

**Minutes of St John's PCC Meeting**  
**Held at St Andrew's Church Hall on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2018**

The following members were present:

Edward Armitstead, John Brookes, Jam Cary, Elizabeth Crawford, Stefan Davies, Rob Dean, Chris Frazer, Lin Hann, Caroline Jeeves, Phil Juggins, James Maitland, Jennifer Matthew, Tom Putt, Jenny Salberg, Jo Smith, Helen Truett, Kath Upton, David Upton, Robert Warr. Chairman: James Dudley-Smith. Secretary: Janet Dean

1. **Apologies:** Jane Hiscock, Beth Farrington, David Maynard-Griffin, Keith Ovenden, Nick Scorer, Sandra Warr.
2. **Minutes** of the PCC meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2018 were agreed and signed.
3. **Matters arising from the Minutes.** Jennifer pointed out that, if someone is invited to the meeting and a vote then needs to be taken, then that person should not be present in the room at the time of the vote.
4. **Bible Reading and Prayer.** Tom reported that he had recently attended a conference on evangelism, the theme of which came from Ephesians 3: 20. *Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations.* These are words we should heed.
5. **Report from the Pastoral Care Coordinator.** Helen begins each week with the Staff Meeting on a Monday morning, after which this week she met with a rep from Manna Magazine. Geoff Tolchard is writing his life story, slowly; and she is putting together a recipe folder for the café. Pastoral care needs to be planned and she is extremely grateful to the pastoral team who are a wonderful resource: some are leaving and some new people are joining the team, for whom a new course will run in the Spring of next year.

Events:

- Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> October, St John's is running a Bereavement Awareness Course which is open to all members of the Deanery.
- Holiday at Home was attended by 40 older folk who had a wonderful 'day in Australia'
- The recent Weekend Away was attended by 120 people who experienced a very special time
- Super Saturday on 22 September: St John's will be open for this great opportunity to be at the heart of everything that is going on

Helen concluded that there is so much to be thankful for and that we need to be dependent on one another, not to stand alone.

A time of prayer for Helen and her work followed.

6. **Election of two members to the Standing Committee.** A vote was taken and Lin Hann and Edward Armitstead were duly elected.
7. **Finance Report.** John Brookes had circulated his report prior to the meeting. It was noted that giving has increased but, despite this, we are still heading for a deficit of between £5-6K by the end of the year. This can be covered by our surplus, but the Parish Share will undoubtedly rise again next year. Rob Dean has written to Nick May, the Diocesan Secretary, with our concerns. Parish Share has increased by 87% in the past five years!
8. **Fabric Report.**
  - With regard to the speakers for the temporary organ, we are waiting to hear back from the DAC before we can proceed.
  - Safe working on the vestry roof: an estimate for straps and fastenings came to £2.5K. However, a local builder when asked to quote for this work said he would charge £240 for the work to be carried out.
  - The committee is still hoping to find members of the congregation who may have special skills to assist with the general upkeep of the church.
  - The School Rooms have been sold but we have not been informed of the identity of the new owner.
9. **Evangelism and Outreach**
  - a) "Talking Jesus" is a video resource aimed at Christians and church-goers, to help and encourage us in our witness. Jam Cary will run the course for four evenings in the New Year, possibly opening it to members of the Deanery.
  - b) 17<sup>th</sup> October – CAP will be showing a Billy Graham video, open to all

10. **Faith in Kids Update.** Their initial report had been circulated to the PCC and was very encouraging. Ed Drew will be returning to St John's for the weekend of 13/14 October to observe us at work with our young people. Jam suggested he might also run a course for parents after the church service on the Sunday: this to be discussed further.
11. **Report from St Andrew's:** there was no-one present to give the report.
12. **Re-ordering in St John's.** Rob Dean thanked members of the PCC for attending the meeting in the church on 3<sup>rd</sup> September. It proved a very helpful time for all concerned. We now wait to hear from the DAC when they might visit before any further progress can be made. A discussion followed regarding when and how the congregation should be told of the plans. Rob suggested we wait until after the DAC visit and the architect has drawn up plans and diagrams.
13. **Safeguarding Policy.** The Diocesan safeguarding policy was circulated prior to the meeting. Ros Bush is currently looking at it with Jennifer Matthew in order to personalise it for St John's.
14. **Further Updates.**
  - Holiday Club. This was a very good and happy week for all concerned and it was pleasing to see many parents at the service on Sunday. Lin commented that the model is superb but restricted in numbers. This to be discussed at the pre-planning meeting in October.
  - George Beverly has begun training for ordination on a part-time basis which means going up to London on a Tuesday to St Mellitus College. He will remain in post as School Chaplain at King's Bruton whilst undergoing training. James is due to go to London with him in October and will also schedule meetings with him two or three times a term. Please pray for George.

**15. Any Other Business**

- Legacy leaflets have been printed and these were distributed to each member of the PCC. James thanked the Finance Committee for enabling this.
- David Upton suggested that Steve Hart be invited to the next PCC meeting to give an update on CAP; and Art for Cap which will take place between 12 December and 24 January.
- Jam flagged up the Christmas Shoe Box appeal. Melissa has ordered 50 boxes to help get people started.

At this point in the meeting, James alerted the PCC to the fact that there is to be a Rainbow Eucharist in Wells Cathedral on Saturday. Jayne Ozanne, a lay member of the General Synod, appears to be seeking to change the church's doctrine on same sex relationships and has persuaded Bishop Ruth to preside over the service. This has been advertised on the Diocesan website (but it is hoped that this has now been withdrawn.) Both James and Tom have written to Bishop Peter expressing their deep concern, and ask that members of the PCC might perhaps also write in a similar vein.

There followed a time of prayer.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Date of next meeting: 21<sup>st</sup> November 2018