

Draft minutes of the PCC meeting held on Monday 21st February at 7.45 pm in the church lounge

Present: Tim Fox (Chair), Debbie Caine, Janet Coleman, Charlie George, Camilla Gilmore, Angela Harriss, Maureen Hollins, Ann Jordan, Wendy Pearce, Ann Shephard and Hugh Williams
Layla Anderson Joined the meeting just before 9.00pm.

09.22 Welcome and apologies

Tim welcomed members to the meeting. Apologies were received from Andrew Little. Tim used the 'Sleeping with bread', in the Ignatian tradition, to focus on where God has been in the day, including beauty and consolation as well as desolation – a prayer for guidance. For instance, for what have we been most/least grateful, has made us most alive/pulled us down, made us happiest/saddest.

The meeting was then opened in prayer.

10.22 Minutes of PCC meeting held on 10th January 202

Following three minor amendments to the minutes of the meeting:

- 04.22 under Site should read Cliff and Andrew
- 06.22 PCC
- 07.22 remove second at half term (in italics)

they were duly signed by Tim as a true and accurate record

11.22 Matters arising not on the agenda

i. Grants for CYFM

Very sadly the grant from the Henry Smith Trust had not been awarded. Despite the bid being good the pot on offer was much smaller than recent bids handed out. A heavy not a light touch was needed regarding the numbers proposed to be brought to Christ. The best option may be to approach the diocese for a full time youth worker based at St Paul's for two to three years. With Lee Proudlove leaving next month St Giles has funding but no youth worker, whereas we have the youth worker but no funding. Could the money be split to fund two part time roles? The role may well have to include resourcing other churches in the deanery or working part time with the diocese. Smaller pots are available and Tim is awaiting a reply from Neil Peake to an email he sent a few days ago regarding those. Other funding for smaller bids could be available but would take two to three months or longer for a reply. Wendy suggested contacting Tony Brown the diocesan funding advisor. Henry Smith could be approached again after a year. HeartEdge advisors have helped. Tim has had a good conversation with Mark Fraser. St Luke's is very well staffed. The right person is needed to job share, suitably qualified/experienced and may have to work across the deanery. We will pray for provision from God for Penny's ministry to continue as there will be a shortfall in her role before October when her contract runs out.

ii. Net Carbon Zero

Wendy is willing to take the role forward even though she does not profess to be an expert. We will be registered as an Eco Church following the launch on 15th May. 25% compliance will gain us a bronze award. The procedure is by self-certification. Ian Duce will help with the questionnaire. Wendy, Tim, Charlie and the young people will move the process forward. The Ridewise Active Travel manager Murat Basaran was offering bike maintenance as part of the launch, but Tim has a good relationship with Jason in the local bike shop who would be willing to help when appropriate, Camilla suggested that the timing of the E-bike tryout on the 21st March be extended/changed so that secondary pupils could also be involved. Tim had approached RBC about having electric charging points in the car park. That, however, comes under the auspices of NCC.

iii. APCM date

This has been changed to **3rd April** as 27th March is Mothering Sunday.

Two wardens will be elected at the Annual Meeting of Parishioners before elections for three places on PCC and one for deanery synod take place at the APCM.

Tim commented that he is immensely grateful for the strength of the PCC team and wardens. Charlie said he will complete another year, by which time he will have served the six year maximum. Wendy recommended a good handover. Tim thanked her for the huge amount she has brought to the role of warden, her heart for justice as well as so many more aspects in what we do, Ann Jordan is willing to continue on deanery synod, the second year of three. Anyone with energy to invest might like to consider joining her and Andrew – a good way to interact with people and find out more about what is going on in the deanery.

12.22 Reports

i. CYFM (paper attached)

Penny was thanked for her huge commitment to her role. She is a gatherer, a true witness, which she does so well, with a great involvement in discipleship. Thanks to her nurturing and hard work throughout Covid, Young Church and Infinity have blossomed. They have all been steered on their faith journey, the befriending and welcoming having become discipling. The number of children and young people coming forward for admission to communion and confirmation are a great testament to her.

