

Minutes of St John's PCC Meeting
Held at St Andrew's Church Hall on Tuesday 19th June 2018

The following members were present:

Edward Armitstead, John Brookes, Elizabeth Crawford, Stefan Davies, Rob Dean, Chris Frazer, Jane Hiscock, Lin Hann, Caroline Jeeves, Phil Juggins, James Maitland, David Maynard-Griffin, Keith Ovenden, Tom Putt, Jenny Salberg, Helen Truett, Kath Upton, Sandra Warr. Chairman: James Dudley-Smith. Secretary: Janet Dean

1. **Apologies:** Jam Cary, Beth Farrington, Jennifer Matthew, Nick Scorer, Jo Smith, David Upton, Robert Warr
2. **Minutes** of the PCC meeting held on 20 March 2018 were agreed and signed.
3. **Matters arising from the Minutes.** None
4. **Reading:** James read from 1 Corinthians 12: 1-11 which concerns the gifts of the spirit. In our lives and in our churches, the spirit helps us to know Jesus as Lord; to know that we are precious and useful to God; and to stick together, sharing our different and various gifts, whatever they may be.

There followed a short time of prayer.

5. Finance Report.

- a) John Brookes had circulated his report prior to the meeting and summarised that, although giving is up, we are £2845 short after five months. It is projected that about £8K will have to be taken from the Peter Wakely Fund to cover the cost of the Pastoral Care Co-ordinator this year.
- b) Mission Support. Tom Putt and a small committee had put together a paper from which he summarised that we need to support more local contacts. It was proposed that we could support Jake Eggertson, formally of St John's and King's Bruton, to support him and his family for an additional year at theological college. Regarding overseas giving, it was agreed that it is good to have a personal link and so we are asked to keep an ear to the ground for ideas. When Ruth Hulser retires from her work in Tanzania, a mission organisation could be contacted for a new mission partner (Crosslinks and CMS were mentioned).

6. Evangelism and Outreach

- a) Royal Wedding Weekend. Fifty people attended the Quiz on the Friday evening, and this was followed by a Men's Breakfast on the Saturday and a Guest Service on the Sunday. It was agreed by many that we are not very good, as a congregation, at inviting people to some of these events, but the weekend was nonetheless successful.
- b) Christianity Explored. Eleven people have been studying Mark's Gospel, six of whom are complete outsiders, on a Thursday lunchtime after the Gone Fishing Café.
- c) Holiday Club plans are well underway.
- d) Holiday at Home for the elderly in our congregations is also in the planning stages.

7. Fabric Report

The Committee met on Monday and continue to work through the work identified in the 2017 Quinquennial Report. They are waiting to hear when Sally Strachey can begin the specialised stone and mortar work. It is hoped that some of the non-specialised mortar work can be undertaken by volunteers in-house.

The PCC's appreciation to Eddie Brooks was noted for all the work he has done in and around the church over many years. He has retired for health reasons and his help will be missed. It is hoped that others will take on these tasks.

8. The Organs at St Johns.

Rob Dean had put together a brief proposal to improve the Viscount Prestige organ currently used as a back-up to the Harrison pipe organ.

Ray Willis was in attendance to explain the problem which he did in great detail. The Harrison pipe organ will be 100 years old next year and is of historic interest being only one of five in the country still in use. It is currently maintained annually by Harrison's but there is a fear that one day the big bellows at the very back of the organ will give way and there is no way to repair this except by dismantling the whole organ at huge expense.

Ray would like, therefore, to improve the speaker system for the Viscount organ which was purchased in 2013 to mitigate against such a catastrophic failure and this would cost in the region of £4850 inc VAT. The original faculty

for this organ has just expired and needs to be renewed, so a decision has to be made as to whether or not to include provision for the additional speaker system.

A discussion followed and a vote taken: 12 in favour and 7 against. Rob Dean to apply for the faculty.

9. St Andrew's Report

Sandra Warr reported that their new sound system is up and running, and that their Quinquennial survey is due next year.

10. Associate Minister. The Archdeacon's reply to our letter had been circulated. It was quite non-committal but did acknowledge our concern. Tom Putt had been at Wells the previous day and had discussed this issue. It would seem they are keen that there is no gapping of the post of College Chaplain which is hopeful.

11. Reordering Update.

The architect's plan was available at the last PCC meeting and comments were invited. Rob Dean analysed these comments and has gone back to the architect requesting certain changes to the plan. Their updated plan is awaited and will be circulated to the PCC on receipt. The DAC will then be invited to visit for their comments.

12. Faith in Kids.

Ed Drew of Faith in Kids was invited to visit in order to assess our children's and youth work, as a result of which he has sent an initial report to Jam Cary. He believes:

- a) We are doing a great job which apparently is a rarity
- b) The monthly All Age Service is well attended and popular
- c) The age spread of our young people is good
- d) A great team of leaders for every age range. Well done!

He had several suggestions to make and would like to come back and visit over a weekend to see all the groups in action. The PCC wishes to encourage Jam Cary to invite him back.

13. Safeguarding Matters. Ros Bush had circulated a brief report which had been circulated prior to the meeting. She encourages everyone on the PCC to do the on-line training if they have not already done so. See the link: <https://safeguardingtraining.cofeportal.org/>

14. Further Updates

- a) The Civic Service is to take place on Sunday afternoon, 24th June
- b) Planning for the weekend away is going well
- c) Deanery Synod met last week at Barwick church
- d) Diocesan Synod elections have just taken place. There is one slot available for the House of Laity – contact Janet Dean if you would be interested in adding your name to the list.
- e) General Synod meets in July in York. Please pray for James and for Jam Cary as they attend. Please also pray for Bishop Peter who has taken on the huge Safeguarding role which is taking up a lot of his time and energy.

15. Any Other Business

Phil Juggins is asking for additional members to join him on the Friends of St John's committee which he chairs. Please consider this request. They organise several events each year to raise money for the church, for which James was keen to thank them.

A time of prayer followed, considering all that had been discussed.

The meeting closed at 9.25pm

Date of next meeting: 19th September 2018