



## Minutes of Parochial Church Council Meeting

**Monday July 5th 2021 - 7pm in Church**

### **Present:**

Revd. Rob Gladstone (chair), David Wilson, Sue Wilson, Alison Godfrey, Wendy Ferguson, Ray Prince, Wendy Lewis, Liz Barker, Margaret Leverment, David Hodgson, Fred Sleath, Margaret Rouse, Susan Pinkus (secretary) Attending via Zoom: Jonty Pilbeam, Jenny Pilbeam, Chris Garnett

### **1. Opening Prayers/Reading**

Rob read from Hebrews Chapter 11.

### **2. Declarations of Interest:** None

**Apologies:** Linda Poole, Alison Parkinson

**Approval of minutes from May 10th 2021:** Agreed as an accurate record

### **Matters arising:**

Groups and new members – Liz Barker is joining the Discipleship group. A communications group is much needed and this group to needs to be formed.

Expression of thanks to retiring Churchwardens and thanks and welcome to our new Churchwardens, Fred Sleath and Margaret Rouse.

Action: Rob Gladstone to write a letter of thanks to the retiring Churchwardens
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The Church website needs to be updated to reflect our current groups and the change of Churchwardens.

### **3. Finance**

Sue Wilson reported to the PCC

The latest Finance Report and accounts set out our current financial position. Expenditure does not all flow evenly throughout the year. In particular, the payment of our insurance premium (£3,900) at the beginning of January skews the overall comparison to budget for the first quarter. However, by this time of the year that effect is no longer obvious. Sue asked us to remember that the budget the PCC agreed for 2021 is a worst-case scenario, because of the prolonged uncertainty caused by the pandemic. She is hopeful that our end of year position will be considerably better than budgeted.

Rob thanked Sue and the Finance team on behalf of the PCC.

#### **4. Operations including Health and Safety**

Ray Prince has taken on the role of Church Building Manager. He has also taken on the role of Assistant Warden and this appointment was ratified by the PCC (proposed by Jonty Pilbeam, seconded by Alison Godfrey).

Ray has met with the Quinquennial architect, Simon Bird, who will arrange for the work identified in his report to be undertaken. This will include the removal of the boiler house at a cost of £12,000. All these works have already been agreed by the PCC.

New chairs for the OSR were expected shortly. Fred Sleath drew attention to the flooring in the passage way in OSR, which he felt needed carpeting.

#### **5. Foundation Governors**

We should have four Foundation Governors, but currently have only two: Rob Gladstone and Janet Alexander.

Action: PCC members were asked to approach suitable candidates and pass on names to Rob

#### **6. Safeguarding**

Kate Croden and Wendy Ferguson are currently contacting those who need to renew their DBS certification or update their training in advance of activities restarting.

#### **7. Discipleship**

The group were due to meet the following week.

#### **8. Send**

Please see notes sent out prior to the meeting.

#### **9. Bell Ringers**

The bell ringers have recently drawn up a draft constitution which needs to be approved by the PCC. With some amendments, the constitution was agreed. This constitution should be reviewed regularly.

#### **10. Vicar's Report**

##### Review of AV

Jonty Pilbeam suggested two screens might be required in the chancel for the choir in due course.

##### Route out of lockdown and summer services

There have been some hitches with the livestreaming during these initial weeks and this needs reviewing. We await feedback from the congregation on their response to the 10am and 6pm services in place at the moment. This is an experimental stage which will probably continue to the end of this year.

## School building and new housing development

Rob wished to clarify the proposals which have been passed recently due to some concerns in the village. The proposal is for 6 new classrooms and 70 new dwellings. The argument against further housing development was that the local authority had the money to extend the school without the additional housing adding to what many already thought to be overdevelopment of Rothley. However, the local authority does not have any land.

### **11. Shaped by God Together (SBGT)**

David Wilson provided an update on this diocesan initiative.

The underlying reason for the SBGT process is a huge financial shortfall in the diocese. The amount was initially thought to be £1.1 million but - after some further calculation - it now turns out to be £2 million. Therefore, something needs to be done, but the question is: What is an appropriate way forward for the diocese and what are the potential implications for our parish?

The Bishop's Leadership Team has drawn up three models for future patterns of ministry throughout the diocese: Minster, Mission Area, Network. Bishop's Council were due to meet during the days immediately following our meeting with the aim of endorsing one of the models for recommendation to Diocesan Synod (the formal decision-making body) in October.

It is hoped to make some savings through staff restructuring at St Martins House, but the vast majority of the savings will need to come from non-appointment of incumbents in vacancies as they arise. Over the diocese as a whole, this will mean less (if any) single parish units remaining. Instead, parishes will be grouped together with, for example, three full-time ministers looking after ten churches, one of those three ministers being also the oversight minister for all ten. These changes (if Diocesan Synod agrees them) will take place gradually over a period of at least three years and the details will, we are promised, emerge only after there has been detailed consultation with each existing parish or benefice.

Rob then fed back the results of the consultation via Fellowship Post that the PCC requested, and also considered possible implications of SBGT for Rothley. Rob has collated all the responses received and the overall feelings are that:

1. We need more information in order to enable meaningful comments
2. We don't understand what has been presented
3. There is really nothing favourable here

The meeting closed at 21.09 with a prayer of thanks led by Fred Sleath.

### **NEXT MEETINGS:**

**PCC MEETING MONDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> September 7.30pm in Church**

Please note, reports for the PCC meeting must be sent to Susan Pinkus by **SUNDAY 5th September** in order to assist the Business Committee in preparing the PCC agenda.

**BUSINESS COMMITTEE WEDNESDAY 8<sup>th</sup> September 7pm 56 Grangefields Drive**

Thank you.

*SusanPinkus August 22<sup>rd</sup> 2021*