

St Andrew's Church, Medstead

PCC Meeting Minutes: 8th February 2022 - 19:30hrs: Bumbles, Five Ash Road

Attending: Debby Barnes (DB), Sharon Blackshaw (SB), Jackie Jurd (JJ), Anne Lofthouse (AL), Ian Jurd (IJ), John Marriott (JM), Patrick Busby (PB), Paul Shaw (PS)

1. DB opened with a prayer and blessing at 19:37hrs

2. **Apologies** were received from John Lofthouse (JL), Kerry Prior (KP)

3. Matters Arising: PS

All actions from previous meeting were discussed and agreed as complete/carried forward to post reorganisation discussions. The previous minutes were duly agreed and signed.

4. Church Wardens Report: DB

DB reported lots of new faces attending church services and numbers increasing. Mask usage was discussed and, based upon the government guidelines, would be optional from now. We should allow separate pews for those who preferred to wear masks, if required.

ACTION: DB offered to create a notice for the door and noticeboard

DB shared a letter from Mervyn Dunwoody regarding BLMS and The Hub and asked for it to be reviewed.

ACTION: PCC members to pass comments to DB

DB shared a Diocese of Winchester Funding Newsletter and asked for it to be reviewed.

ACTION: PCC members to pass comments to DB/IJ

DB expressed her thanks to all PCC members for their support and continued good work.

7. Music Report: PB – taken out of order due to PB departure from meeting at 20:30

PB reported that St Andrew's choir continues to lead the singing for the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays and the Lofthouses are providing the music for the 4th Sunday when we have Café Church. Patrick continues to play at Bentworth on the 2nd Sunday of each month and the Bentworth PCC and congregation are very keen that the choir should also feel welcome to join us on these occasions. PB also mentioned that Anthems for Good Friday and Easter Sunday will be prepared shortly. PB also mentioned that new choir members are always welcome, please reach out to:

wendy.busby@hotmail.co.uk: 01420 564168

PB requested some cushions for the Choir Stalls and, following a brief discussion, that included reinstating the 'reordering plan' agreed with Nick Kerry-Thomas, it was agreed that the some relatively inexpensive cushions could be purchased, or the choir could bring their own for the time being.

ACTION: PB to source some inexpensive cushions for choir members use

PB also raised the issue of the organ sound not being optimal due to the location of the speakers. This was agreed to be included as part of the 'reordering plan'.

The PCC thanked Patrick for his continued service and good work with the church.

5. Treasurer's Report: JM

JM reported the financial position during January 2022:

- £7,843 was paid out and £3,085 received. As of 7th February, the balance in the Nat West current account is £20,396 of £24,969 at 1st Jan.
- The biggest expenditure related to the Church Hall toilets refurbishment. That work was completed for £8,787 of the agreed budget of £10k.
- The CCLA savings account remains unchanged.

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JM shared his 2022 BUDGETARY FORECAST showing a breakeven position.

JM offered huge thanks to everyone who had supplied supporting evidence for the accounts as, out of 463 line entries, only 37 (5%) require further input. Those considered best placed to provide the missing information have been contacted. In the meantime, dialogue has commenced with Lesley Chapman who is awaiting the pack.

JM commented that Gift Aid reclamation was now underway with PS, DB and SB assisting as it was decided to retain this activity to PCC members. PS is taking the lead. The rebate is estimated to be c.£2,100. The HMRC point of contact for the Gift Aid portal is being re-allocated from DH to PS.

JM also commented on Church account access arrangements as a statement has been sent to CCLA regarding the PCC structure. If no adverse comments are received by the end of this week, it will be assumed that they are content. The change of signatory powers form will then be submitted amending present arrangements to JM, DB and PS. The next step in the Nat West signatory powers amendments is about to get underway. PS, SB and DB will be added. Once they are successfully added, internet banking will be organised for them. DH, WH, SR and AL will then be removed. JM raised that the Parish Giving portal access is being reassigned from DH to JM and that JM now has access to the diocese reporting portal.

