

OTLEY PARISH CHURCH

Minutes of PCC Meeting Monday 17th April 2023

Opening Prayer by ML

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

2 Minutes of previous meetings

- 2.1 Minutes of PCC meeting 20th March 2023. These were accepted following a proposal by KK, seconded by ZS and unanimously agreed.
2.2 Matters Arising – Youth Worker - Ben has been in touch with Aaron and a contract is being drawn up. Safari Supper has been cancelled.

3 Baptism Policy

Aaron gave an outline of the new Baptism policy – when parents enquire they will be asked to attend a morning service and meet with Aaron after the service. They will then be asked to attend three preparation meetings prior to booking the service. The three sessions will be held quarterly.

Glynis circulated a document giving details of the content of the three sessions.

4 Pastoral Care

The meeting considered a document prepared by Jackie, Eileen and Aaron proposing a structure for pastoral care within the Parish.

The whole body of the church is the main means of providing pastoral care which needs to be encouraged and supported.

Church groups are the next obvious level of care.

It is proposed to have a Pastoral Core Group which should have an overview of care and a coordinating role.

It is proposed to have a new Pastoral Team of people with a particular pastoral interest.

It is further proposed that we appoint an Inclusion Officer to conduct an annual review of the inclusiveness of OPC. If we have the expertise, this could be internal, or we could look to a suitable external organisation.

We need to look what external resources are available for the delivery of good pastoral care.

Those present had a deep discussion about the proposal and various key themes emerged:

Knowledge of the different levels & types of care required.

Involvement of housegroups.

Confidentiality – for example the use of full names in intercessory prayer when a service is live streamed.

Need for training and skill sharing

How do we manage to ensure no one slips through the cracks?

How do we improve our 'welcome' offering?

Who would comprise the Core Group and who would be in the new Team?

Do we dispense with the word 'pastoral'?

The general consensus from the meeting was that the proposal was a good one and we needed to formalise our approach to pastoral care.

PCC members were tasked to give further consideration and prayer to the topic and bring their further thoughts and suggestions to the next meeting.

Aaron, Jackie and Eileen were thanked for their authorship of the proposal.

Closing prayer by ML

Prayers at next meeting will be led by Norman.

Forthcoming meetings:

APCM Sunday, April 23rd April

Next meeting of PCC : Monday, 15th May 2023