

MINUTES OF PCC MEETING HELD 18 January 2024 *via zoom*

For God, for one another, for the world

Focus for the year - Awakening new hope

Present: Tracy Garland (PCC Secretary), Revd. Fiona Gwynn (Associate Priest), Pippa Hollins-McLean, David Hutton, John McLean (Churchwarden), Nicola Miller (Treasurer), Dian Mordin, Anthony Ramsden (Deanery Representative), Charlie Webb, Angela Wheeler (Deanery Representative), Jane White.

Fi opened the meeting with the evening prayer.

Apologies: Revd. Chris Bessant (Rector), Revd. Elaine Collins (Assistant Priest of Haslemere and Grayswood), Jackie Holmes (Churchwarden), Sarah Hatherall-Good.

Minutes: of the October 2023 meeting were agreed and approved.

Matters arising

i) Fi is preparing a leaflet for of our vision from the Church Development plan to share with the congregation. Angela offered to help.

ii) Christmas services were well attended with a combination of regular attenders, locals and visitors. The numbers averaged the pattern across the Diocese, indicating the importance of Christmas services. Midnight communion: 26, Christmas day: 76, Christingle/crib: 100 adults, 80 children.

iii) discussion on Raising Awareness of Domestic Abuse training deferred to next meeting. Tracy to resend the link. TG

Main item: Calendar

i) Lent and Easter: Ash Wednesday 14 February, service St Barts.

Lent course entitled Jesus and Calling: the road to Easter to run for 5 weeks from Wednesday 21 February 6.45pm for 7pm start OJ room.

Palm Sunday Family Service: 24th March at 4pm with dramatised reading of The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe. To include refreshments, ticketed (no cost). This will be advertised at the school to encourage attendance at Easter services. Maundy Thursday supper in OJ, details to follow. The Easter Sunday service will include one of Richard's sketches to be shown on the screen.

ii) APCM 21 April following café style service in the village hall. Jane, Ailsa and Sarah at the end of their three year term. Jane is willing to to stand again.

Presentation of the log book and terrier deferred to the next meeting. The terrier dates back to 1986 and a new one needed. Sarah has transcribed the terrier to an electronic version. A few corrections are needed. Thanks were expressed to Sarah for her hard work undertaking this transition.

Ideas Forum

Discussions included removal of one of the back pews to make a family friendly space: “play and pray corner;” rename the 4th Sunday service to make it more welcoming, this has become a more relaxed, informal service. Pippa will email ideas suggested for the PCC to consider. *PH-McL*

Finance: report for the year ended 31 December 2023 and the budget for 2024, *previously circulated*.

There will be some changes to the 2023 figures before the formal accounts are finalised. The figures show a deficit of £29,841 for 2023. The cost of the AV system is shown as capital expenditure and not included in the deficit. The final payment owing on the paths is included in the 2023 figures. We have done well in containing our expenses and overall income has been quite good, but a substantial deficit remains and this is being funded from the legacy received in 2022 and the income received on the bank deposits (on the funds remaining from the legacy). The outcome is awaited from the Energy Ombudsman Service regarding the complaint against SSE.

The budget for 2024 shows a projected deficit of almost £17,000, or nearly £1,500 per month. New attenders prefer to give via the card reader in church rather than sign up to regular giving. Currently there are adequate cash resources to cover this deficit but that assumes there are no major problems with the building. The regular mission giving will increase in 2024 in line with our aim to tithe 10% of budgeted income.

Safeguarding

The Diocese dashboard is currently up to date. There are new contact details for reporting concerns and this process has been streamlined. Jane gave an overview of the training she recently attended. Issues raised include: formalising pastoral visits; DBS for PCC members; code of safe working practice.

There were no safeguarding concerns to report.

Thanks were expressed to Jane for her commitment to the role of Safeguarding Officer.

Deanery: minutes of the meeting 15 November, *previously circulated*.

Items to note: resolution obtained in making payment from the Nigeria Fund; applications welcomed to the Mission Fund; parishes encouraged to share projects highlighted in their PNP.

Notices and correspondence

- i) thank you letter from Water Aid for Harvest donation
- ii) £6000 legacy received from the estate of Mary Holthouse
- ii) booking request from the village hall for 7 April. Meeting agreed coffee to be held in church.

The meeting concluded at 19.50 with the Grace.

Next meeting 21 March, standing committee 7 March 2024