



ROTHLEY PARISH CHURCH

Minutes of Parochial Church Council Meeting - Monday 27th November 2017 Rothley Church of England Primary (Academy) – 19:30

Present:

Kate Cooper (and Sam)	Kate Croden	Wendy Ferguson
Revd Rob Gladstone (Chair)	Alison Godfrey	Clive Jackson
Frances Morrison (Sec)	Margaret Offley	Jonty Pilbeam
Susan Pinkus	Linda Poole	Ray Prince
David Salt	David Wilson	Sue Wilson

Rob opened the meeting with prayer.

1. Opening Reading/Study:

Time was spent talking about the role we all have as disciples of Jesus to talk about our faith (NOT as evangelists which is a particular gift/ministry). He mentioned 3 points:

- a. life and words go together
- b. life without words means nothing
- c. words without life lack integrity.

Rob read from 1 Peter Ch 3. In pairs the PCC explored what the key principles for sharing our faith were from this passage. We need to get out of our comfort zone - if we have no non-Christian friends perhaps we need to find some. Life must be about more than meeting Christians. The PCC split into small groups to discuss how we can learn to talk about our faith. Ideas were to:

- a. rehearse a personal statement for yourself
- b. share experiences of sharing our faith (use housegroups)
- c. revisit previous sermon series 'What would God say to X/Why is there suffering?', etc,
- d. practise - keep in mind specific things that have happened to us - make it personal
- e. make it natural not too rehearsed
- f. make it authentic – it is important to be who you are
- g. to give testimony in public gatherings.

Action: Rob to see how we can deliver this in the coming year. Talk to Duncan at Sileby as they are also looking at this issue.

2. Apologies: Josh Bailey, Cath Jagger, Wendy Lewis
3. Declarations of interest: none declared
4. The minutes of the September PCC minutes were approved with a couple of minor alterations:
 - Tall 5 lightning conductors were tested
 - Clive not Ray had mentioned the possible fire exit through the redevelopment of the former Conservative Club.

Matters arising:

- p5, Josh's report on his placement is in progress.
- PCC minutes have been published in church before being approved by PCC. After a short debate it was agreed a summary would be published of what was discussed but not the minutes as a whole until agreed at the following PCC meeting.

5. CPAS School Ventures

To take place 27th-29th April 2018 with 10 pupils from the school, along with 10 from 5 other schools, at The Rock Centre in Northamptonshire. We will cover the cost of the mini bus and driver and have also offered to cover the cost of 1 staff member. School Ventures aimed at year 4 pupils. Carrie has had a drop-in session on Wednesday lunchtimes for pupils to ask key questions. This has been aimed at year 6, and then year 5 so perhaps some year 5s might be able to attend too. We need to avoid all church children going as purpose is to reach beyond church. Rob will also attend, along with someone else from church.

Action: Pray how the children to attend will be selected.

6. Joint Service

A discussion was had about the key learning points to bear in mind for the next joint service. Points were:

- a. make child friendly throughout
- b. food is good beforehand - don't make too complicated
- c. don't use labels - introduce yourself!
- d. use of screen a problem for those that can't see it. If only used for hymns visitors could be directed to the best place to sit and service sheets could be handed out to those in blind spots. If used throughout service it's more of a problem.
- e. if a third joint service is held make it not Holy Communion. Possible issue - is there a legal obligation to have a service of HC in parish each Sunday? If so, perhaps separate HC part from service.

Action: Ministry Team to take on board for planning next service.

7. Operations

- Heating systems serviced in October and OK. Heaters in good conditions. Installed in 2006, they have a 15 year lifespan.

- A-frame with wheels fitted to grand piano - cost £570. This will help the stability of the piano and make it easier to move. Chancel piano also had wheels fitted - cost £190. Clive Carling did the work. He is also tuning both pianos on Tuesday 28th November. Cost of this comes from Organ and Music Fund.
- new small heater for OSR office - cost £336
- Roll of Honour Faculty - no news yet from Diocesan Chancellor. Ray has been advised to contact the Chancellor's office more frequently.

H&S

- A vote was held about the desire to move forward with having CCTV in church: For-1, Against-12, Abstained-2.
- 2018 priorities were approved. First aid training to be held in New Year. Also paediatric first aid training too.
- 2016/17 report - approval given.
- 10 year plan-assessment of next 10 years of regular maintenance, also includes large one-off items. Feeds into how we managed funds - the next three years are particularly significant. Funding arrangements Sue suggest takes this into account (see later in minutes). Clive suggests regular top-up of Capital Fund. To address next year.
- Dishwasher-hot water system is not very good and the freestanding urn is dangerous. Cost for the dishwasher would be cir £1000, not including plumbing. The installation of a new hot water boiler to replace the urn was also agreed. Agreed by all at PCC.