6a. Church Hall Report: SB

SB shared that the hall was back in use following the toilet refurbishment and that all groups/clubs have restarted and a few 'one off' hires have been booked. SB also mentioned that Marion Rogers is doing an excellent job of cleaning the hall.

SB also raised that following the toilet improvement, the foyer area needs redecoration and new mats need to be purchased. Further discussion ensued regarding the entrance door and fire exit doors to the carpark. It was agreed that the doors be replaced with ones made from 'maintenance free' materials and that the threshold for the fire exit/wheelchair access doors be lowered to improve access. This action was proposed by SB and seconded by AL with all in agreement.

ACTION: IJ gain quotes for the above agreed work

SB mentioned a booking had been lost due to no dishwasher facilities as provided by Village Hall.

ACTION: SB to provide photographs of Village Hall machine(s)

ACTION: IJ to review where it/they can be sited in Church Hall Kitchen

6b. Social Committee Report: SB

SB Reported that the recent Quiz Night (Sat 5th Feb) had enjoyed 13 tables/teams (80 participants) and generated a net profit of £918.

SB mentioned the upcoming events agreed:

- Sat 19th March: Musical evening, St. Andrew's Church – Tickets £12.50

- Sat 9th April: Jumble Sale, Church Hall

- Sat 14th May: Music Recital by French Musicians, delayed from 2020

- Thur 2nd-Sun 5th June: Queen's Platinum Jubilee – flower team decorating the church in celebration. An afternoon tea in the church grounds to encourage people into the church is planned. Probably Sat 4th June.

- Sat 6th/Sun 7th August: Serving Tea and Cakes in Church House, Trinity Hill (Home of the Beresfords) in support of their NGS open garden weekend. Profits to be shared between NGS and St.Andrew's.

8. Church Buildings/Maintenance - Various

8a. Church Hall Toilet update:

IH kindly shared a final report cover the completion of the refurbishment works to the hall toilets.

JM agreed that all monies had been settled and the costs came within the £10k budget allocated.

A few snagging points vs specification had been noted.

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ACTION – DH/IJ to create list of remedial works to share with JRM for comment

ACTION - Secretary to send letter of thanks to IOJ and DH too.

8b. Porch Refurbishment:

DH kindly shared an update on the works being carried out on the church porch that also suggests a final snagging list now being worked through to complete including a replacement notice board. PCC members commented on how great the porch was looking.

Action – Architect to sign off works once complete.

8c. Church Carpet and Interior revamp: DB/IJ

DB raised a discussion on the problem with the church carpet. IJ added further points on the problems with no DPC at the Church. IJ shared a fuller explanation and images of the planned church 'reordering'. IJ also mentioned that this would also help towards the Sustainability DAC report shared by PS (next agenda point). IJ mentioned that he thought quarry tiles were under the carpet in the church, in most areas. Discussion ensued about removing the carpet and it was agreed for a working party to test removal/remove the carpet and clean the quarry tiles. This was agreed to take place at 9am on Sat 12th Feb with as many PCC members to help as possible.

Action – IJ to contact Roger Gilbert to assist with removing the carpet and underlay from site.

8d. Sustainability and Churches Guidance Report: PS

PS raised the report to the PCC's attention having shared via email as soon as it arrived from DOW. Grants are available for improvements to church fabric and fittings. To be borne in mind for church 'reordering' plan

9. AOB: (All)

9a. New and returning sidesmen: SB

SB shared a list of new and returning sidesman that was reviewed by the PCC. The list was proposed by SB, seconded by AL and passed unanimously.

9b. Benefice reorganisation: All

PS motioned that this should be carried forward to a following meeting as the next reorganisation meeting is planned for Wed 16th Feb where a few topics were due to be discussed in detail.

The Grace was said.

Meeting closed at 22:05hrs