

CLARENCE PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

UPDATE

January 2022

WORSHIP God **GROW** Together **SERVE** Others



CPBC Deacons Elections and AGM 2022

IN THIS EDITION

Announcement of the
Date for our AGM 2022

Deacons Elections 2022

Church Heating

Jan 2022 Covid Update

Deacons Election
nomination form

CPBC AGM 2022



The church officers (Minister, Secretary and Treasurer) would like to announce to all church members that we intend holding our church AGM on May 15th after the Sunday Morning service.

We are conscious that at the moment not everyone has felt comfortable and ready to return to in person worship, and so our reasoning for pushing the date back from our usual pre-pandemic March date is for a number of reasons:

1. Our Deacons election will be held by Postal votes only and so we need to give time for the process of inviting nominations, sharing of candidate's profiles and for the vote to take place.
2. We hope that by then that the weather will be warmer so that more people will come for the AGM as we continue to listen to God and share with one another.
3. The delay will allow time for the church accounts to be externally verified and approved by the deacons and then circulated with the annual report to all members.

DEACONS ELECTION 2022

At the AGM, this year Kaye, John, Jayne and Liz each come to the end of their elected term of office. As a church we are grateful for all they have done to help guide us through the last few years, and so we look back with thankful and grateful hearts for their ministry and support to both Steve and the congregation. Moving forward, all are eligible (if willing) to be nominated for a further term - along with others who are nominated by church members.

At the 2022 AGM we will have 5 vacancies as our constitution allows for up to 12 deacons.

Please be prayerful about who as members you consider speaking to and nominating.

Who is God guiding you to and who do you sense is called by God into this role?

There is no limit as to how many candidates can be nominated by the church, however the following rules apply.

Deacons' election 2022

1. Nominations can only be made by church members. A member cannot nominate more candidates than there are vacancies.



2. The nominee should have been a member of CPBC for at least one year and be over the age of 18.

3. Nomination forms, correctly signed and completed, should be returned to the Church **Treasurer** no later than **Sunday 27th Feb 2022.**

Please note that our Church Treasurer and Minister will be acting as Admin for this election.

4. The nominee will be required to provide the Church Treasurer a profile of themselves along with a photograph with their nomination. This will then be prepared and emailed to all church members / posted out to church members.

5. For 2022 The actual election will take place by both postal forms and online google responses.

6. For the election the church treasurer and minister will act as scrutineers. Only valid votes received by the end of April will be counted.
7. Each nominee must attain at least 50% of the votes cast.
8. The diaconate should at no time exceed twelve (12) members. 50% of who will have been baptised as believers in accordance with the church constitution.
9. In the event of more candidates being successful than the Constitution allows, then the candidates with the highest number of votes will be elected unless this conflicts with the clause above.

CHURCH HEATING

We are grateful to you as a church for your bearing with us as we continue to find a way forward for heating the sanctuary.

The church leadership are exploring with different heating engineering companies what is the best way forward to heat the sanctuary, and so we ask for your continued patience whilst solutions are sought.

As a consequence, we recognise that many will continue on cold Sundays to worship from home and watch on line and we are so thankful to our tech team for providing this facility.

Please be aware that we have temporarily turned off the Chat function on a Sunday as the account was being trolled and



inappropriate and offensive comments were being left during the service. The chat function will be resumed in the near future.

Clarence Park Baptist Church

Covid-19 Update

On Face coverings and more

27th January 2022



From January 27th 2022 the rules relating to wearing face coverings will changed in England.

The current Government advice on the UK Gov web site www.gov.uk/coronavirus is that from 27th January 2022 “You will not be required to wear a face covering, but the government suggests you continue to wear one in crowded and indoor spaces where you may come into contact with people you do not normally meet”.

The Current Situation

The current situation across England is that while coronavirus is present in most communities, we have a population where previous infections and the national vaccination programme means the majority of people have some immunity. However, levels of immunity vary individually and some people will continue to be significantly vulnerable to the virus and its potential long-term effects.

As a Church we believe that everyone is known and loved individually by God and that as many members within one body we are called to be responsible to and for one another, respecting the more vulnerable whose suffering is our suffering (1 Cor 12:12-27). And so, as a church community we need to move forward conscious that Omicron is now the dominate Covid variant. Knowing that it is highly transmissible and that the new infection rate in North Somerset has in recent weeks fallen slightly only to rise again. We need to move forward respecting the needs of those who remain vulnerable to not just infection but also the effects of long covid and adjust our practice as we respond to government guidance.

Moving forward we cannot just rely on vaccinations to protect us we also need to continue to ensure we do what we can to help support one another. Therefore, all building users are asked to take the following into consideration when meeting:

VENTILATION

- Rooms should continue to be well **ventilated** when being used. Windows and doors need to be open to allow for appropriate air flow.
- Health and safety executive guidance continues to be that that we do not use our **ventilated heating systems** when people are present (*this continues to limit the use of heating in both the sanctuary and the North Room*). The Church leadership are

SANITISING,

- **All people entering the building** should wash their hands regularly and make regular use of the sanitiser that is provided when entering and moving around the building.

Surfaces should be wiped after use using the sanitiser which is provided.

SIGNING IN.

- From 27th January 2022 we will no longer use the QR code or signing in sheets for those coming into the building or attending an activity.

FACE COVERINGS,

- We would ask that all people consider the government suggestion quoted earlier relating to the wearing of Face coverings. However, as a church we will not enforce them being worn which will include for the congregation whilst singing (*which was our position before Plan B came into force on the 10th December 2021*).

SUNDAY SPECIFIC

- **Social Distancing** is no longer mandatory, but we would ask everyone to be considerate of those who wish to continue maintaining a suitable social distance from others. On a Sunday Red Cross Signs will remain available from the foyer to place on the seats next to you in order to help with requesting that others are mindful of your requirement for space.
- **Communion** will continue to be prepared and served following our covid risk assessment as it has for the last 6 months.
- **Refreshments:** In the next few weeks we will consider serving refreshments after the morning service once we know that the rotas that were put in place recently can all be fulfilled.

The church leadership will continue to monitor the guidance from both the government and the Baptist Union and announce further changes where appropriate.

Please do not attend a group or a church service if you have any covid symptoms, are asked to self-isolate or if you have recently tested positive for Covid.

Deacons Nomination forms

Please print as required.

Completed forms need to be signed by all named on the form and returned to **Ruth Fuller**

Paper copies are available at church from either Steve or Ruth.



**Clarence Park
Baptist Church**

Reg Charity: 1174118

Deacon Nomination

Nominees Name :

(PRINT NAME)

Nominated by:

PRINT NAME:

SIGNATURE + DATE:

How Long have you known the Nominee?

Years/Months

Seconded by:

PRINT NAME:

SIGNATURE + DATE

Years/Months

Please give a brief explanation of your reasons for nominating this person - consider participation, stewardship, loyalty, personality, habits etc.....

Signature of Nominee:

DATE:

In signing:

1. I am willing to prepare a profile for the church boards outlining why I have accepted the nomination to stand)
2. I am willing to undertake all safeguarding training to level 3 of the Baptist Union
3. I know of no reason why I would be disqualified from becoming a trustee of a registered charity

Nomination received by:

DATE:

Nomination forms must be returned to a church officer: Minister or Treasurer by the END of Sunday 27th February 2022