**ANNUAL MEETING 2025 – Secretarial Report to 31.12.2024**

**Annual Report of the Proceedings of**

**Bolnhurst Parochial Church Council for 2024**

**PCC Meeting on 13 February 2024:**

**Mission Action Plan (MAP) 2024:** F Shipsey submitted this onto Diocesan website on 15 Jan 2024. Bishop Richard [+Bedford] sent the PCC an encouraging note thanking us for our 2024 MAP.

**Bishop Richard to attend a Bolnhurst PCC Meeting:** F Shipsey to progress.

**Revd Tim’s Study Leave 1st April – 22nd June 2024:** Revd Tim has arranged “cover”. **Payment of Parish Share 2024 - ~~£4243~~**: With Pastoral Aid Support Grant of £1000, our 2024 Parish Share is now £3243. The PCC agreed to pay the required £810.75 quarterly, as funds allow. **Subsidence of Chancel-Floor** – Estimate from D Llewellyn awaited. **Concrete Pathway from Carpark to Porch:** - Quotes being received. W Levy agreed to apply for a Bedford Borough Council Rural Grant. **Autumn Vegetation Clearance:** F Shipsey to send thanks-letter to FaT Fridays Group, for their great clearance-work.

**PCC Special Meeting on 4 July 2024:** Bolnhurst PCC passed unanimously the following **Resolution: St Dunstan’s Church, Bolnhurst - Chancel-Floor** subsidence in south-west corner to be repaired as follows: Temporarily remove choir stall, excavate Chancel floor, bridge over failed crypt, relay floor and refix choir stall. This work to be carried out, under the supervision of Church Architect David Llewellyn, by Contractor Steve Todd Masonry in accordance with May 2024 Tendered Total of £6,534.00. [Total comprises: Net Quote: £4950.00 plus Contingency £495.00 plus VAT £1089.00.].

**PCC Meeting on 7 August 2024:**

**Suspension of Presentation until 2nd August 2024: Plurality:** The PCC agreed that Plurality is the best way forward: proposed by W Levy, seconded by J Norfolk. **2024 Fund-Raising: Bolnhurst & Keysoe Open Gardens event 22nd June 2024:** Total Funds raised for Bolnhurst = £868.25.

**Churchyard – (i) Pathway:** W Levy is progressing Rural Grant application, and has obtained 3 quotes for replacing concrete to East section [from carpark to S.E. corner of Church]. (ii) **“Wildflowers” Signage:** W Levy was thanked for replacing this signage, now “weatherproof” in Porch.

**Garden of Remembrance:** The PCC agreed that individual plot-markers will all be of same size and material: will be flush with the turf, of dimensions 12”x12” (300mm x 300mm), and of material in sympathy with Churchyard; as specified in Churchyard Regulations 2004: 3.4 Memorial Stones. F Shipsey agreed to upload this information to the Diocesan online application 210460-0524C Bolnhurst, St Dunstan.

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**Archdeacon’s Annual Inspection – 24th July 2024:** Archdeacon Dave Middlebrook met J Norfolk and F Shipsey in Church.

**King Charles III Portrait:** F Shipsey received this 2nd Aug 2024. The Portrait is 25” high by 20” wide. F Shipsey agreed to keep the packaged Portrait in her flat until completion of the Chancel Floor work. The Portrait will then be installed in the Vestry.

**Bell-Ringers’ Payment:** The PCC agreed that, from 2025 at Weddings, each Bellringer will be paid £20 [x4 bells at St D = £80] plus £30 towards Bell Fund [Total = £110.] Bell Fund will be “reserved” within the Fabric Fund.

**PCC Meeting on 6 November 2024:**

Revd Tim opened our meeting by welcoming **Bishop Richard Atkinson [+Bedford]** to the meeting. Bishop Richard opened our Meeting with a prayer, then led an informative discussion on “The Feeding of the Five Thousand” from Matthew chapter 14.

**Payment of Parish Share 2024 - £3,243:**  The PCC agreed to pay the fourth & final £810.75 quarterly instalment, up to 31st Dec 2024. **Subsidence of Chancel-Floor**: F Shipsey reported that the Faculty was granted on 3rd Sept 2024 – work must be completed within 2 years. **Churchyard - Concrete Pathway to East of Church:** The PCC agreed a warm vote of thanks to Martin Gossage, Chairman of Bolnhurst & Keysoe Parish Council – who attended our PCC Meeting to discuss Rural Grant-procedure. Concrete Pathway east of the Church is on FP24 - part of Public-Footpath North Beds network. Martin also clarified that the Borough Council Rural Grant can be a maximum of 50% of total repair cost. **Churchyard - Garden of Remembrance:** F Shipsey reported that the Diocesan Portal on 6.11.24 states this matter is “being considered by DAC”. No “external consultations” are requested. **Churchyard Tidying:** W Levy reported that on 15 Nov 2024 the “FaT Fridays” Group of volunteers will do further clearance at Churchyard-edges, and set out grass-paths to be kept mowed in Churchyard.

**GENERAL NOTE ON GDPR:**

**General Data Protection Regulations** are followed throughout the Plurality, by all five Parishes in our two Benefices. Our website data privacy notice is in place for enquirers wishing to access our on-line services, keeping our contact-lists centrally managed and protected. It is recommended that PCC members use their dedicated church email address, thus allowing enhanced data protection.

F SHIPSEY Secretary, Bolnhurst PCC. 17 March 2025

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