

**The Parish of Corbridge St Andrew with Halton and Newton Hall**  
**Minutes of the PCC held on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 7.30pm in church.**

**Present:** Canon David Kennedy, Revd Sam Lochhead (Curate), Revd Linda Hunter (Curate), Janet Kennedy, Max Philbrick, Alice Bryant, Nahida Remy, John Wilson, Cliff Wright, David McEwan (Chwdn)

**Apologies:** Edward Pybus, Jean Wilks (Chwdn), Carol Moffatt, Jo Eldridge, John Clark.

David Kennedy opened the meeting with prayer and a reading from Paul's letter to the Philippians chapter 1

**1. To agree and sign off Minutes of PCC 19<sup>th</sup> July 2023.** The minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting, proposed by Nahidah Remy, seconded by John Wilson and agreed unanimously.

**2. Matters arising.**

**2.1 Welcome Card:** The group Bob Eldridge is co-ordinating have been visiting with the card on the new estate. There had been lots of positive conversations, and many knew about the church or have already visited. Those visiting on a weekday engage with people working from home. One person has come to Tea and Chat rom this and another has expressed an interest in coming to the 10.00am service. The welcome group have a meeting in the diary to evaluate the outcomes.

**2.2 Electronic Diary:** Those who have accessed it indicated that this was a good tool to use. Information sheets detailing how to access it were given out to those who have not already looked at it.

**2.3 Corbridge Community Partnership:** David and Linda have met with Maurice Hodgson and David Crompton to talk about the role St. Andrew's may have within the partnership, looking particularly at when the partnership takes over the lease in January. We already use it for Tea and Chat, Women's Fellowship have moved across and we it was the venue for the Harvest Supper. Using the Hub will enable us to be greener and more cost effective. There will be other Community activities where we can play our part, possibly a lunch club, a mother and toddler group. Once the infrastructure is in place there will be lots of possibilities.

**3. Ministry Team**

**3.1 Revd Sam Lochhead's placement at the Cathedral:** Sam will be on placement, in the worship department, at the Cathedral from 1<sup>st</sup> October to 31<sup>st</sup> December, returning to the parish in January 2024. This will be a great opportunity for Sam and we will continue to hold him in our prayers.

**3.2 Revd Claire Robson:** will become Associate Priest of the Parish, and will probably be able to offer about 2 Sundays a month. Initially she will be given permission to officiate (PTO) A date of licensing has not yet been determined.

**4. Mission and Ministry**

**4.1 Sharing ministry with Slaley, Healey and Whittonstall:** David introduced the paper he had written for discussion with regard to worship and what it might look like in the future when we assume pastoral leadership of the above parishes alongside Corbridge and Halton.

## **Slaley, Healey and Whittonstall**

Revd Helen Savage will retire on 22<sup>nd</sup> October after which the Moorlands benefice will be vacant. It seems sensible therefore for the Ministry Team at Corbridge to begin to work collaboratively with the parish, until the licensing takes place. As Area Dean David will also assume oversight of the rest of the Moorlands parishes and Bywell and Stocksfield until such time as their vacancies are filled. David has already attended a PCC meeting at Slaley, they agreed to change the time of their Sunday morning service to 11.15am which will enable, some weeks, for a minister from St. Andrew's to preach either at Halton or St. Andrew's and then go on to Slaley.

**Healey:** has lots of art and drama exhibitions, 2 5.00pm services a month

**Whittonstall:** not many go to the church which has assumed the role of a festival church. Many of the festival service are in conjunction with the first school. A PCC has been formed to enable projects to happen. Baptisms, Weddings and funerals still take place there.

**Corbridge:** At present the 10.00am Sunday service to remain the same, this provides stability. But we need to think about the evening service. The proposal was to change the evening service time to 4.00pm and offer a more informal worship style to the morning eg: service of the word, River, (which is growing). So, we are looking at producing something that is informal and contemporary, perhaps sitting in a horseshoe, a service with its own format but fulfilling the conventions of public prayer. This would provide us with an opportunity to refresh what we do in the evening, potentially attracting a different group of people. We could occasionally have Taizé service, Iona worship, Choral Evensong.

**Messy Church** is currently being reviewed by the MC team- how we rejuvenate it, content of what we offer is good, is it on the wrong day, at the wrong time.

The consensus of PCC was that this should be explored further and possibly commence in November.

**4.2 1350 Anniversary update:** The logo was tabled and discussed. It needs to be recognisable for the year – hence the design with the Saxon tower, which is very familiar. Not only do we hope the 1350 year will look back at what we have been in the community over the years but look forward to, and set the compass for, the future. When people see it, they know instantly what it is. The other design, a beautiful piece of art work, by Pippa will be used on the service orders with a brief explanation of its significance. It was proposed by David McEwan and seconded by Janet Kennedy that we accept this logo. There was 1 abstention.

Many things are now in the planning process. The overall plan for the year is being pulled together, and will be circulated in January. Sub committees will begin to be formed.

**4.3 Take 5:** Cliff informed PCC that the 10% to be distributed this year would be 8,000. Take 5 group will bring their proposals for the disbursement of this year's charitable giving to the October PCC.

**4.6 Website:** David informed the PCC that Simon had been working hard on the new website and he was very grateful to him for all he had done. The website went live at the beginning of September. Max asked that we record thanks to Simon for all his hard work. There is more to be added, in order to keep it up to date information should be sent to him regularly.

## 5. Finance

**5.1 Finance update:** Cliff reported on our financial position. Although our giving appeal had been successful the best result had been in 2018. We cannot expect a continued growth in this area as financial constraints are felt more by those who contribute. In addition, we have employed a Parish Administrator so administrative costs have increased, and as in all households, running costs are increasing and will increase further next year when we start our new electricity contract.

**Fundraising:** last year (2022) was a particularly good year and it may be hard to replicate, though a lot of our fundraising events take place in the last quarter of the year.

So, we may just break even or have a surplus up to £10,000.

**5.2 Parish Share:** After discussion it was agreed to accept the recommendation of Standing Committee that we follow guidance from the Deanery Development Group and to therefore recommend the following:

2023: Confirm £80,340

2024: Offer £84,357 (an increase of 5%)

2025: Target £88,575 (an increase of 5%)

2026: Target £88,575

Proposed by David McEwan and seconded by Nahidah Remy that we go with this recommendation.

**5.3 Legacies:** Deferred until the next meeting.

## 6 Reports

**6.1 Safeguarding:** Work on the pilot hub is ongoing. Those that need Basic/Foundation Training are encouraged to attend the training being held in the cottage on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2.00pm – 4.00pm.

**6.2 Halton:** No report

**6.3 Maintenance:** David (K) reported that we had paused the cottage project at the moment and would have more information to discuss after receiving the Quinquennial from Tristan. (our architect)

**6.4 Eco and Environment Committee Update:** Whilst Sam is on placement Mike Bewick will keep the committee ticking over.

**6.5 Events Committee update:** Report taken as read.

7. **Correspondence:** none

8. **Any other business:** none

**Date of next meeting**

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October in the cottage**

St Andrew's Corbridge and St Oswald's Halton	
Meeting Dates 2023 - 2024	
All meetings in the church	
Standing Committee 11.00am	PCC all at 7.30pm
<b>2023</b>	
	Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> September
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October	Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> October
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> November	Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> December (if required)	
<b>2024</b>	
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January	Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> January
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> February	Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> February
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> March	Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> March
Holy week 2023 – Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> March to Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	
APCM Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	

Deanery Synod	
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	Matfen Village Hall
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	Corbridge Community Hub
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> July 2024	Venue t.b.a.