

OTLEY PARISH CHURCH

Minutes of PCC Meeting Monday 10th January 2022

Prayers Maggie Lolashvili

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

Apologies: Martin Hird

2 Minutes of PCC Meeting 22nd November

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

3 Matters Arising

Pastoral care – This had been discussed at the Wardens' meeting where it had been suggested that a pastoral coordinator could be appointed to whom people could refer the concerns they had about members of the church family and who would then be able to point them in the right direction to find support. This does not necessarily have to be a member of the PCC. NB had made a list of those with links with the church and categorised them to identify those with potential needs who were isolated or had no family support network. The members of the PCC are to think who might be suitable as a volunteer coordinator. It was emphasised that a great deal of support was already being given to people through informal arrangements between individuals and through the House Group network.

Friday and Saturday cafes - AB is to approach Shirley Parker and Rosemary Utleby with a view to them starting Friday cafe again. The PCC wanted the cafes to be more than a fundraising activity and felt there needs to be an encouragement to patrons to take a notice sheet and maybe look around church whilst they are there. There also needs to be an assurance that the cafes are run safely given the problem with the current growth of covid cases.

4 Safeguarding

JL explained that there now is a new C of E document on domestic violence but as yet not a parish document. She said that the new volunteers for youth and childrens' work are being recruited following the guidelines and she had interviewed them. As there is a potential start of 'Activate' she will check that Rick Mayers has the relevant checks in place. JL raised the issues of diversity and disability as being perhaps ones that needs more clearly addressed at All Saints. JL asked to be advised re discussions at Pastoral group so particularly as to address issues in respect of lone working.

5 Covid 19 - Ministry, Mission and Communication

The Christingles services were discussed. - Although all 200 tickets were taken for each service there were not so many in the congregation but the services went well. The ticketing system had worked very well. There was good feedback from the services as people felt that with fewer people there it was less distracting and they gained more from the service. All 500 Christingles were taken.

Plans for on-going services are in place and AB said that it was good to see new faces being involved. Congregation numbers are remaining high. The organist for the 1st Sunday is Peter Condry, 2nd Sunday the band are involved and the 3rd is run by a house group. There was a discussion as to whether baptisms should be held by the font or at the front of the church. Some members of the congregation felt that when they were held at the font they could not see so felt less involved.

Parish Profile Survey – there has been a good response to the survey. These will be used to identify the qualities and skills needed in the new priest. BM will complete the factual section of the profile. ZS volunteered to write the non factual section, this will be sent to AB, ML, JS, KK and BM for their thoughts before bringing it to the next meeting on the 7th February. AB thanked ZS for all her work with this.

6 Finance

6.1 Monthly accounts - TP had circulated these prior to the meeting. He said that the figures should be very close to those in the annual accounts, just a slight deficit over the year but giving had held up and he felt that figures were encouraging.

6.2 Legacy – a £500 legacy had been received from the estate of Richard Agar's mother. This will be put to something to do with the music ministry of the church as this was one of her interests. TP will speak to Pam Beck about this for ideas.

6.3 Annual accounts and audit - The accounts are to be completed by the end of January and sent to the examiner in February. TP will send out the draft report so that any queries can be answered before this. The annual report and accounts will be brought to the March meeting for formal approval.

6.4 Budget for 2022- TP explained that this indicated a similar to that of 2021. It will be formally agreed with the accounts in March. The report contained recommendations to increase the monthly support for OCHR to £115 and the fee paid to visiting organists at services to £57.50. These recommendations were approved.

6.5 Annual review of discretionary fees – TP suggested increasing these in line with inflation. JS proposed accepting this, seconded by BM and unanimously agreed.

6.6 Approval of KK and MH as cheques signatories/ authorisers of online payments to Barclays accounts. This was proposed by BM, seconded by ZS and unanimously agreed.

AB gave grateful thanks to TP for all his work.

7 Properties Report

7.1 Health and Safety – BM said that the Diocese had suggested using a special coating on the York stone flags. BM will discuss this with Carl. This would be cheaper and not need to go before the DAC. The electric doors have been adjusted but if there was a power cut the doors can be manually opened and will not remain locked. However it was felt that stewarding for events would stop people crowding at the doors.

7.2 List of 20. KD had circulated a comprehensive list of works completed, still ongoing and for the future. Some of these are from the Quinquennial report. BM will go through the work with Richard Houldsworth and get quotes for all that is needed. Any urgent concerns should be handed to the Wardens' meeting and they can then sanction them. NB said that as we have the money we should address all the issues as soon as possible.

8 Heritage area

9 Otley Youth and Community Centre

This will be run by Leeds Faith in Schools and begins this Tuesday at 3pm for years 7,8 and 9
Another volunteer from our church is needed

10 Other reports

10.1 Foundation Governors of All Saints School - AB reported that there were 8 children and 4 staff absent.

10.6 Prayer team - 4 people are meeting at the moment. 18th-25th January is the week of Christian Unity with prayers on the theme of restore, renew and rebuild. Churches Together in Otley are meeting on the 19th to discuss the way ahead.

No further reports

11 Future Events none

12 Any Other Business

AB raised the issue of the Beer Festival. There has been a link between the church and the beer festival since 2002 but said that it has increasingly been run by people who are not connected with the church. The Festival started as a project to raise funds to repair the East Window but has grown in scale and has become more of a town event than a church event. It was felt that it is now time to sever the church's link and hand it back AB and NB will talk to the beer festival committee and pass over any assets such as equipment, also thanking them for raising funds for the church fabric. All agreed.

13 Date of next meeting

February 7th

Prayers at next meeting BM

Closing prayers ML