

MINUTES OF THE PCC MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 6TH APRIL 2017 IN THE CHURCH VESTRY

PRESENT: Paul Garrett (Vice Chairman), Allison Rees, John Hobday, Anne Hardy, Sue Wilks, Marilyn Rowe.

APOLOGIES: Sharon Martin, Angie Ashcroft, Kath Shipley

Paul opened the Meeting with a prayer and all present said The Lord's Prayer.

The MINUTES of the Meeting of the 24th January 2017 were signed as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING

The CHARITY SHOP raised approximately £500.

Nothing had been arranged at this point regarding donating money to SING FOR SYRIA.

The BOOKMARKS for the PASTORAL VISITING GROUP to hand out when visiting those who are unwell have not been produced yet but Paul agreed to print them if someone could design them with a picture and a prayer. It was suggested that they be laminated and Allison said she had a laminator.

Allison and Paul have copies of the LEGACY POLICY which need some small alterations.

The arrangements for EASTER SERVICES are as stated in the last Minutes. The 'Hour at the Cross' service at this Church will take place at 11am and we will hold a 'Songs of Praise' service with bible readings at 6.30pm on Easter Sunday.

Time is now too short to arrange a MESSY EASTER session.

In regard to FUND RAISING Anne had spoken to Pam Robinson about holding a CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL and this would be discussed further after Easter. It was stated that many years ago we used to hold FLOWER FESTIVALS and it was considered that it would be a good idea to revive this.

A mini toilet money box has been placed at the back of Church for donations for the TOILET TWINNING scheme. So far approximately £160 has been raised towards a cost of £240 for a toilet block in a school or other public building in a Third World country. Any additional money raised over the cost of a toilet block will be donated to Christian Aid as in previous years the money from the Lent Lunches has gone to Christian Aid but this year has been donated to the toilet twinning.

Sue Wilks and Kath Shipley had agreed to be co-ordinators with the School regarding the SUMMER FETE and not as stated in the last meeting's Minutes to be members of the School Liaison Committee.

A FIRST AID COURSE was to be arranged for Marilyn.

The STANDING COMMITTEE met on Friday 24th March following Paul and Allison's meeting with the ARCHDEACON. Paul read out the Minutes of that meeting which will be attached to these Minutes. In that meeting it was discussed that Kath Robson had asked for help with the School

assemblies (taken by the Vicar or a member of the Church) which take place on Wednesdays at 1pm
Sue Wilks said she would initially attend some assemblies with Kath to see what format they take.

As also agreed at the Standing Committee meeting the Church had been opened between the hours of 8am and 8pm on Tuesday 28th March and although we do not know how many people came in various subjects for prayer had been written on a white board. This was considered a success and it was agreed to open the Church on other occasions also.

Kath Shipley is to reinstate a COFFEE AND BISCUITS AFTERNOON, partly to aim to attract parents/carers at the school, on Tuesday afternoons probably commencing in May.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Last year's ACCOUNTS have been audited by Kath Robson who agreed them. It was asked if we need to change auditor after a certain number of years but this is not necessary.

The accounts are reasonably healthy at the moment with £11,500 in the CURRENT ACCOUNT as we had two tax claims paid in the sum of approximately £7,000.

We will pay to the Diocese £10,500 towards our PARISH SHARE and about £350 in fees for funerals, etcetera but the Diocese will deduct from our Parish Share the full sum of £10,850. We will not meet our full Parish Share this year but have improved matters on last year. We hope to be able to pay £20,000 this year.

We feel we should have a GIFT DAY this year as we haven't had one for three or four years. Possibly have this on Fete Sunday or on a special day when people are encouraged to think about what they can do for the Church.

CHURCH ANNUAL REPORTS AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Reports for the AGM have been requested from the various Church groups.

Groups within Church such as the Mothers' Union and the Flower Group should submit accounts at the AGM.

Forms for Churchwardens, Sidesmen and the PCC will be required to be completed.

Anne Hardy wishes to stand down from the PCC after the AGM and Paul thanked her for her time and commitment to the Committee.

'THY KINGDOM COME'

This is an international Church of England event which runs from Ascension Day (25th May) to Whit Sunday (4th June) and which was started last year. We will pray for our neighbourhood and for our own personal neighbours. We will keep the Church open at least on the final Friday, Saturday and Sunday of this celebration.

We will require someone to officiate at a Communion service on Ascension Day and have a special service at Pentecost (4th June).

Maybe hold a Messy Church session at this time.

The Archdeacon had said it would be a good time to launch our new website at this time and Paul has already done some work towards this.

GREAT ECCLESTON SHOW

This is due to take place on Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th July. If we go ahead and have a pitch at the Show the cost is £200. Inskip PCC were going to discuss this but they didn't like the arrangements which we had last year and everyone considered that more structure was needed. Our PCC is willing to organise things with Inskip but it was decided that both Churches need to take part and we wouldn't have a stand at the Show on our own.

PASTORAL VISITING GROUP

Everyone on the list had been visited.

DATES OF THE NEXT YEAR'S MEETINGS

These will be arranged after the AGM when we know who is on the PCC but the next meeting after the AGM will be changed from Thursday 25th May (which is Ascension Day) to Tuesday 6th June at 7.30pm.

CORRESPONDENCE

Two letters had been received from the Diocese with the Schedule of National, Diocesan and Legal Returns information and a note of the 2017 Deanery Visitation dates and also in the second letter notes about elections to Deanery Synods, the Electoral Roll form and Data Protection Notices regarding Clergy Appointments and Lay Appointments.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Various people in our congregation have enquired about CONFIRMATION. Currently there are seven children and three adults interested with the possibility of one child and one adult from St. Peter's, Inskip. Allison has spoken to the Area Dean who was very helpful and has arranged for his lay reader and her daughter, who have run these courses for 5-6 years, to hold some confirmation classes for us. These will take place on Thursdays on the 4th and 11th May and two Thursdays in June between 6-7pm. Bishop Geoff will officiate at the Confirmation service on Wednesday 21st June with the candidates' first Communion service being held on Sunday 25th June. The Mothers Union are to be asked if they could provide and serve refreshments following the Confirmation service. The PCC would like the Church to give Bibles, signed by Bishop Geoff if possible, to those being confirmed. The adults' course could be separate from the children's course but those who are parents of child candidates may like to attend the course with their children. There is also a course including activity days to be held on the 9th, 10th and 11th June costing £80 and it was proposed that Church pay half of this cost.

Allison and Paul need to attend courses to Level 2 in SAFEGUARDING. All PCC and Pastoral Visiting Group members need Level 1, which can be done online.

Sue asked if any used paper could be taken home and placed in the appropriate bin for RECYCLING rather than go in with general rubbish. Sue said that, if necessary, she would take waste paper home to be placed in her recycling bin.

Anne commented that the roses at the east side of the Church GARDEN AREA which were planted a few years ago are becoming overgrown with weeds. She also commented that Sharon had done considerable work in the garden area by the Noticeboard.

Following a SCHOOL VISIT into CHURCH it was noticed that the lectern had been moved. This is very heavy and moving it could potentially cause a serious accident particularly with the children in the vicinity. On previous occasions there has been damage to music sheets and the Church left in an untidy state when the school have used the Church premises. Also the PA system has been left switched on on this last occasion. The PCC would like to know what the school's insurance covers for these visits. Allison will have a word with Mr. Holt from school after the Easter holidays to try and ensure that the Church is left tidy with everything in place.

Paul thanked everyone for coming to the Meeting which finished with all saying The Grace at 9pm.