

Parochial Church Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday 5th January, 7.30pm – Wisley Room, Church House

Chair: Rev. Nick Parish (NP)

Secretary: Rob Jeffery (RJ)

Members Present: David Eggett (DE), Sarah Lutton (SL), Judith Mitchell (JM), , Helen Williams (HW), Martyn Holloway-Neville (MHN), Phil Keith (PK), Richard Deavin (RD), Howard Bluett (HB), Meg Topley (MT), Andrew Roberts (AR), Laurence Impey (LI), Margaret Angus (MA)

Meeting opens 1933

1) Opening Prayer

Led by Rev. Nick Parish

2) Apologies for absence

Mary Gilbert (MG), Sarah Jeffery (SJ), John Padwick (JP)

3) Declarations of Interest

None

4) Treasurer's Report

- i) Appointment of Andrew Roberts as Honorary Treasurer

AR gives brief explanation of his professional background as an accountant with experience in charities and more recently auditing church and diocesan accounts.

DE: Andrew Roberts has offered to take on the role of Hon. Treasurer. Andrew will introduce himself to members at the meeting, and then Members are invited to resolve to appoint Andrew Roberts as Hon. Treasurer from 01 January 2023.

Proposed: David Eggett

Seconded: Richard Deavin All members voted in favour

The PCC welcomes Andrew Roberts and thanks him for volunteering his time and expertise.

5) Safeguarding Update

HB gives a brief update on the safeguarding and DBS training situation of the PCC. HB will liaise with the Parish Manager to update the records of all members training and DBS checks.

6) Health and Safety Matters

None

7) Minutes of the previous Parochial Church Council meeting (23rd November 22)

i) Matters Arising from 8th September

(1) 5) – Safeguarding Update – NP to check that the dashboard has been updated

ACTION: NP will check with the Parish Manager about the dashboard

(2) 8)a)i - this has been completed

(3) 10)c) - RD will not chair a meeting about any building strategy

ACTION: RD will look at improving the toilet facilities in the church and will consult with the churchwardens about the potential options and present a proposal to the PCC

(4) 11)b) – PK to arrange a meeting with the Parish Manager about how we might continue to increase the lettings revenue. Meeting has been arranged with the Parish Manager

(5) 11)b) - PK to investigate venues in the locality and offer a comparison for consideration. Thank you for the information that he has researched.

(6) 12)a) - MHN is currently making an application to the National Lottery Small Grants Fund for the Defibrillator

(7) 12)c) Fire Risk Assessment update

ACTION: This will be devolved to the church staff and not the Fabric Committee

(8) 13)a) – DE to investigate and update members about Worple Road management fees - this has been circulated to PCC members by email.

(9) 14)a) – RJ to press the Deanery Synod to debate the motion on LLF as passed by the PCC in June 22

MHN updates the meeting re. Deanery Synod rules from Church House Guildford - they confirm that there are no central rules - MHN will discuss the position with the Lay Chair of the Deanery Synod. It is thought that the motion will be listed at a meeting later in the year.

(10) 17)b) – NP to consult with the DAC re. their current position on regilding the war memorial – See item 9(a)

8) Ministry and Mission

i) Parish Needs Process

NP gives a brief summary of the process to the committee. The leadership team meeting has been moved to the 1st March at 11am - this is an open invitation to all members of the PCC if they would like to attend.

SL is currently putting together a focus group to discuss the Parish Need's Process and feed into the creation of the development plan.

ii) Lent '23

NP has worked with JP & Lynne Scholfield on a series of sermons and bible studies on the title of 'Rediscovering the Old Testament'

9) Resources

DE updates: Lease on Langley Vale Village Hall is being redrafted by Iain Macfarlane and this will be circulated to members when it has been drafted.

NP - There was a very successful carol service on Christmas Eve in conjunction with the Langley Vale Village Hall Committee - thanks to HB and Rev. Andrew Haviland for enabling this - the church was a capacity with standing room only!

a) Update on Regilding the War Memorial (DE)

DE/NP summarises the options available:

1. Do nothing as the improved lighting has improved this area
2. Apply for a faculty to clean the war memorial, the first step would be to engage specialist conservators to undertake a test clean

JM proposes to go with option 1

PK: seconded

Majority votes to carry out option 1, do nothing.

LI, MHN, AR abstain

b) Replacement of two items of furniture (SL)

Approval sought by SL to pursue potential designs and costs from a professional furniture maker for a new portable lectern and for steps up to the fixed lectern. The meeting agrees that SL should pursue this project and present options at a future PCC meeting.

c) Disposal of Furniture (SL)

Following on from the resolution that was passed on the 6th february 2020 where the PCC resolved to Petition for a Faculty to dispose of various items of redundant furniture. Due to COVID this petition was never carried out and there is now a proposal to dispose of some additional items.

HB updates on the investigation that he has completed about what could be done to conserve or restore the Vinegar Bible. HB will continue his investigations about the potential options for conservation or restoration.

Proposal a & b are agreed by the meeting

Proposal c - questions about picture 8 - the Bishop's chair and Prayer Desk. Noted that the chair has the Guildford crest and the desk has the Winchester crest on it. A lively debate by members around the various items that have been identified as no longer needed.

The meeting agrees that the following items will be included with the original list of items for disposal and these will be included in the faculty application to the DAC.

The final list of items will be:

- 4x wooden pew ends
- Oak Carved Table
- 2x Prayer Desks
- Small Oak bookcase
- 2x Red upholstered chairs
- Candle Stand
- 2x medium hymn boards
- 3x small hymn boards

Proposal d - the large hymn boards - some lively discussion about the prior agreement that was obtained by the DAC.

ACTION: SL & DE will get confirmation from Mike Bale (Tower Captain) about why the hymn boards cannot be used within the ringing chamber
SL will seek advice from the DAC about whether or not the original faculty decision can be changed

10) Standing and Finance committee report

i) Draft minutes of the committee meeting

RD updates: 4.b. The Parish Manager is getting the Roofer to investigate this issue

11) Regulations for the Garden of Remembrance

HW queries whether the wording of 3.2 could be reworded to take on board possible eco aspects for example not allowing artificial flowers in the garden of remembrance.

MHN queries the wider practice of where flowers can be placed within the garden of remembrance and NP clarifies the official position from the diocese on this. At this time it is decided that the PCC won't adopt the policy as further clarification will be sought.

ACTION: NP will ask the diocese for clarity about if this policy could be reworded and where the PCC would stand if this policy was adapted

12) The Year Ahead - Churchwardens

Received with thanks

13) Correspondence

a) Letter for the Events Committee

ACTION: RJ to write back to thank the committee for their hard work.

MA comments that a new committee could consider having stalls at other organised activities such as in Epsom Market.

ACTION: to be discussed in March meeting whether the PCC would like to have an events committee as part of their overall structure.

14) Any other Business *(Please give details in writing to the Secretary 24 hours in advance of the meeting)*

None received

15) Closing Prayers

Led by Rev. Nick Parish

Meeting Closes 2106

Signed as a true record of the meeting:

Rev. Nick Parish

Wednesday 8th March 2023