



Parochial Church Council Meeting

Monday 17th July 2023

Meeting at 7.30pm in the Conservatory

2023/24 PCC Members: David Bennett, Peter Breckwoldt (Chair), Steve Cornick (Treasurer), Nigel Day (Warden), Nick Elbourne, John Fleming, Alan Fryer, Jenny Harris, Stuart Hull (Warden), Mike Jones, Paula Jones, Matt Lee (Associate Minister), Keith Loveless, Gillian Mannouch, David Morgan, Mary Morris, Phil Murray, James Sharman, Janine Thomas, Paul Wareham.

PCC Secretary: Kathy Zeal

MINUTES

1. Welcome, Bible reading and opening prayers **PB**

Peter opened the meeting by welcoming Jenny Harris and Gillian Mannouch as new members of the PCC. He then referred to Genesis Chapter 37, the life of Joseph, which he is preparing for the next series of HGG Bible studies. There are many parallels to the life of Jesus as Prophet/Priest and King as studied at the Church Weekend Away. Both suffered before glory and both offered life to their people.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from David Bennett, Mary Morris and Janine Thomas.

3. Approval of Minutes of Meeting held on 22nd May 2023 **PB**

The minutes of the PCC meeting held on 22nd May 2023 were approved after a few amendments were made.

4. Matters Arising:

a) Staffing – New Appointments Update **PB**

- i) Office Manager: Paula Jones has accepted the position of Office Manager, working Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.
- ii) Youth Worker: A previous applicant had turned our invitation down but there is a teacher who is interested in going part-time so that she can enter Youth Ministry. Further discussions happening this week.

5. Health & Safety & Safeguarding – items to report **PJ**

Met Office warnings had been heeded and the camping part of the Church Weekend Away had transferred to within the church. There was a potential issue where some correspondence had taken place and Peter asked for prayer that the right pastoral support could be given to those who are vulnerable. The church safeguarding officers are fully informed.

6. Finance **SC**

a) Accounts to 31st May 2023

Claims to be made for Jan-April expect to be £16000-£18000

Income for January – May £143,172

Expenses January – May £134,903

Net income less expenses £8,269

Legacy/Capital Grant £6,625

Major building works £33,825

Net income/Expenses (£18,931)

b) Major expenditure >£1000

30/05/23 Flat Roof Co Youth Lounge and Vestry coping £3822

c) Fund Balances & Any matters requiring attention

Balances as of	21/5/23	31/5/23	16/7/23
General Fund	£15,282.62	£11,805.00	£19,209.32
CAF No 2 Works Account	£153,622.62	£153,623.00	£149,175.86
CAF No3 Major works 2	£7,853.45	£7,853.00	£7,511.08
Youth Account	£1,065.48	£1,070.00	£932.53
Children's Account	£475.96	£924.00	£705.47
GAT	£29,831.26	£30,461.00	£34,781.98

Tax Reclaims.

Treasurer has emailed Richard Phinn requesting update on Tax Claim position.

Estimate of tax to be reclaimed Jan – June is £22,874

Steve had also researched Cambridge and Counties Bank which would give a bond fixed rate for charity/business/trust. £10K - £5M 2 year 4.75% 1year 5%

7. Pastoral Care Report GM

Gillian presented her first Pastoral Care Coordinator Report to the PCC. She was enjoying her job although it had taken a bit longer to handover from the financial leadership than expected. She commented that she had very few people contact her directly which raised a question in her mind whether her profile needed raising or whether people were catered for. Some discussion followed regarding contacting Gillian and guidelines for her own protection of time and safety. It was noted that the Pastoral Care Team were available for people not in HGGs or for someone needing extra support.

8. Report from Day Conference – A Crisis in Leadership, Truth & Faith PB

Peter reported that it had been a really rewarding day. Archbishop Justin Badi from South Sudan, the former Bishop of Blackburn, Julian Henderson and the Strategic Director of the CEEC, Canon John Dunnett spoke. Senior leaders in the Diocese left with a very different understanding of the strength of feeling involved. The General Synod has just met and the reports were that the General Synod was not united. Those trying to introduce change are on target for a vote in November but there is a chance it will not happen.

