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**Minutes of PCC Meeting**

**Monday 14 October 2024 at 7pm**

**at St John’s Church Hall**

**Present:**

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| Rev. Graeme Dixon (Chairman) | Clive Jones | Christine Owen |
| Kevan Abernethy | Ann Laird (invited) | Linda Purkess |
| Sarah Beak | Randell McKay | John Sofrin |
| Lynn Black | Sue Muldowney | Crawford White |
| Glennis Gould | Peter Myerscough -J (invited) | Angela Wright |
| Richard Streatfield – Secretary to DAC – by invitation | | |
| **Absent**  Sarah Phelps |  |  |

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|  |  | **Action** |
| **1.** | **Opening Prayer**  Graeme Dixon opened the meeting in prayer. |  |
| **2.** | **Apologies for Absence**  Ewan Brown, Simon Harris, Angela Jones, John Pennells, Fiona Skidmore |  |
| **3.** | **Declarations of interest**  (Retrospective to the meeting)  Ann Laird’s daughter has recently been appointed as Assistant Diocesan Secretary. |  |
| **4.** | **Richard Streatfield from DAC**  Graeme welcomed Richard to the meeting.   1. **St John’s Faculty: pews to chairs update and next steps** Richard stated that he understood our frustration that the Faculty process is taking much longer than we would have preferred. The Victorian Society have slowed down the process, but that is their statutory right. Richard advised that it was the right decision for us to engage in dialogue with them, which will help with any future applications, and will be seen in a favourable light by the Chancellor. Our Faculty was initially considered by a small group from the DAC, but because one member disagreed, it has been referred to the full meeting of the DAC on 23 October 2024. The Chancellor is required to make his decision within 30 days from the decision of the DAC, unless there are any special circumstances, such as the Victorian Society declaring themselves as official opponents to our Faculty; which is unlikely. Richard explained that The Chancellor is a Barrister, based in London; employed by the Diocese. He has the authority to grant or decline the Faculty, but he is very pragmatic and reasonable. Richard recommended that we leave Phase 2 of our re-ordering of St John’s, until Phase 1 has been completed. 2. **Faculties and Parish responsibilities** Richard stated that Faculties can seem daunting and tedious making them easy to ignore and to just carry on with work, but Faculties are a legal procedure. The PCC are trustees for our buildings and this involves legal responsibilities. The Faculty process advises and protects us, and the DAC team are there to help and support us as much as we need. Richard advised that we must not take short cuts! There are severe punishments to contravening Faculty Law. The Chancellor can hand us over to the Local Authority, which will be costly, as they do not have an understanding or appreciation of churches; they see a listed building first, then a church second.  Richard stated that usually material or physical changes to a building requires a Faculty but that there are Lists A and B for smaller works and repairs, which do not need a Faculty, and the DAC will always advise us if we are not sure.  Items on List A need no external permission, and items on List B just need the permission of the Archdeacon, through on-line applications. There is no time limit for the work to be completed for List B applications once they have been approved. Richard also stated that in an emergency he can always put an item forward. List B applications usually only take two weeks for approval. There can also be interim Faculties if, for example, a builder has a limited window to do the work required.  It was confirmed that work to the Church Hall does not need a Faculty. 3. **St Boniface Quinquennial and List B Application for Paintwork** It was confirmed that the Architect had completed the Quinquennial Inspection at St Boniface, and that all the work necessary would be listed on the Report. Richard recommended that once the Report is received, a Faculty or List B is submitted for all the items of work required, as single applications.   A Retrospective Faculty can be applied for, but this is not advisable. There is no Retrospective List B, so this work would then become a Faculty.  Graeme thanked Richard for his attendance and advice. Richard left the meeting at 8.35pm. |  |
