

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**  
**HELD IN THE PARISH CENTRE on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2016**

**1. PRESENT:**

Rev'd David Hewlett(Chairman)	Linda Hunter(CHURCHWARDEN)	Gilbert Marshall(CHURCHWARDEN)
Cliff Wright (Hon treasurer)	John Bishop	Richard Dixon
John McNamara	Monica Philbrick (from Item 9)	Max Phibrick
David Preece	Liz Robson	Julie Robson
Jennifer Wright	Liz Buckley (temp sec)	

**Apologies for absence:** Jane Stephenson, David Welsh

The Vicar welcomed everyone and Julie Robson gave the prayers.

**2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> February were accepted as a true record and so signed.

**Matters arising not on the agenda:**

The application for a Premises Licence is now under way.

**3. WORSHIP, MINISTRY AND MISSION:**

**A, Vicar's Items:**

- The Vicar's report having been circulated, together with a calendar for Holy Week, it was noted that the Women's Fellowship service is on 21<sup>st</sup> March at 8pm and the Service of Light at 7.30pm on Easter Eve.
- Lent events being very successful thanks were given to Monica Philbrick for co-ordinating the Lent lunches, the Leaders of the Prayers for Peace, Julie Robson for organising the excellent Holy Land Pilgrimage Evening and those filling the "Six Other Days" spot, all being much appreciated by the congregation.
- Mission Action Plans entitled "The Way Ahead" if not picked up at the PCC day are available from the Vicar.
- There will be a visit to a Julian group in May by the Vicar and two others.
- The date of the next Bishop's Confirmation will be 17<sup>th</sup> September at Stamfordham. Julie Robson has 5 adults who have indicated an interest and will be starting group sessions provisionally on Sunday afternoons in July. Café Church and Pilgrim Group are still under consideration.
- Guest preachers are as noted in the report with the information that Bishop Stephen Pedley will be preaching at the CCMF Eucharist and hopefully the Dean of Durham at the Flower Festival.
- Charities: There has not yet been an opportunity to put the thoughts from the last PCC meeting to the wider congregation so this has been held over.

**B, Calendar:**

This has been distributed. Please note the earlier amendment that the WF service is 21<sup>st</sup> March not 14<sup>th</sup> March. Also there will not be Prayers for Peace or Lent Lunches in Holy Week. The Christmas Tree Festival dates are awaiting confirmation but are likely to be the first weekend in December. The Vicar requested that PCC members remind others trying to set dates that early reference to the calendar will avoid clashes.

**C, Children and Youth Work:**

A very encouraging report had been received and distributed. No further comments.

#### **D, Messy Church:**

The next Messy Church is 13<sup>th</sup> March. Those who have not yet attended were encouraged to do so. A banner to advertise and heighten the profile of Messy Church will shortly be purchased.

#### **E, Choir Report:**

No choir report to this meeting.

#### **F, Events and Bookings:**

There is a new topical event planned for 27<sup>th</sup> April. A duo named Landermaison will be performing with half the proceeds from the evening coming to the church. Details were circulated. John Bishop raised two further matters of storage and staging. The church tower contains choir music not frequently used. After discussion it was felt that as it is not a fire hazard and suitably stored this music should be retained in position for the present. The staging used at concerts and events is showing signs of wear and distortion which are becoming dangerous. It would cost £650 to replace 2 sections prior to the CCMF. After some discussion it was decided to replace these. John Bishop has agreed to closely monitor future use and responsibilities to avoid further damage. He was thanked for this by PCC.

#### **F, Corbridge First School:**

No report was submitted but Julie Robson was pleased to report that the First School has enthusiastically taken up the idea of an Easter Garden outside the church door. A competition to design pictures brought in an entry from every child and six were chosen to come and help with the garden. Comment was made on the ethos of the First School becoming more and more like a church school.

#### **G, Catering Report:**

No catering report to this meeting.

#### **H, Social Committee:**

The Social committee whilst not submitting a report to this meeting have submitted their annual report to Linda Hunter who is clarifying a couple of points.