9. Relationship with Salisbury Diocese PB

Matt and Peter presented a paper entitled “Diocesan Share Proposal” with respect to the contribution St John’s gives to the Diocese every year. This paper focuses on the principle of paying our share and has been drafted as a response to the proposals to bless same-sex marriage. If the LLF prayers are passed at Synod the paper proposed capping our share over the costs of the Vicar’s ministry. There then followed a discussion regarding how the withheld money could be spent and how the decisions would be made. At a subsequent meeting the PCC would make proposals regarding how the money might be used. Our aim is to keep the congregation

informed as progress is made. It was agreed that we would accept the Diocesan figures for the cost of ministry as presented. We are erring on the side of generosity by accepting their figure of £66,700 and withholding £39,274 of our total contribution of £105,974.

Peter proposed that the PCC accept the Paper in principle and James Sharman seconded. All voted in favour.

10. Potential Parish Mission in Autumn 2024 – see paper PB

Peter presented a paper “Looking Forward to a Church Mission”. The proposal is to hold a Church Mission week in the Autumn of 2024. A few years ago a mission week called “Real Lives” was held. Is it time for Real Lives 2? The approach was to invite people to share their story speaking from the Bible. Last time we held a preliminary meeting where Richard Mannouch was interviewed on his life and faith following his cancer diagnosis. Some discussion followed regarding the same approach and Peter recommended the magician Steve Legg, who sadly also has a cancer diagnosis. More discussion followed as a couple of members felt this approach was outmoded. The overall consensus of the Council was to warmly welcome a Mission Week. The Vicar agreed that evangelism training for individual one to one conversations would be a welcome addition.

Peter proposed that the PCC accept the Paper in principle and John Fleming seconded. The majority were in favour but two were against. Further developments will be brought back to the PCC as the mission ideas develop.

11. Deanery Synod Report 13/06/2023 PB

Lizzie Whitbread, Hannah T and Kevin Metcalfe spoke. Peter interested to hear Initio Learning Trust had appointed a Chaplain. Diocesan Vision Strategy was shared and the visit of the Archbishop of Canterbury to the Diocese.

12. Sub-committees – reports

a) Standing and Finance Committee - 03/07/2023 PJ

Most items had been covered during this meeting. Paula said that she sadly had to step down as Deputy Church Warden since starting as Office Manager due to conflict of interest and would do so as soon as another Deputy Church Warden was appointed.

b) Buildings Management Group – 11/07/23 KL

Part 2:0 the spend was slightly over budget but the roof repairs had been done and now decoration (DIY) was required. Further work would be required in the 5 year plan but this completed work has pushed back the urgency.

Part 4.2 Internal lighting planning was complete and going out to tender.

Part 4.5 External Noticeboards – waiting on pricing.

Part 6:3 There is a need for a Kitchen Management Team with a clear brief and areas of responsibility. Food hygiene trained persons need to be in charge of each food activity.

c) Global Action Team – 29/06/2023 DM

David commended the minutes to the meeting and presented the Financial Support statement. The sums for PCC approval were in the green column, amounting to £11,750. The PCC were in agreement. It was also hoped that more people could be encouraged to sign up for regular prayer letters.

d) Youth and Children's – 12/06/2023 SH

There had been a very good turnout for the meeting after church on 9th July and a number of volunteers had been added to the team.

e) St John's Pre-School – 25/05/23 PB

Minutes yet to be circulated.

13. Activities requiring approval PB

- a) Ride & Stride 9/9/23
- b) Tots and Toys Outing 17/7/23

14. Any Other Business PB

It was agreed that the working days and hours of all new Church Staff Members would be published soon in a Church Notice Bulletin.

2023 Meeting Dates:

Monday 25th September, Monday 27th November

KAZ 18/07/2023