

# All Saints, Hérault

## The English Church at Saint Pargoire

### Minutes of the Chaplaincy Council Meeting held on Wednesday 16 November 2022 at 10.00 am by Zoom

Present: Revd Roger Smith (Chairman), Patricia Bigot, John Gifford (from item 5), Julie Johnson, Jim Mallett, Phyl Mallett, Sue Robinson, Delia Smith, Nigel Summersall, Ian Thomas (until item 6.4).

Members present were marked on the sign in sheet and agreed to recording the meeting. The chairman opened the meeting with prayer.

		<b>Action</b>
1	<b>Apologies for absence</b> Graham Gardner and Jac Phillips	
2	<b>Minutes of the meeting held on 17 August 2022</b> were approved and signed by the chairman as a correct record.	
3	<b>Matters arising</b>	
3.1	<b>3.2 Sound system training</b> had been done.	
3.2	<b>3.3 Insurance</b> Finding the insurance required of us by the Église Protestante was proving difficult. Nigel was still working on it.	Nigel
3.3	<b>5.3 Car Expenses Rate</b> It was agreed to apply the barème rate for associations, currently €0.32 per kilometre.	
4	<b>Finance</b>	
4.1	<b>Payments Pending</b> There would be claims before the year-end from Roger and Patricia, mainly for consumables and licences, and for Roger's travel expenses. A donation had been made to Margon church at Harvest which had not been recorded.	Nigel
4.1.1	<b>Agreement for use of the Temple</b> A proposed revised agreement had been received and circulated to members. The Église Protestante was asking for a contribution of €1200 for the academic year starting in September 2022, for use of the temple for two services a month and on other dates to be agreed. It was agreed to accept the agreement, pay €300 for September to December, and ask for the following additional dates: 30 October, 24 December (both already agreed), Wednesday 22 February at 17h00, Thursday 6 April at 18h00, Easter Day 9 April at 10h30. Nigel would talk to the Église Protestante about the insurance problem and arrange to sign the agreement.	Nigel
4.2	<b>Income and Expenditure</b> year to date totals were broadly on target. Delia had queries about restricted collections and donations which Nigel would answer separately.	Nigel

4.3	<b>2022 Budget</b> This was broadly on target.	
4.4	<b>Donation to Mont Rouge re Prayer Group</b> It was agreed to give €100, as previously. Nigel would give a cheque to Jenny for her to pass on.	Nigel
4.5	<b>Charity donations from General Fund</b> Following from the plan agreed at the last meeting, it was decided to give: €400 to Languedoc Solidarity with Refugees, €400 to l'Institut du Cancer de Montpellier (rather than La Ligue Contre le Cancer, to ensure that the money would be spent locally), €400 to Bishop Robert's Appeal, for a toilet block for a school in Kenya.  John Gifford joined the meeting just after this item and said he would have spoken strongly against the decision to give the whole €400 designated for either Médecins sans Frontières or the Bishop's Appeal to the Bishop's Appeal.	Nigel
5	<b>Electoral Roll update</b> Patricia reported 71 on roll: Sue and Brian Rome had left and Bernard Moreau had died. Patricia added that, as far as she knows, only one couple having put a UK address, 48 members live full time in France, 12 couples, 2 families and 16 individuals. Three of these individuals had left or would soon be leaving.	
6	<b>Chaplaincy Development</b>	
6.1	<b>Progress</b> Comprehensive papers concerning the Archdeacon's proposal had been circulated to members. There was divided opinion on whether now was the time to share details with the congregation, given that any firm agreements were still very far away. After much discussion it was agreed that Roger would draft a short message to the congregation, to allay any fears of radical change. He would circulate this to council members for agreement.	Roger
6.2	<b>Proposal</b> Roger proposed from the chair that the council accept in principle the project to recruit a priest to serve St George's Vernet-les-Bains, All Saints and St Michael's in the Gard. This was agreed.	Roger
6.3	<b>Assisting Priests and Readers</b> Roger reported that Gwilym Richards has permission to officiate and that Kevin Conroy and Jane Griffin should have permission soon, although neither expected to be in France again before the spring.	
6.4	<b>Setting up and Clearing up for Services</b> Patricia would arrange rotas for a pair of people to set up and clear up. John, Sue, Ian, Jim and Phyl offered to be on the rota, along with Trevor Jones who was also willing. It was suggested that the notices should state who was on duty. Roger offered to order more cupboard keys.	Patricia Roger
7	<b>Link with Fenoarivo parish in Toliara Diocese in Madagascar</b> Phyl said communication was still a problem. Roger had set up a WhatsApp group. Whereas Fenoarivo could use this freely to send photos, All Saints could not because of data protection legislation. Phyl was considering video recorded interviews with members of the congregation to send to Madagascar.	Phyl
8	<b>Correspondence</b> None that wasn't covered on the agenda.	

9           **Safeguarding**

9.1          **Progress of council members' training**

**Basic Awareness:** Jac still needs to do this.

**Raising Awareness of Domestic Abuse:** Jim, Phyl, Graham and John still need to do this.

Jac, Jim,  
Phyl,  
Graham,  
John

9.2          **Congregation's awareness**   The Safeguarding Officer had spoken to the congregation after the last service and had sent the following:

*Safeguarding does not just concern the chaplaincy council, but every member of the congregation. Everyone has a responsibility to themselves and to others to be aware of what safeguarding means and the issues surrounding it, importantly an awareness of limits and boundaries. As conscientious Christians we are not immune from over-stepping boundaries, indeed, in our desire to do good, we often run the risk of doing so.*

10          **Music Team Report**

Sue presented the following report:

*The Music Team have now prepared the music for the services up to 15th January and will be arranging a meeting early in 2023 to organise the choices to take us through to Easter. It was wonderful to have live music for the All Saints Service and our Remembrance Day Service and our thanks go to Tim and Ian. Ellie has been approached to see if she would like to offer her voice for some live music, but is, understandably, busy with school studies. Hopefully though, we can look forward to more live music going forward. We continue to consult the list of favourite hymns from a member of the congregation, and these are taken into account when we're making our choices. If anyone has any thoughts or suggestions please do not be afraid to put these forward. The Music Team would like to formally thank Nigel for his work in collating the music for each of our services - not always a straight forward task when verses are omitted.*

11          **Website**   Delia and Roger continued to try to keep this up to date.

12          **Church and Diocesan Initiatives**

**Living in Love and Faith**   A report from Jim had been circulated to members and posted on the website. He commented that those who did the course had found it a worthwhile learning experience and were perhaps better prepared for what may happen in the future.

13          **Recent Activities**

Harvest Festival with a shared lunch and Remembrance has been good occasions. Sally Wheeldon had raised €148 selling poppies for the British Legion. Tim Newitt's and Ian Thomas's live music on All Saints' Day and for Remembrance had been much appreciated.

14          **Future Events**

**The Annual Meeting** would be held on Mothering Sunday, 19 March, followed by a shared lunch in the Temple.

**4 December** Gwilym Richards would preside. Phyl would provide bread for communion.

Phyl

**Christmas Eve** There would be mince pies and wine after the service.

Patricia

**Ash Wednesday, 22 February** at 5.00 pm.

**Maundy Thursday & Good Friday** services would be at St Pargoire and Puissalicon respectively, if the buildings were available.

**16 April** Service to be cancelled.

15 **Any Other Business** None

16 **Next Meeting Monday 20 February by Zoom.**

The meeting closed at 11.56 am with members saying the Grace together.