

pOttery St Mary Parish Church - Minutes of PCC Meeting 28th September, 2016

Present: Rev Steve Weston, Graham Snell, Sue Jeacock (PCC Sec, Minutes), Frances Snell, John Maybery (treasurer), Grenville Gilbert, Shirley-Ann Williams, Rev Leisa McGovern, Helen Atkinson, Kate Jackson, David Rose, Flo Rowland, Anitra Lockwood, Diana Gee, Colin Tindal and Jill Rose.

1 Prayers – led by Frances Snell

2 Apologies received from Mark Rix, Di and Arthur Passey, Bruce Odlin, Fiona Rimmer, John Ward

3 Correspondence

3.1 Thank you letter from July wedding couple Julian and Katie Fry

3.2 Thank you letter from Help Scheme for our role in the arrangements for the successful Budleigh Male Voice choir concert in church in August.

3.3 Letter to Steve from Archbishops of Canterbury and York about prayer initiative for Pentecost. Steve will display this on one of the church boards.

4 Reports

Written reports were received from FFFocus, Link and Children's Work. The Holiday Club attracted more children than last year which was encouraging and it was felt that good relationships are being built with the parents of those who attended.

5 Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Standing Committee held on 22nd August 2016

Steve clarified point 5, regarding the formalisation of the Mission Community. The change should make it easier to take decisions as a Mission Community rather seeking agreement from 12 separate PCCs.

6 Minutes of the PCC Meetings held on 27th July 2016

i) Signed as a correct record.

ii) Matters Arising not covered on the agenda

Item 6: The diocesan safeguarding department is currently under-staffed so delivering all the necessary training will be a big challenge.

Item 9: Mission Growth Fund Application: Mission Community staff have now met with Barry Dudmore. There will be two aims: to strengthen our on-line presence and to visit new homeowners face to face, possibly employing someone to do this.

Item 5: Jill and Sue have not yet managed to distribute the fire guidance.

SJ/JR

7 Treasurer's Report

£145 was raised from a funeral tea and £190 from the Devon Historic Churches cycle ride. The Gift Aid return has been submitted and should produce a repayment of £8,500 shortly. A new gas contract has been set up with CNG, which offers a much cheaper price than British Gas.

8 Flower Festival

This raised a profit of around £2,400. Visitors commented it was one of the best festivals they had seen. Refreshments contributed £150 more to the total than they did last time. A huge thank you to Carol Bennett and to Sheila Williams. Both should receive an official thank you from the PCC for their efforts.

SJ/SWe

9 Robing for Servers

A paper prepared by Rev Steve Weston had been circulated in advance, with a letter from server Fiona Rimmer. Each PCC member had the opportunity to express their opinion on whether servers at 8am and 9.30am communion services should have to wear robes. It was agreed to consult the congregation with a survey questionnaire during October and November and re-visit the issue at a future PCC before a decision is made.

- 10 **Coffee**
- 11 **Refugees**
The Abide project, coordinated by Anna Roderick, hopes to help resettle a Syrian refugee family in East Devon. There is a public meeting in church next week and anyone interested is invited to attend. Abide has asked whether the PCC would be prepared to endorse the project by allowing it to use our registered charity status and bank account to deposit any funds which are received. This was proposed by Steve Weston, seconded by Grenville Gilbert. **Agreed.** PCC treasurer John Maybery will look into how this might be done.
- 12 **Gilbert Heale/David Allen memorial**
One of the members of the flower team, Jacqueline Ward, is researching the possibility of purchasing an urn.
- 13 **Healing Ministry**
A proposal from the Healing team had been circulated in advance of the meeting. The team propose to make the service monthly, rather than bi-monthly and to bring the start time forward to 5pm. Some concern was expressed that a monthly service might be hard to sustain and prepare for. There might also be an impact on Evensong. It was agreed that Rev Leisa McGovern would attend the next Healing Meeting to discuss the concerns raised before a decision could be made by the PCC.
- 14 **May Fair Date**
We have been given an alternative date at Cadhay, the Saturday of the August Bank Holiday weekend. It was agreed to consult Tipton St John, who hold their fete on Bank Holiday Monday, before agreeing to switch our fair to August. It was noted that Tipton's is on a much smaller scale than ours, yet generates nearly the same profit.
- 15 **Review of Hire Charges**
A review, prepared by Jill Rose, had been circulated. It is proposed that charities will be offered a 20% discount, with some discretion for special circumstances. The technicians fee should increase to £50, to be paid to the technicians themselves. It was agreed that hire of staging should not be included as an option. The new charges will apply for any new bookings for 2017. **Agreed.** We will need to notify the Choral Society of changes, but will honour their current bookings at the old rates.
- 16 **Christmas Services**
A list had been distributed in advance of the meeting. We have had a request from Wren Music for a concert in church on December 2. It was felt there is already too much on at this time of year. Sue Jeacock to respond. SJ
- 17 **AOB**
- 17.1 Tar Barrels BBQ: help required. Notice to be put in Contact for volunteers SJ
- 17.2 Wiggaton's repair work has been completed and exterior woodwork repainted.
- 17.3 Christmas Bazaar: ideas for more craft stalls required.
- 17.4 Harvest – next year could we have a traditional service, with fresh produce to be auctioned at a Harvest supper? Possible dates to be considered at staff meeting.
- 17.5 Rev Leisa McGovern is currently on placement with Rev Cate Edmonds. After Christmas she is likely to have another placement outside the Mission Community and in March will be working with Rev Mark Ward.
- 17.6 Can an official thank you to be made to those who work on the sound system? SJ/SWe
- 17.7 Anitra: November 19th is World Toilet Day. Would Sunday 20th be an opportunity to remind people of our toilet twinning fund? The fund is only just short of the total needed (£240).

The Meeting closed with the Grace at 10.00pm

To know Christ better and to make Christ better known