

## NOTES FROM THE CHURCH REORDERING COMMITTEE

### PANTILES, 10<sup>TH</sup> OCT 2019

Present: Greg Harker (Chair); Helen Hall, Penny Isaacs; John Leefe.

Apologies: Jonathan Pattison; Vyv Wainwright.

#### 1. Project Update:

1.1. **Charities Commission.** GH informed the meeting that the Charities Commission has refused our application for registration on the basis that we cannot demonstrate a high enough turn over. They explained that PCCs have an exemption through the Church if annual income is less than £100,000. The PCC is registered with HMRC for gift aid, but registration with the Charities Commission would have made some grant applications more straightforward.

1.2. **Latest bid Status.** We await decisions on 4 bids with the result of one bid having been announced on 9 Oct.

1.2.1. **Jessie Spencer Trust (JST).** We have not been successful in our bid to the JST. They already donate to the Historical Churches Trust. Bid focus was on reordering. The next application deadline is 20<sup>th</sup> Oct. However, the focus of the bid would need to change. GH was considering whether to build a bid around the flooring.

1.2.2. **John Warren Foundation** – GH informed that the bid would be considered ‘later in the year’. There is a good chance of success since John Lamb, a trustee, has relatives buried in the Chancel. If successful, this bid could raise £5,000.

1.2.3. **Jack Patston Trust** – The trust meets in October, but no date has been fixed yet. If successful, this could raise a further £500 to £10,000

1.2.4. **Church Buildings Council.** Meets Oct, but decision not until December. If successful this could raise from £3,000 to £10,000

1.2.5. **Francis Coales Charitable Foundation.** Meets 4<sup>th</sup> Nov. Unfortunately, because of an email pigs, the application was not received in time for the August meeting. Again, if successful this could raise up to £10,000.

## NOTES FROM THE CHURCH REORDERING COMMITTEE

### PANTILES, 10<sup>TH</sup> OCT 2019

1.2.6. **Together, these bids could raise from zero to £35,000. Key point, however, is that we would not be able to start roof work until results of these bids are known. Also, if the bids are unsuccessful we would not have sufficient funds to complete (or even start) the roof repairs (see item 2)**

1.2.7. It was therefore important to continue bidding for roof funding until such time as sufficient funds were available.

#### 1.3. **Update on discussions with Adrian Ringrose (AR - Stimpson Walton Bond (SWB) Architects):**

1.3.1. **Reordering.** AR has looked over the 2014 drawings and has stated to the DAC that they are acceptable to him and can continue to be used as the basis for the reordering. He applied for an extension to the current faculty and has an email back stating that the Chancellor has agreed to an extension of 2 years to Sep 2021.

1.3.2. **Roof Repairs.** SWB created a 'Specification of Works' to cover all aspects of roof repairs identified in the Quinquennial Inspection Report (QIR). The reordering faculty does not cover the roof and so we were obliged to request permission to carry out the work. The DAC has informed that we will require a further faculty. AR has requested that this be included at the next DAC meeting at the end of October. AR will not be present, but VW will see if he can sit in to answer any supplementary questions.

1.3.3. **Roof Repair Tenders.** SWB Architects have gone out with an Invitation to Tender (ITT) to 3 firms of which only 2 have responded. One from Messenger (£63,000 +VAT); one from CEL **with no breakdown** of £91,656 + VAT. SWB tried to contact Welland Roofing (who conducted the 2018 repair) without success. However, at our request they have since contacted them and (I understand) they have agreed to tender.

1.4. **Taking Roof Repairs Forward.** Given that we will not get the go ahead from grant bodies (even assuming that our bids are all successful and gain maximum amounts) until at least December, consideration was given as to whether there should be interim repair carried out. Jonathan Pattison has advised that the emergency repair to the north

## NOTES FROM THE CHURCH REORDERING COMMITTEE

### PANTILES, 10<sup>TH</sup> OCT 2019

transept done by Welland Roofing last year appears to be holding, but that there is evidence of further leaks in the area above the organ. **It was agreed that GH should contact Welland Roofing and invite them to quote to carry out interim repairs to prevent further damage by water ingress.** There would be a further benefit in that Welland would be able to advise on the extent of the longer term repairs needed. Based on the quotation, the funds could come from PCC. However, if the quote was high, it might be necessary to request further funds from FOSN.

1.5. **Note:** GH has made contact with Welland Roofing who should make a site visit this week (w/c 14 Oct).

#### 2. Future Bids:

2.1. All agreed that the focus has to remain on roof repair rather than reordering until sufficient funds have been obtained. GH will continue to apply for roof grants until such time as we can demonstrate sufficient funds.

2.2. Notwithstanding, if time and opportunity allow, he will resume bidding for reordering.

2.2.1. We will be in a better position once the reorder faculty is formally approved. Given that we have drawings, an architect and a faculty, concentration must be on raising funds. From experience in other campaigns, it is the ability to be able to match funds which is most important and creates a higher success rate with bids. In some cases, such as the National Lottery it might be best to bid for the full amount. In others, the piecemeal approach might bring more success. It is worth noting that many grant bodies insist that 50% of funding must be found from local sources. Also, bodies such as Biffa and FCC (formerly Wren) also insist of a 3<sup>rd</sup> party contribution (to pay for landfill tax -typically 11%).

2.2.2. For example, simply concentrating on the floor to start with (say, £30,000). An initial target of £15,000 could be matched by a grant of £15,000 and so on.

2.3. **Organ grant.** Both HH and GH had been researching for grant bodies supporting organ refurbishment. ON Organ, Biffa and Church Care

## NOTES FROM THE CHURCH REORDERING COMMITTEE

### PANTILES, 10<sup>TH</sup> OCT 2019

(Church Buildings Council - CBC) support organ refurbishment. However, we have already applied to CBC for a roof grant. It was agreed that GH would apply for organ grants. **However, we will need a conservation report on the organ and HH agreed to request one from Hinds and Aistrup.** The CBC application form also requests a faculty and GH has questioned the DAC secretary as to whether one is necessary. It is possible that the 2014 reorder faculty covered the organ, GH will advise. The organ fund in the PCC accounts is at about £830. The quotation we have is for £4898.

### 3. Fund Raising:

- 3.1. To support future bids it is essential to raise as much as possible in funds locally and given the extension to the reorder faculty until Sep 2021, this coming year will be key. Raising funds provides the opportunity for matched funding as well as demonstrating local support for the project. The recent 'Ride and Stride' had raised just over £500 for the PCC and stalls at the Macmillan Coffee morning had raised £431 (for FOSN).
- 3.2. GH proposed that over the coming year, we should be looking to have many more fund raising events. This should be a mixture of smaller events, such as nurdling, carol singing, coffee mornings, but also larger events such as the fete, concerts and sponsored walks and/or dinners.
- 3.3. Although last year's fete raised over £4,000, the most successful elements were the prize draw, food and drink. There has been some discussion on whether to join forces with Clipsham for another fete, but this could dilute profits. Perhaps a smaller fete with smaller scope might be a better option.
- 3.4. Consideration should also be given to approaching local businesses to garner support for regular prize donation. JL and GH to consider approaches to quarries etc and Nando.
- 3.5. Overall, GH requested that more and wider support for fund raising be done under the umbrella of FOSN. If there were several events over the year, each event would require a person to lead with one person as overall coordinator, this would help our efforts considerably.

## NOTES FROM THE CHURCH REORDERING COMMITTEE

PANTILES, 10<sup>TH</sup> OCT 2019

4. **Media:** PI is able to create a church only web site. The meeting agreed that the time was fast approaching when this would be of benefit. PI was able to set up a site, but we need to give some thought about the name. It needs to be memorable, but at the same time it has to be found when key words were entered into search engines. It needed to have the words Stretton, Church, Community, maybe St Nicholas. Also, it needed to be simple and precise. The content also needs to be simple. Words such as 'reordering' and 'faculty' do not mean much to the average person and do not inspire people to help. GH will work with Penny to start to put together the content. Although it was intended for it to be a separate church website, it would be linked to the village website.
5. **Any Other Business.** VW had now completed a draft of the Statement of Significance (SofS) and GH will circulate with these notes for comment. The meeting noted its thanks to VW for his efforts in producing both the SofS and the Statement of Needs (SofN). The draft Statement of Need would also be circulated.

G S Harker  
14 Oct 2019