

Minutes of a Meeting of All Saints' Chilton PCC

Held on Tuesday 7th March 2017 at 7.30pm at St Matthew's Harwell

1. Opening Prayer and Combined Discussion

Rev Dr Jonathan Mobey opened the meeting by reading from Matthew chapter 7, The Sermon on The Mount, from the "New Living" translation of the Bible. We should not judge others, nor should we "Throw Pearls to Pigs"; but if we keep seeking, doors will be opened. God will give good gifts. This teaching is relevant to PCC meetings, because we are not just to do "business", but to respond to each other, and seek God's will for us, bearing in mind that this will be far better than any earthly father could want for us.

(i) CPCC Group on Staffing Issues in the Benefice

Rev Jean Barton had circulated a paper on the progress this group had made. The group had met three times now, and hoped to have recommendations to present to the CPCC on the way forward, by June.

The meeting divided into their individual PCCs at 7.45 pm.

2. All Saints' PCC

Present:

Rev Dr Jonathan Mobey (Chair)
Mrs Sylvie Thompson
Mrs Hazel King
Mrs Naomi Gibson
Mrs Liz Morris
Mr Steve Hale

Rev Pam Rolls
Mr Phil Corbishley
Mr Stuart Gibson
Mr John Pigott
Mr Alex Reich (from 5(i))
Mrs Carol Pigott (secretary)

Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Dr Carina Loblely and Mrs Helen Brook.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted unanimously, and duly signed.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

- (i) Sound and Vision Training This is in hand. Jonathan had suggested that Steven Launchbury would be a good person to involve in delivering the training. Naomi has spoken to him and he agreed to produce a presentation to explain the workings of the equipment. She has followed this up with a reminder email but doesn't envisage the training to happen before Easter as Steven has other commitments until then.
- (ii) Bier Several volunteers had been involved in moving this to the stable in West House. (It had been stored there previously, many years ago.) Mr Bill Eaton will be thanked for the years he has looked after it for us.

- (iii) Boundary Wall Up-date Pam has been working hard, looking for the historical evidence of ownership of the wall. It is hoped that Alex will be talking with the owners of West House again in the near future.

5. Committee reports

- (i) Finance Report and Revenue Account. These had been circulated. There were no decisions required. The 2016 Accounts had been examined. PCC accepted the Annual Accounts unanimously, and they were duly signed by the Rector.

In response to a question from Hazel, Stuart replied that the balance of £10,000 in the CFW fund was within Chilton, not across the benefice.

Replying to a question from Sylvie, he confirmed that we would end up with a surplus, should the CFW continue to be employed by us on a half-time basis.

(Alex Reich arrived at this point)

- (ii) Fabric. Andrew Hayes had circulated his usual, clear, “Snapshot” of the state of the Fabric. Sadly, honey fungus has attacked the 2 chestnut trees, which therefore need to be felled. This will happen around 10th March. (The parish has been forewarned.) The plum and crab-apple trees have also been affected, and are being watched. It is possible that they may develop resistance.

Referring to the heating of church, Andrew had written that the Fabric Committee would try to find a company who could build bespoke fan heaters to match the performance of our GEC heaters. Phil asked if the heaters needed to be replaced. Alex and Sylvie replied, that the heaters were very old, and had been repaired in the past. The Fabric Committee were gathering information at this stage, for future reference.

- a) Rail at Chancel Step. Alex reported that the handrail was now to be sited on the south wall at the chancel step. i.e. to the right-hand side, looking towards the east window. It will have a more substantial fixing at this point, and will be able to extend further into the nave than if fixed to the pulpit side. Alex was liaising with Helen Lambourn of the DAC in case we needed a new faculty because the design had to be very slightly amended, to extend further. It could possibly be fixed by June, or sometime thereafter.

PCC expressed their thanks to Andrew, via Alex, for all the work done on the fabric.

6. Health and Safety Representative

Our Church Insurers had supplied recommendations for a Health and Safety Policy, and actions that needed to be undertaken. Alex had noted these requirements, and a paper had been circulated to PCC. As James Hellem had now moved away, we have a vacancy for a representative, to up-date and implement our policy. They would be advised to liaise with Hazel Connolly, of Harwell, who had undertaken this role for St Matthew’s. The secretary would approach people suggested for the role.