| **5.** | **Health and Safety**  It was agreed that there needs to be a light fitted to the external back wall of St John’s church to light the path to the Church Hall. It was stated that the light should be angled downwards towards the path, to avoid shining in any of the neighbours’ gardens. This will be a List B item.  It was stated that a child had fallen and hurt their arm, on the Astro Turf at the back of the Church Hall, although advice had been given not to use the Astro Turf. The PCC discussed whether part of the Astro Turf should be replaced, at considerable cost, as any potential extension to the Church Hall would then cover this. It was commented that someone had offered a donation of £500 if the congregation raised the rest of the money. It was suggested an estimate of cost should be determined before a decision is made.  It was decided that Ewan Brown and Simon Harris would investigate the cost and any possible funding/grants available. It was suggested that the ASDA Foundation could be approached. | Barnabas Team  Ewan/  Simon |
| **6.** | **Finance**  The Finance Report was circulated prior to the Meeting.  It was stated that Randell McKay had received a quotation from Elliotts Premier Roofing for repairs to St John’s Roof, for the sum of £3,773.76 plus VAT. The PCC approved this quotation: Proposed by Clive Jones, Seconded by Sarah Beak.  It was confirmed that Randell had secured a six-month extension to the HIHCT grant awarded towards the cost of these repairs.  It was commented that the donation of £80 received from Baddesley Park Youth Football Club, was half the fee which would have been paid to Sarah Beak, who had played her saxophone at one of their events. The PCC expressed their thanks for Sarah’s generosity.  It was stated that Bishop Philip had released a short video regarding the Common Mission Fund. Currently, some churches are struggling financially and giving to the CMF is down by 13.5%. This could cause an overall annual deficit of £1 million, which will affect the number of clergy employed in the Diocese. It was thought that the overall cost to the Diocese of one Minister is £70,000 per annum. There is no central fund available and each separate Diocese has its own CMF. Graeme commented that one possible cause of the shortfall is the loss of revenue from fewer weddings and funerals taking place in churches. For example, Rownhams House has just begun advertising full weddings (ceremony and reception), and crematoriums are constantly busy. It is a challenging and alarming trend. Bishop Philip is calling all churches to review their giving, and to prayerfully consider whether over-payments can be made, where possible.  Graeme stated that Kingdom values include generosity. It was suggested that both congregations should be made aware of how their money is used through the CMF. It was decided that a decision on over-payments would be deferred to the November Meeting. | PCC/  Christine |
| **7.** | **Nursling Men’s Shed Update and Lease Development**  Linda Purkess has met with Fred Lyon once and will meet again mid-November.  The storage shed at the front of the Hall has been painted green but has not yet been completed internally. | Linda/  Fred Lyon |
| **8.** | **St John’s Church Hall**  Graeme confirmed that he had spoken to Fiona, the Architect. Fiona is a conservation architect, and would favour expanding the current building and changing the toilet block. However, she is not against starting again with a new building, which could be relocated nearer to the church. Fiona recommended a single storey building.  Fiona advised that we need to write a feasibility study, i.e. what we want the Church Hall for. It was suggested we need to set up a sub-group of the PCC, together with members of the wider congregation, to lead this study, and take account of previous plans suggested. It was suggested that the Church Office be relocated to any new building.  It was emphasised that with water ingress into the Hall, and the probable need for a complete new roof, decisions and actions need to be taken. Graeme stated that he is in favour of housing a pre-school, for which there is a local need, and possibly Breakfast and After School Clubs. Angela Wright posed the question that if a new Hall was used for this, how much use would the church have? Graeme stated that the Hall could still be used in the evenings and weekends, subject to external bookings.  