Safeguarding

- The Diocese is changing safeguarding policies for both children and adults to make as one policy so they have not been brought to PCC to be formally reviewed at this time as things will change. However, they are up to date and accurate at the moment.
- The new domestic abuse policy was approved.
- Safer recruitment workshop - Kate and Wendy to explore process and practice and how we are/aren't following this.

Action: Kate and Wendy to report to PCC in March (Wendy away in January).

- DBS-Lisa Cook is only one with knowledge of DBS. Need to consider how information can be shared. Diocesan Training Officer putting together pamphlet about DBS and holiday clubs - a grey area.
- Finance
- Accounts are in good position- we should break even by the end of the year. The congregation responded well to the appeal in May.
- Money has been put aside for the CPAS school ventures (£500) and to help mark the 100th anniversary of the end of World War 1 next year (£200). £100 has been earmarked to use for targeted advertising of the OSR facilities. Sue and Liz Sleath are talking to Paul Parkinson about putting something on the church website as well as more widely on the internet.

- From 1st January 2018 Liz Sleath's salary will be increased by 2% in line with the clergy. The OSR Premises Officer and church cleaner's salary will rise by 30p per hour to keep in line with the Living Wage Foundation which is rising to £8.75 per hour.
- At the moment we have a deficit of around £3800 in the budget for 2018. Do we accept the budget as it is or should we manage another way?, eg:

That the General Fund manages all the day-to-day costs, including services, tests, etc but not the bigger costs. This would give the PCC greater control over large expenditure and mean definite decisions will have to be made for these items. The Finance Committee, together with Clive and Simon Murphy, propose that the Quinquennial and Fabric, Organ and Music, and Choir Funds are amalgamated into 1 fund.

2 issues were raised by Jonty about this:

- a. the organ is due for a refurbishment in 2035. Money in the Organ fund at present that would help this would 'disappear' elsewhere.
However, money would still need to be raised for a project like this as there wouldn't be enough in the Fund to cover any works. The alternative is that the money sits in an account for 10 years without being used when it might be useful elsewhere. The money the Organ Fund presently contains is also not restricted for use on the organ.
- b. Historically the Choir Fund is donations by the adults using the payment they are made from weddings – it is not a fee to the church – and administered by the Church – same as for bell ringers (children singing at weddings are paid from General Fund). Amalgamation of Funds would need raising with adult choir. Junior choir should be paid from fee for weddings.

Action: Sue and Jonty to discuss with the choir and bring to PCC in January.

- The PCC approved the deficit budget for 2018.
- All agreed to move £4205 donation from General Fund to Quinquennial and Fabric Fund.

- **Data Protection**

New regulations out in May - church may be affected. A consequence would be that details listed in the church contact sheet could only be used for that purpose, not for finance mailings, unless express permission given. The Diocese has a resource pack on the website with a useful checklist.

Action: Sue and David Salt to look into and bring this document to next Business Committee.

- Handbells

Is a loan request. Group would fundraise themselves. Charles Poole to work with them in helping to find community grants. No timescale in repaying – realistically is probably 3 years. Church insurance will need to be updated and a proper storage place found for the new bells. Group run by Ruth Gilmore. Possible sense of obligation to help and commitment to this may stop focus on other things. What would we do with the old bells? A vote was taken as to whether to loan the money. For – 10, Against – 3, Abstained – 2

Action: Sue to inform Ruth.

10. Committees

- Reach: info for away day. Query about MU and Wednesday Lunches being 'age specific' groups.
- Build: 100th anniversary of WW1. Rob meeting with parish council next year. People already aware is big occasion. Skills in church – Liz Sleath willing to collate information and help.
- Send: being a Fairtrade church: serve Fairtrade tea and coffee after church (we do), all meetings the PCC has responsibility for (where we pay) to also use Fairtrade tea and coffee. Use of other products also encouraged – we also use sugar. Promotion of Fairtrade goods – we have a stall in church. Come back to at next PCC.

11. Vicar's Report – come back to at next PCC

12. Away day

All money to be paid beforehand to Linda. Rob will send email about details.

13. Foundation Governors for Rothley School

Janet Alexander has volunteered. One more needed. All agreed to nominate her.

14. Review of meeting

- Shorter agenda needed- rushed near the end
- Could it start earlier?
- Would it help to sometimes have a little longer, i.e., 2 ¼ hours?
- Have Vicar's report earlier in agenda – always missed out if meeting rushed.
- Need balance between the different elements on the agenda. Business Committee to look at.

Meeting finished about 2140

The next meetings: Business on Wednesday 10th January 2018

PCC on Monday 22nd January 2018