

# OTLEY PARISH CHURCH

## Minutes of PCC Meeting Monday 10th July 2021 held on Zoom

**Prayers** John Simkins

**1 Present:** Graham Buttanshaw, Norman Barr, Allan Boddy, Ken Dale, Rosemary Ellen, Jackie Hird, Kevin Keefe, Jenny Liston, Maggie Lolashvili, Barry Milner, Glynis Milner, John Simkins and Zoe Smith

**Apologies:** Martin Hird

### **2 Welcome and introduction to Tony Pike**

AB welcomed Tony and invited him to address the meeting. Tony and his wife Mary had moved into the area some months ago and had connected with OPC. He had become aware that NB wanted to pass on the role of treasurer and thought this was something he might be able to do. Tony then gave a resume of his work background which has been predominately in the financial sector. He had suggestions of software systems which he would like to implement. Also he would use a separate email from his personal one for financial matters to make it more secure. He will continue to work with Norman over the summer to hopefully be completed by the autumn. GB proposed co-opting Tony on to the PCC. This was seconded by JS and unanimously agreed.

### **3 Minutes of PCC Meeting 7<sup>th</sup> June**

Acceptance of the minutes was proposed by BM, seconded by KD and unanimously agreed.

### **4 Matters Arising**

The appointment of a church administrator was discussed. It was suggested that the advert be reworded and changes made to make it more appealing. Other leads can be followed with regard to a possible applicant. Hopefully this will progress over the summer.

### **5 Safeguarding**

JL had circulated a document prior to the meeting noting particular importance to chapter 7. Any allegations or disclosures with regard to children or vulnerable adults need to be addressed following the guidance. Any issue would be passed to the Diocesan officer to guide us through the procedure. The PCC agreed that they are aware of requirement in safeguarding documents and will comply. JH said that she was impressed with the church's involvement with domestic violence issues. AB thanked JL for her work.

### **6 Covid 19 - Ministry, Mission and Communication**

There was a discussion as to how we move forward after July 19<sup>th</sup> when government restrictions are lifted. GB said that couples were wanting to know how many people could be invited to weddings. There was a discussion as to how we can best move forward with gradually opening up. It was a concern about jumping in too quickly and too soon. At this time with infections rising it was felt that we have a responsibility for the vulnerable and some church

members would feel very cautious about a return. ML and JH longed for congregational singing to recommence and other aspects of the service to return to normal. JS suggested carrying on as we are now until September with a clear statement of what we will do. This would be dealt with by the wardens' meeting. or the standing committee and the PCC be kept fully informed.

Follow up to the meeting on June 26th meeting – GB said that we need to be looking, listening and praying about issues raised. He felt that ideas would not be revolutionary in the short term but maybe in the long term. ZS raised concerns about the problem of youth work at the present time. There is a small group of young people but there is difficulty in expanding it due to lack of people to commit to helping regularly. We also need to consider how best to support families in the emerging church.

## **7 Finance**

NB had circulated his report with detailed explanations prior to the meeting. He said that we were half way through 2021 and it was encouraging that the budget for the first 6 months allows for a deficit of £2,500 where the actual figures show a surplus of £1,455. Gift Aid envelopes, free will offerings and cash are down but some G.A. envelope givers have moved to standing orders. AB thanked NB for the clear accounts and explanations. NB had forwarded details of card machines for donations .NB had liaised with Geoff Park about a card reader with regard to setting up and establishing one. The Payaz one would be secured by a chain at a cost of £359 but could be moved. The CollecTin would be attached to the wall. Both use a SumUp reader. GB had a preference for the chained one. AB hoped it could be in place for the Heritage weekend. It was agreed that NB, TP and GP take this project forward and arrange for an installation to be implemented.

## **8 Properties Report**

8.1 Health and Safety – no issues

8.2 List of 20. KD reported that half are fully done and a couple are near to approval. One being lighting to the south door and path, the cost being about £600 which includes removal of the non functioning existing lights. AB thanked KD for his work on this.

## **9 Heritage Area**

September 11<sup>th</sup> will be a Memorial Day as part of the Heritage weekend. AB asked whether booklets could be given out and this was agreed. Details will also be on the website.

## **10 Otley Youth and Community Centre**

There is broader community involvement with adults and Otley town council also meeting. The aim is to have an after school activity for 10-14year olds when a suitable place has been sourced.

## **11 Other reports**

**11.1 Foundation Governors of All Saints School** – AB reported that the school are trying to keep activities going, particularly for year 6. They have had a residential visit, forest school

and sports day. The 'bubble' situation is proving very disruptive as year 3 have been out of school 3 times

**11.2 Communications Group** – no report

**11.3 Local to Global Group** – no report

**11.4 Sustainability Group** – no report

**11.5 Pastoral Team** - A meeting was held on the 8<sup>th</sup> July. Contact has been difficult during the pandemic but 'Open House' has opened up with a steady uptake. Contact with care homes has been difficult. The Prayer tree has been re-installed. Baby Rascals has re-opened.

**11.6 Prayer Team** JS asked if leaflets could now be put out on the prayer table. This was agreed.

## **12 Future Events**

## **13 Any Other Business**

ML asked whether there could be a page on the website entitled 'What is Christianity' with maybe a couple of testimonies. She agreed to write this and send it to KK with GB having input.

ML had brought a Deanery Synod report from Jill McKee .They had discussed what had been learnt during lockdown and how to go forward. 5 aspects of the Early Church were mentioned which could be emulated – worship, baptism, instruction or growth in discipleship, sending money where needed and pastoral care. They also discussed the Climate emergency leading up to Cop26 in Glasgow.

Prayers at next meeting GM

## **14 Date of next meeting**

September 6th

Closing prayers JS