

OTLEY PARISH CHURCH

Minutes of PCC Meeting Monday 20th March 2023

Prayers BM

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

Apologies: Jenny Liston and John Simkins

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

Presentation by Ben Jones from Missional Generation.

Ben explained the framework for the proposal for an MG worker to partner with OPC. This was followed by a general discussion and question time. The PCC explored issues around how the worker would assist the Church and interact with OPC members. It was also noted that this involved a financial commitment of £15 - 20,000 per annum for an absolute minimum of two years. It was noted that this could initially be met from reserves but parishioners should be encouraged to increase regular giving to make this financially sustainable on a long term basis

The proposal for Otley Parish Church to partner with Missional Generation to have a MG worker for 12 -16 hours a week for a period of 3-5 years, with a yearly review was accepted. This was proposed by BM, seconded by KK and unanimously agreed.

2 Membership matters

2.1 Retiring members of the PCC

All members of the PCC are willing to continue to serve but this means there are still 4 vacancies. 2 names have been put forward of new people willing to be voted on.

3 Minutes of previous meetings

3.1 Minutes of PCC meeting 16th January 2023. These were accepted following a proposal by KD, seconded by BM and unanimously agreed.

3.2 Matters Arising – credit card appeal. TP has been in contact with Barclays who are reconsidering. claimed not to have received either copy of our appeal by post. They confirmed that the refusal was the result of their credit scoring system and that they are now reconsidering their decision in the light of additional information supplied.

3.3 Minutes of the PCC meeting 20th February 2023. These were accepted following a proposal by MH, seconded by ML and unanimously agreed.

3.4 Matters Arising – tree planting in the churchyard, BM reported that the DAC had wanted further information and photos which has been done. The DAC will advise the Archdeacon who will then give his decision.

4 Reporting decisions taken by correspondence

- 4.1 PCC decision to add ~~Addition~~ of Kate Hobson to the Lay Eucharistic Ministry list (Emails 30/1/23 and 31/1/23)
- 4.2 Standing Committee decision ~~on~~ to give the go ahead to hammer repairs (KK email 1/2/23 and replies from members of the Standing Committee)
- 4.3 PCC approval of decision to appeal to the Charity Commissioners about the requirement to publish aggregate donations by trustees (Tony Pikes's email 2/3/23 and replies from PCC members 2/3/23 and 3/3/23)

All the above were agreed by emails and are now formally noted in the Minutes as per Church Representation Rules M29.

5 Safeguarding

JL had reported that as a church we are now on level 3 of the safeguarding dashboard. She also said that it would be good to have a discussion about domestic abuse and our response to the online training.

6 Community use of church building and church facilities

AB asked for clarification as there seems to have been rumours around town that church is not accepting any bookings. KK explained that bookings can be taken dependent on their being sufficient help to man the event. AK said that some people had expressed an interest in helping at events KD suggested when an approach for a booking is made that an email is sent to helpers to check who would be available for that date and then the booking could be confirmed.

7 Financial report

- 7.1 TP had circulated ~~this the annual report; the financial statements and the Independent Examiner's observations~~ prior to the meeting. The PCC noted the various comments of the Independent Examiner. In particular the PCC discussed the requirement to disclose aggregate donations by trustees and noted that no appeal had yet been made to the Charity Commission. It was agreed that the Treasurer would initially raise a query with the Charity Commission regarding the stated process for omitting a required disclosure; explaining the reason for the omission and asking whether this would result in qualification of the accounts. The annual report and the financial statements were ~~This was~~ accepted following a proposal by NB, seconded by KK and unanimously agreed.
- 7.2 Reappointment of Independent Examiner for 2023 (approval) TP said that he was happy to use WYCAS again. KD proposed accepting this, seconded by BM and unanimously agreed.
- 7.3 Finance update for Jan/Feb 2023 – This had been circulated prior to the meeting. TP said that there has been a generous response to the appeal for help with heating costs. £4,070 was received in January and February notified as in response to the appeal regarding higher energy costs. The ~~total~~ amount raised towards additional costs in 2023, including gifts in 2022 and to date in March amounts to £29,560 plus £1,000 from gift aid. Total spending was £5,100 below budget, ~~partially mainly~~ due to heating costs not being as high as anticipated. ~~The weather has been milder;~~

midweek use of the church has been limited and the heating system has been used more efficiently. The proposed budget for 2023 anticipated a deficit of c£3,400 per month, so the outcome is better than budgeted.

7.4 Insurance cover for cyber fraud - the preliminary audit of equipment and its usage is ~~on hold for a later date~~ yet to be completed.

8 Properties

8.1 Health and Safety – BM reported that the Yorkshire flagstones had been treated with algacide which helps them to be less slippery. KK said that the little step from Burras lane to the path was difficult for those with less mobility so Carl will advise whether anything can improve it.

8.2 Church building improvements – KD said that the list will be reviewed and prioritised.

8.3 Energy usage – all the alterations are working and improving controls

9 Heritage

9.1 Heritage Open Day is 9th September

10 Youth and Children's Ministry

10.1 Sunday Club developments – helpers are meeting next week and will consider having Sunday Club every week.

10.2 Youth Group developments – it is proposed to have this ~~will be~~ on 2 Fridays a month.

10.3 TEND events – events are to be held at 3 venues, those involved with youth work are hoping to attend one of the events.

10.4 Foundation Governors of All Saints School – no report

10.5 Other matters - none.

11 Reports and correspondence received

11.1 Report from Norman Barr on the Community Networking meeting on January 26th

11.2 Report from Norman Bar on the North West Deanery Synod meeting on February 22nd

AB thanked NB for his very detailed and informative reports on both of the above, reports had been circulated to the PCC.

12 Community/Otley Council of Churches

12.1 Date of events – May 13th is a Safari supper, the sweet course and entertainment are to be held at OPC. It was agreed that plans for this would need to be discussed at the next meeting as a matter of urgency

13 Any Other Business

13.1 Church warden Job Specification. These were available at the back of church and have been picked up.

13.2 Margaret Turner's application for Lay Ministry Pathways training. All were in favour and her application was signed.

14 Prayers at next meeting

ML

Date of next meeting PCC April 17th Short discussion of baptism policy; baptism services; baptism ministry and preparation materials for baptism. Deep dive discussion of pastoral care provision.

APCM April 24th

Closing prayers BM