult but plans for best and worse case scenarios had been drafted. Trustees were thankful for the great deal of work and attention given to the budget and unanimously recommended the 2021 budget to the Diocesan Synod which meets on 5 December 2020 where Synod will be invited to consider and approve it.

Saint Margaret the Queen Update

Trustees were given an update on the Saint Margaret the Queen project which had been moving at pace, despite the lockdowns.

Amended Bank Mandate

Trustees formally approved a new Bank Mandate to include Sir David Beamish as Vice Chair of the Diocesan Board of Finance.

Current list of suspensions (Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Committee - DMPC)

The comprehensive list of current suspensions were noted.

Cases for Decision and Noting

Trustees took note and approved the following items in respect of the Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Committee (DMPC), which had been fully discussed, consulted, and recommended by the Archdeaconry Mission and Pastoral Committees.

- **Sidlow Bridge & Charlwood**
Agreed the suspension of right of presentation for up to five years for parsonage reasons.
- **Salfords Christ the King**
Agreed the suspension of right of presentation for up to five years for parsonage reasons.
- **Angell Town**
Agreed the suspension of right of presentation for up to five years for parsonage reasons.
- **Brixton Road Christ Church**
Agreed the suspension for up to five years for reasons of possible pastoral re-organisation.
- **Clapham St Peter**
Agreed the suspension for up to five years for reasons of possible pastoral re-organisation.
- **West Dulwich Emmanuel**



Agreed the suspension for up to five years for reasons of possible pastoral re-organisation.

- **Sacred Space BMO**

Trustees were given the opportunity to provide feedback for a Bishop's Mission Order.

- **Earlsfield St John**

Agreed the renewal of suspension for up to five years for reasons of parsonage development

- **Lewisham St Swithun (Hither Green)**

Agreed the lifting of suspension of Patron's right of presentation.