It was stated that Phil Bundy, the local Planning Officer, and Chair of TVBC, is proposing to build a new Pavilion in Nursling, near to the current Community Halls. Planning permission for a new Church Hall would be looked upon more favourably if it was also a community space but did not encroach upon the use of the current local halls and pavilion. It was stated that there may also be concerns among the near neighbours of our church hall. Involving the community in this project could mitigate these concerns and also encourage access to wider funding.  It was emphasised that we need to be sure of **God’s** vision for our Church Hall, and not just bow to what we think the local Council will approve.  Graeme said that Colden Common Church had successfully redeveloped, and Ann Laird volunteered to visit them, and possibly other sites. | PCC  Ann Laird |
| **9.** | **Church Weekend Away**  It was suggested that the level of interest among the congregation should be assessed before any decisions made. | Graeme/  Office |
| **10.** | **Vision Day Update**  The Diocese are running a course called ‘Grow’, over four sessions, starting on 24 October. This will cover church growth and vision in the context of the five-fold ministries of Apostles; Prophets; Evangelists; Teachers; Pastors. It was confirmed that Graeme, Ewan and Steve Beak will attend.  Graeme also stated that he had been invited by the Bishop’s Office to attend a pilot CYPF course, starting in January 2025. This focuses on working with children and young families, and will involve three week-ends away during the year. It was questioned whether Graeme had the capacity to attend this, but the PCC agreed this course should be beneficial and they would support Graeme, to enable him to create the time needed.  Proposed by Sarah Beak, seconded by John Sofrin. |  |
| **11.** | **Christmas Schedules**  Graeme stated that the owner of the Four Horseshoes Pub is unlikely to agree to Carol singing due to the number of Christmas table bookings. Graeme agreed to approach the Horns Inn and The Balmoral as possible alternative venues.  Graeme will produce a schedule of Christmas services once these have been finalised. It was noted that 5 November is the deadline for items to be included in the Village News. | Graeme  Graeme |
| **12.** | **Minutes of PCC meeting on 4 September 2024**   1. **Approve the Minutes for accuracy** The Minutes were approved – Proposed Randell McKay,seconded Linda Purkess. 2. **Matters Arising not already covered 8. ii. Sammy Cooper Memorial** Graeme will represent the PCC at the meeting with the Chancellor on 18 October, 10am, at St John’s. Other PCC members could attend but would not be allowed to offer any comments. **8. iii.** **Appointment of new Church Wardens** Lynn Black confirmed she has had an email acknowledgement from the Bishop’s Office, to her resignation as Church Warden, but not yet received the Bishop’s formal acceptance. **8. iv. Remembrance Service** Discussions are on-goingwith the Scout Group Leader**,** regardingthe location of the younger membersof the uniformed group. | Lynn  Randell |
| **13.** | **Minutes of Standing Committee Meeting on 7 October 2024**   1. **Amendments 7. Faculties Generally** Ann Laird has not had previous experience completing Faculties but is willing to learn. **8. iii. Church Hall** The second sentence should read: “The Diocese are the Custodial Trustees and the PCC are the Managing Trustees.” **15. Christmas Schedules** The Carol Service at St John’s on Sunday 22 December 2024, will be **7pm.** |  |
| **14.** | **Future Dates**  **Standing Committee**: Monday 4 November 2024 – 7pm St John’s Church  **PCC Meeting**: Tuesday 19 November 2024 – 7pm St John’s Church  **APCM** – 28 April 2025  **Dates of PCC Prayer Meetings – 9.30-10.30am in St John’s Church Hall**  Saturday 26 October 2024  Saturday 23 November 2024  Saturday 28 December 2024  Meetings will be in person at either St John’s church or St John’s church hall. |  |
| **15.** | **Any Other Business**   1. Kevan Abernethy requested a copy of non-Faculty List A and List B Rules. Randell will send a copy to Christine Owen, to email to all PCC members. 2. It was queried whether all members of the PCC should have access to the Safeguarding Dashboard, and not just members of the Standing Committee. Sue Muldowney will discuss this with Lynn Black. | Randell/  Christine  Sue/  Lynn |
| **16.** | **Closing Prayer**  Peter closed the meeting in prayer. |  |

The meeting ended at 9.08pm.

CO/20241014 PCC Minutes