Debbie prayed a beautiful extempore prayer, which echoed all our thoughts, for Penny,

ii. Site (paper attached)

Charlie had nothing to add to his report beyond saying the faculty for the front door was now in the hands of the Chancellor. The Registrar's comments, though completed, were not able to be viewed online.

Tim's thanks to Charlie and Jane, also Ian and Glenys are minuted for generously donating the new blinds in the office and minister's room and disabled toilet respectively. Ian has this week fitted locks to the ladies' and gents' toilets as well as boarding up the accidentally broken window in hall 1. Charlie was thanked for giving bottles of his wine in appreciation of the diligent work carried out by his willing team of helpers – Ian and Cliff.

ii. Deanery/CTWB

Deanery: Only a small number attended the meeting. An update will follow in due course.

CTWB are still requesting a donation of £100 from the churches in the group with the intention of making a donation to CAP (which we have been supporting regularly from our 6% giving for the past few years). Tim has deferred paying, asking them to let us know when they actually need a donation.

13.22 Safeguarding

Ann thanked members who had completed/are about to attend (via Zoom) the Domestic Abuse Training as laid out in December's minutes. Since January 2022 this may no longer be necessary. The five who had attended the course all felt it had been a worthwhile training. Two items were raised. The first that, unlike Safeguarding procedure, informed consent from adults (18+) must be given before anyone can be contacted. Concerns can however be raised with the diocese without names being mentioned. Tear off strips with helpline numbers should be available in the toilets, preferably with the first one removed.

Setting up the new job descriptions is proving very time consuming eg welcomers, sacristans, intercessors and worship leaders. Ann is working alongside Tim on this to solve any safer recruitment issues. There is no information around to assist with this.

Charlie, with his vast experience in compliance, suggests that we explain why we have carried out the procedure in the way we have rather than following exactly what is asked, thus dealing with it practically. When it comes to volunteers well known to the church, a simplified procedure would be followed. Self-declaration will apply to all. Will appraisals be needed?

14.22 Vision

i. PCC Away Day

Tim will find out free dates from Sacrista Prebend for the summer term, enabling any new PCC members to take part.

ii. Lent plans

Tim will send out a letter about Prayer and Rhythm to start up a conversation about the rules of life, following a mixture of answers from members as to how much they had heard about it or not. The question will be raised at the APCM with good answers hopefully being given. It would be good if members of the congregation could speak for a couple of minutes during services of how their prayer life works. Andrew Little is going to speak on the first Sunday in Lent (6th March) explaining the Cof E "Everyday Faith" Web Portal.

iii. Sunday service times and evening pattern

9.00am and 10.30am

The change in service times will begin on 6th March. Mike Spalton has volunteered to be lead sacristan which will free up clergy from their setting up and clearing away duties undertaken since the pandemic. Adam Baker will be Worship Leader twice a month.

6.30pm

Revd Ros has offered to celebrate a contemplative eucharist on the second Sunday bi-monthly, alternating months with Tim's Service of Lament. On the fourth Sundays the joint service with Clifton will continue. Following a short discussion, it was decided to keep to Sundays for the former due to people's midweek commitments.

15.22 Mission

i. Café update

Layla attended the meeting to bring members up to date. Her six month appointment comes to an end at the end of February, with a great deal achieved. She reflected on the challenges of setting up the project, made more difficult because of being part time, and by Covid together with problems with suppliers. It would have been easier had she been full time. There is still a long way to go, but Layla and Helen (Fox) are secure in what's in place and new relationships are already being formed. The project is still in its infancy and will develop as and when the time is right. It is hoped that a grant of £19k will be available from the council (RBC) with a further £14k possibly available from a different pot to cover both the café and social eating projects. Layla is excited about the way forward and fulfilling the vision. Tim commented that she was the right person to connect the vision and the community. A permanent board will be needed at some point. Church volunteers, plus as many as 25 Yr 13 pupils are awaiting training.