#### **I, Deanery Development Group:**

a) A report was circulated from the Deanery Synod meeting (please note correction to date, 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb not 24<sup>th</sup> as stated in the agenda) and Elizabeth Robson stressed the importance of communication and website development as underlined by Martin Sheppard.

b) From the circulated DDG report the Vicar clarified that the Suffragen Bishops post was not new as such but resurrected from one in abeyance. Further information from the meeting is contained in the next section of this meeting.

c) Deanery Development Proposals were previously circulated but the Vicar clarified the situation with the circulated maps which were not compatible. Option ii & iii maps need changing for option ii(2) & iii(2) correct maps. The Vicar then talked through the three options as illustrated stressing the urgency of strategic thinking as there are likely to be several vacant clergy posts in the near future and that HfD posts in the Deanery are declining. Options have been structured by compatibility and ease of communication. There may be development in the area of training posts. Also, we are very lucky and grateful to have so many retired clergy to call on. There is consultation with an end date of response by April 30<sup>th</sup> but after this the final decisions will rest with the Bishop.

#### **4. SAFEGUARDING:**

Attendance at training sessions is going well and Linda Hunter has other necessary meetings in hand. There are a few PCC members and retired clergy who still needing updating.

#### **5. FINANCE, FABRIC AND ADMINISTRATION:**

##### **(i) Treasurer's Report:**

Cliff Wright reported that St. Andrew's has had a good steady financial year. The Giving Campaign has been successful although this will necessarily change over the next 5 years. Fund raising has been also successful coupled with running costs falling slightly. Reserves have shown a positive trend from legacies, etc. Cliff

thanked those who attended his session earlier in the week to look at the annual accounts. These can now be approved if the meeting is willing but not signed off until examined. Richard Dixon proposed adopting the accounts subject to examination, seconded by Linda Hunter with all in favour. The Vicar thanked Cliff Wright on behalf of the PCC for his earlier session and for all his work which is always much appreciated.

**(ii) Fundraising:**

Linda Hunter reported on a very successful March Fête where £1,00 had been raised towards the Flower Festival. Anything left from this had been distributed between the Youth Initiative and the W F. The Flower Festival is well on course with 2 viewing days next week for those taking part and a good response from the Corbridge Business Community. The CBC is providing an arch of flowers over the church door amongst other initiatives.

**(iii) Churchwardens Report:**

Completed tasks having been itemised in the report, several tasks in progress were highlighted.

- The photocopier is causing some ongoing problems and this is being investigated.
- The church alarm system is being updated and it has been decided to alarm only the office in the cottage. Costs will be forwarded to the PCC.
- Work on the roof leaks will now begin after Easter. Apropos of this it was pointed out that there is a missing pane of glass in the south aisle.
- The meeting with the PC representatives about the church grounds being reported PCC members are asked to note that if they have any further comments, grass cutting, etc. these can be mentioned to Linda Hunter. A further discussion about gates, security and outside activities took place. Liz Robson asked if the cleaning round the Grey grave could take place before the 29<sup>th</sup> May when the guest preacher talks about Josephine Butler.
- A new water heater in the Vicar's Vestry is proving too expensive, the present one has been improved as much as possible. PCC were reminded that there is a work day on 18<sup>th</sup> March and this will include an opportunity to deep clean communion vessels.

John McNamara mentioned that the new covers to the floor heating grills appeared to be warping and that these therefore need inspecting and possibly repainting.

**(iv) Cottage:**

As reported.

The Vicar thanked the Churchwardens for all their work.

**6. St OSWALD'S HALTON:**

The Quinquennial Inspection report is awaited. The roof work is in hand.

**7. St JAMES CHURCHYARD NEWTON:**

Nothing to report.

**8. CORRESPONDENCE:**

A letter of thanks has been received from the Rev'd T Wilcock whose church in Cumbria benefited from our bucket collection, this is to be pinned on the notice board.

**Dates of next meetings, PLEASE NOTE**

APCM Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> April after the 9.30 service.

Dates for the next year will be available after the APCM.