

Ottery St Mary Parish Church
Minutes of PCC Meeting 25th May, 2016

Present: Rev Steve Weston (Chair), Graham Snell, Rev Leisa McGovern, Diane Passey, John Maybery (Hon Treasurer), Arthur Passey, Sue Jeacock (PCC Secretary, Minutes), David Rose, Jill Rose, Bruce Odlin, Anitra Lockwood, Grenville Gilbert, Mark Rix, Colin Tindal, Kate Jackson, Shirley-Ann Williams, Diana Gee, Fiona Rimmer

1 **Apologies** received from John Ward, Helen Atkinson and Frances Snell. Steve welcomed the new members.

2 **Correspondence**

Letter received from Diocese requesting Participant Figures used for calculating 2017 Common Fund. John Maybery will complete.

JM

3 **Reports**

Bell Ringers: Report received, with thanks for all they do.

Healing Ministry: Numbers have dropped for the evening service. Perhaps needs to be promoted in a different way. Possibly make it monthly, not bi-monthly, so people are not confused about when it is taking place. It was felt it is important to continue, even if numbers are low. Even if only one person is helped, it is worth it.

4 **Matters Arising from the Minutes of Standing Committee held on 25th April 2016**

Item 5: A letter has been sent to the All Churches Trust to thank them for their donation.

Graham Snell has passed details of the trust to David Roberts for future reference.

DAC Visit: this was constructive, with alternative suggestions for how we could set out the shop and the welcome area. These will be considered by Governors and PCC Standing Committee. Current layout can still be used for Festivals and other special events. DAC also looked at the completed Toilet Block. It was felt that the rendering on outside is not as it should be. It could be helped to "age", but may have to be re-applied.

Item 8.1: Servant Queen books – take-up has been good and more have been ordered. £77 received so far in donations to cover the cost.

5 **Minutes of the PCC Meetings 22nd April and 23rd March 2016**

i) The Minutes were signed as a correct record of proceedings, with the amendment that Mark Rix was in attendance on 23rd March.

ii) Matters Arising not covered on the agenda

Item 12.3 Parish Rooms: Arthur Passey and John Akers will join this committee. Meeting scheduled for 5th June.

New CCTV camera had now been installed for Toilet Block, demonstration to be arranged.

Item 10: Pentecost Week of Prayer. Good numbers attended Morning Prayer during the week and some good feedback for the Prayer Spaces in church. Poor turnout for the Prayer Walk, although this may have been down to the atrocious weather.

6 **Treasurer's Report – John Maybery**

A cash flow report had been circulated in advance of the meeting.

Planned giving: we are likely to be £20,000 below what we should be in the budget. Shop continues to do well. Parish share is £111,742. We are guaranteeing to pay at least £90,000, hopefully more. £29,500 paid so far. We are behind with our payments to the Mission Community for clergy expenses, but currently don't have the cash to pay any more.

John outlined the Purchasing Policy which was agreed at the last Standing Committee. Policy will be emailed to PCC members by the church office.

Gas contract needs to be renegotiated. SSE is offering a 3 year contract at half the price British Gas are currently charging us. John has asked British Gas for a new quote. Gazprom (Russian State Gas Company) is even cheaper than SSE, but it was agreed that this was not something the PCC would like to pursue, on ethical grounds.

SJ

7 **May Fair – Saturday 28th**

Help needed for setting up on Friday afternoon and evening, and for taking down on Saturday evening. The event may have to be re-thought for next year, due to a dwindling number of volunteer helpers. Steve thanked the May Fair committee for all they have done this year.

8 **Mission Audit**

Steve handed out a short report on the last meeting, with two proposals. Firstly that our vision statement is changed to "Knowing Christ better and making Christ better known", and

secondly that we adopt Bishop Robert's three aims for churches in the Exeter Diocese: growing together in prayer, making new disciples and serving the people of Devon with joy. This would update and simplify our previous Mission Action Plan.

Leisa reported that there is some funding available to help promote churches where there are large areas of new housing, as in Ottery. Leisa and our rural dean Cate will follow this up.

LMG

9

Holiday Club

8th-12th August. The theme is Guardians of Ancora. Fliers were given out to the children attending the Prayer Day for Schools in Church earlier this month.

10

Coffee

11

Fees for Rev Ann Turner and Rev John Pangbourne

The following motion was proposed by Bruce Odlin, seconded by Di Passey: "Those retired clergy who hold the Bishop's Licence within the Otter Vale Mission Community should receive applicable fees at the Diocesan-approved rate for conducting services of public worship."

Agreed. John and Ann, who both work incredibly hard across the Mission Community, both have new, one year licences from Bishop Sarah. The motion covers 2017 fees, which have already been budgeted for.

12

Flower Festival

14th – 18th September. The theme is "Celebrations".

13

Safeguarding – Jill Rose

The updated Mission Community safeguarding policy had been circulated in advance of the meeting. Its adoption was proposed by Shirley-Ann Williams, seconded by Mark Rix. **Agreed.** Training courses are now available. All PCC members need to do module 1. Module 2 is for those in a leadership role. Jill is preparing a list of who will need to do which module. Sandra has kindly offered to help Jill with the DBS administration to relieve her workload. The DBS procedure will now be slightly different and once a check is complete an appointment letter must be sent to the volunteer.

14

Gilbert Heale/David Allen

Grenville asked PCC members to give thought to how we could mark the contribution of these two major legacies in church. A plaque on the wall of the building would require a Faculty, so might not be the best option. A stained glass window had been suggested previously, but the cost was prohibitive. To be added to the agenda of the next meeting.

SJ

15

PCC representatives for CTIO, Charitable Giving and Governors

Colin Tindal will become the new CTIO rep to replace Graham Snell. Graham Snell volunteered to become the PCC rep for the Governors. Diana Gee will be the PCC rep on the Charitable Giving Committee.

16

AOB

16.1

Refugees: retiring collection will be taken for Refugee Support Devon on 5th and 12th June. A small group in Ottery, including Rev Mac Dick and Anna Rodderick, will look at the possibility of sponsoring a refugee in our area, possibly together with other churches.

16.2

Leisa's training: Leisa asked for prayers for her interview with Bishop Sarah which takes place on 6th July. She will need to complete a one month placement outside the Mission Community at some point next year. Leisa had to take a break in studying for her honours degree this year, but will resume study in September. Tuesday will continue to be her study day. From the middle of next year, Leisa will be looking for her next job. It is possible to be appointed before the end of the curacy if the right post comes up.

16.3

Queen's 90th Birthday: Community events planned for the weekend of 11th and 12th June. On 12th a beacon will be lit by members of the Youth Group on the Millennium Green and Steve has been invited to attend and say a prayer.

16.4

New PCC Members Terms of Service: Kate Jackson has agreed to serve for a one year term and Helen Atkinson for a two year term on the PCC. The other new members, Diana Gee, John Ward, Fiona Rimmer and Flo Rowland will serve a three year term.

The meeting closed with prayers and the Grace

Date of Next Meeting: 27th July in Church

Signed: Date: