

OTLEY PARISH CHURCH

Minutes of PCC Meeting Monday 16th January 2023

Prayers GM

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

Apologies: Jackie Hird

There were no declarations of interest with any matters on the agenda.

2 Minutes of PCC Meeting 22nd November 2022

3 Matters Arising

AB asked TP about the credit card for Aaron. TP has appealed the decision and is waiting for a response from Barclays.

The Minutes were accepted following a proposal by ML, seconded by TP and unanimously agreed.

4 Safeguarding

Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation - JL referred everyone to the Parish safeguarding handbook which is available on the church website. Firstly any issue should be reported to Jenny and Aaron who would contact the Diocese. If the matter is urgent the issue should be reported to the police and/or social services. It is important to make notes of what is reported, these would then be securely kept by Jenny. The Parish safeguarding handbook was accepted following a proposal by JS, seconded by KD and unanimously agreed. JL asked whether groups connected directly with church and those which are not had been looked at – this is still ongoing.

5 Ministry, Mission and Communication

AK reported that plans for Lent were being investigated to include practising Sabbath. The 3rd Sunday of the month will possibly change to an explore together type of service to improve our learning. ZS asked how this would work for Sunday Club, this is to be discussed.

KK reported that the Communication group are meeting on Tuesday. They would like more comments from members of church with possible positive suggestions.

There was a very positive feedback on the Christmas carol services, enhanced by students from Prince Henry's choir.

6 Finance

6.1 Financial report - This had been circulated prior to the meeting. AB gave very grateful thanks to TP commenting that the surplus on the years' budgets was encouraging and also that parishioners had responded with help towards energy costs. The amount in the balances is very healthy. TP had received a grant of £400 from the Listed Places of Worship scheme towards

maintenance of the church building. A further grant of £1,148 has been applied for, mainly in respect of roofing and water leak repairs paid for in December. He also said that the Barclay's branch at Guiseley is closing down, the nearest now will be at Moortown.

6.2 Administrator's salary – This is set in her contract and follows the National Joint Council scales for local government workers at Scale 4 SCP 8. This resulted in a large rise of 9% at the end of last year. Scales are set for the fiscal year and not normally agreed and published until half way through the year, resulting in back pay as well as a pay increase.

6.3 Hire rates for Church, Parish room and the Chestnuts

TP noted that we needed to review the rates charged for hire of the Church, Parish Room and The Chestnuts, particularly in view of the large rise in heating costs. The possibility of a heating supplement for the winter months was considered but this would then place more obligation to ensure we achieved comfortable temperatures, in the Church sanctuary in particular, which is not always easy to do. After discussion it was agreed that we should increase the Parish Room hire charge to £30 per hour. Charges for the Church and The Chestnuts would be set on an ad hoc basis for now, pending the outcome of the group meeting to discuss use of the Church premises more generally. The most recent rates for the Church premises (to Otley Choral Society) were £50 per hour, with a maximum rate for the full day of £300.

7 Properties

The heating set at 10 degrees takes a considerable time to heat up church to an acceptable temperature but this is being monitored. JS proposed a vote of thanks to all concerned who organise this. The energy audits by Green Energy of both the Church and The Chestnuts had been received and the recommendations were being reviewed by BM, KK, KD and TP.

8 Youth work

8.1 - ZS reported that there have been 2 prayer meetings regarding youth work which included people from other churches. AK said that long term a working group is to be set up to plan activities to also include Christian discipleship.

8.2 All Saints School – AB reported that 3 church members are on the governing body. At the last inspection the school was deemed good with a strong Christian ethos.

9. Community including the Council of Churches

JS reported that in October at the AGM he was elected as Vice Chair, Rev Jason McCullagh is Chair. At the next meeting they will work on a Mission Statement and also how they go forward. The meeting is on the 20th January.

10 Events

10.1 Reports on events held since the last meeting

AB reported that the Christmas Tree Festival had been very successful in raising over £4,000 for the various charities. The charities also appreciated the chance to extend their profile. £1,121 was raised by the cafe, the sale of Christmas trees and voluntary donations.

There is still money to come from the further sale of Christmas trees by Beks and 1/3 of the proceeds from the concert involving Westgate School and the Chippendale singers on the Friday night.

10.2 Plans for future events – AB proposed the dates 6-9th December 2023 for the Christmas Tree Festival with carols by candlelight on the 17th December. This was accepted following a proposal by JS, seconded by RE and unanimously agreed.

Lent Lunches are to be held on the 3, 17 and 31st March.

On the 13th May OPC are hoping to host the sweet course with a social finish at the end of the Safari Supper, the event is organised by OCT.

11 Any Other Business

The following names were approved for renewal to Lay Eucharistic Ministry

Kevin Keefe

Barry Milner

Glynis Milner

Barbara Nicholls

Lesley Noble

This was proposed by NB, seconded by KD and unanimously agreed.

BM reported that Dave Cherry, in conjunction with Otley Wildlife Trust is wanting to plant various trees around the perimeter of the church grounds. He will need to submit a List B Faculty application.

AB said that RE will stand down as PCC Secretary at the APCM.

Next meeting February 20th

Prayers at next meeting JS

GM closed the meeting with prayers after the discussion and comments on the PCC away day which was held last Saturday.