The Café on the Corner opened officially today at 12 noon, complete with balloons and a ribbon cutting by local Councillors Rod Jones and Vicky Price. There was a really good vibe and relaxed feel with a variety of ages present.

Angela was thanked for her patience as the café was running alongside Our Place.

Tim commented on the failure of communication with Angela regarding this, and apologised to her and to Our Place.

ii. Social eating

Jack, the Co-op manager in Edwalton, is very supportive, committed to the project and eager to help. There is a possibility that church members could be encouraged to use the store, thus increasing the donations we are likely to receive from Co-op.

The date for the next Social Eating event has been put back because of volunteer availability. Being honest, Layla felt that juggling both roles has been too much and further conversation is needed. Vicky, the chef from Newstead's The availability of Vicky, who comes from Newstead, needs to be considered when setting dates. Preparation and having the meal on the same day would be much better, meaning the food could be picked up on Friday and not involving three days as with the first meal. A Saturday around 5.00 to 6.00pm sounded good. The meal is primarily to involve the community, not just church members. Helen Leonard finishes at 2.00pm and would be willing to move into hall 2 to enable preparation for the meal. Penny will also be consulted when dates are proposed as Infinity meet on Saturday evenings.

Milk shakes on Thursday afternoons after school

A grant of £2k has been applied for in order to resource this ministry. We have not yet heard whether this application has been successful.

A year 13 pupil from West Bridgford School has volunteered to help with the Café and possibly the milkshakes.

Before she left the meeting, Tim thanked Layla for all her hard work.

16.22 Focus on finance and giving (3 papers attached)

i. Receiving draft end of year accounts for 2021

Debbie briefly explained the results as shown in the draft accounts for the year to 31 December 2021 circulated prior to the meeting, in particular the activities and balances of the various restricted and unrestricted funds. The balance of the general fund stood at £19,601 at 1 January 2021 and with a surplus of £6,932 for 2021, the balance at 31 December 2021 was £26,533. The closing balance on the CYFM fund was £12,439. The total of all funds at the year end was £67,466 per the draft accounts. The narrative Financial Review, also circulated prior to the meeting and which forms part of the annual report, provides more detail.

ii. Budget for 2022

The budgeted deficit on the general fund for 2022 is £3,377, so after taking into account the brought forward surplus, the closing balance at 31 December 2022 would be £23,156. Based on a minimum acceptable general reserves position of £12,000, that would mean just over £11,000 is in principle available to cover other potential requirements, including covering the end or a gap in the CYFM funding, and paying more towards the full parish share, which is just over £70,000, but in the budget (and bid put forward to the deanery) at £62,000. It is likely that the new door cost is already covered, with a fund balance of just over £11,000 at the year end and further donations and gift aid claims of at least £1,800 in the current year.

iii. Share allocation

There were mixed views as to whether the monthly payments for parish share should be made initially on the basis that the full amount is going to be paid, or instead payments are based on £62,000 initially and then increased later in the year if the financial position was better than expected. As it is to some degree an administrative matter it was agreed to follow whatever the finance committee feel is appropriate.

A Giving Campaign is planned for September.

iv. 6% giving 2021 (paper attached)

The paper prepared by Andrew Little was approved as regards the allocation of charitable giving based on the 2021 committed giving. The future approach is to be discussed at the next PCC meeting.

Tim expressed his thanks to the Finance Group.

v. Honorarium for Adam Baker

The 2022 general fund budget does include a £2,000 honorarium to Adam Baker, which could be funded from elsewhere if needs be. No objections were raised as regards its inclusion in the 2022 budget.

Tim thanked Debbie for doing a brilliant job, for her competence and her spiritual presence. She is fantastic and working with her is a joy.

17.22 Dates of next meetings

14th March, **APCM 3rd April**, 9th May, 13th June, 11th July

The meeting finished at 10.15pm and was followed by a short prayer.