7. Preparations for Mothering Sunday and Easter

Liz would prepare the posies for Mothering Sunday, with other volunteers, in the church kitchen on Saturday 25th March. She would also arrange for information to go in the notice sheet.

13th April, Maundy Thursday service would be in Chilton. (Rector to check/change website venue) There would be a procession of witness on Good Friday, starting from the Chilton Field Community Room at 8.45 am, prior to Good Friday service in church.

Pam would be leading the Easter Vigil service on Saturday 15th April.
Easter Sunday, 16th April, would be a Family Communion service at 9.30. The Rector would enquire if those leading Pebbles would be prepared to run the Pebbles group on that Sunday.

8. Revision of Electoral Roll

This was in hand, organised by Gordon Cowan. The notice of revision had been put up, and application forms to be entered on the roll had been placed in church.

9. Preparations for Annual Church Meeting and Annual Parochial Church Meeting

(i) Approval of Reports.

The Annual Report was approved, subject to slight amendment and rearrangement.

The Financial Report had been approved at the January PCC, and was included within the Annual Report. The Annual Accounts had also been approved, and had now been audited. The Fabric and Ornaments report and related papers had been circulated, and were approved.

(ii) Presentation of Logbook, Terrier and Inventory. Naomi presented these, which were approved. Naomi and Alex were thanked for the time and effort taken to produce these.

(iii) Preparation for Elections. We need to elect:

2 Churchwardens for 1 year

3 PCC members for 3 years and

3 Deanery Synod Representatives for 3 years.

(We had 81 on the Electoral Roll as at the 2016 APCM, which entitles us to 3 Deanery reps)

Naomi has completed 5 years' service as Churchwarden (and will not be standing for election to PCC)

John has served for 23 years as Deanery Rep, and has decided not to stand for re-election to Deanery, but is prepared to stand for the PCC vacancy

Sylvie has also been a Deanery Rep, and is taking the opportunity to stand down from PCC.

Alex is prepared to stand again as Churchwarden, and 2 retiring members of PCC (Stuart and Helen) will also stand for re-election. (James Hellem was the third member of PCC whose term of office has been completed, and has moved away)

Nominations are therefore required for at least a further 1 Churchwarden, and 3 Deanery Reps.

Nomination forms would be available in church.

PCC were greatly appreciative of Naomi's stalwart work as Churchwarden, and on PCC for many years before that; also of John's lengthy service on Deanery.

Sylvie had undertaken some extremely onerous work researching the possibility of installing underfloor heating, during her time on PCC, for which we are exceedingly grateful.

9. Future Dates

- (i) Generation Gold Service Monday 13th March, 2.30pm at All Saints'
- (ii) Mothering Sunday 26th March
- (iii) Easter Sunday 16th April

- (iv) APM and APCM Sunday 23rd April at 10.20 am and 10.25 am respectively
- (v) All Saints' PCC at Chilton Tuesday 2nd May
- (vi) Prayer Spaces in Church 26th to 30th June

10. Correspondence and Any Other Business

- (i) Request to purchase a pew. Andrew had been asked if it would be possible to purchase a pew from us. (Possibly the long pew, by the piano). Andrew had informed the prospective purchaser that the agreement of PCC and a Faculty would be needed. PCC discussed this, and agreed unanimously that it could be sold. PCC also agreed that Andrew should ask for an offer from the gentleman concerned, and, if that was sufficient (bearing in mind the quantity of good elm used in making the pew) then a faculty could be applied for.
- (ii) Christmas and/or Postcards. Pam showed PCC some cards that Dr John Berry had produced for us to use as Christmas cards, and also as Postcards. These were photographs that he had taken of the East window, at night in December, with the window illuminated from inside church. They were beautiful pictures, and the secretary would pass on the thanks of PCC for his generosity.

11. Closing Prayer

Rev Pam Rolls closed the meeting with prayer at 9.00 pm.

Date of next meetings

Sunday 23rd April APM and APCM at 10.20 am and 10.25 am respectively in church.
Tuesday 2nd May All Saints' Individual PCC at 7.30 pm at All Saints'.

.....Chairman

Carol Pigott (Secretary)