

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF OTLEY

Minutes of Parochial Church Council Meeting held on Monday 27th November 2023

- 1. Present:** Allan Boddy, Rosemary Ellen, Tony Pike, Kevin Keefe, Tom Raper, John Simkins, Reverend Aaron Kennedy, Reverend Stewart Hartley, Jackie Hird, Maggie Lolashvili, Norman Barr, Ken Dale, Eric Cairns, Glynis Milner, Barry Milner

Apologies: Amie Smith, Martin Hird, Jenny Liston

In Attendance: Dave Auty

Opening prayers by Jackie

2. Minutes of the meeting held on October 16th 2023

The minutes were approved, proposed by Kevin Keefe, seconded by Ken Dale, passed unanimously.

3. Matters arising not on the agenda

Local to Global – local charity suggested for support is either Hug on a Tray or Leeds Faith in Schools. PCC to decide at next meeting.

4. Safeguarding – no issues, Jenny away.

5. Carbon Net Zero Group Report

Norman, who chairs this group, referred to the email sent to the PCC which contained a very full report called a 'Road Map' setting out what the group had done over the last six months and presenting a plan of how the church would meet the commitment to achieve Net Carbon Zero by 2030.

Dave Auty, a member of the group with a background in the topic, gave a comprehensive presentation of our current position, some quick wins we can take to reduce our emissions and a longer term pathway to Net Zero with considerable capital cost implications.

Ken Dale proposed that we spend the amount required to carry out the quick win projects. Seconded by Barry Milner and passed unanimously.

Longer term plan to be discussed again at next meeting.

Leading Your Church into Growth

Aaron led us in the second session of the programme, see Appendix attached

Due to the length of the two previous sessions, further agenda items were reviewed to include only those which were urgent.

6.Events

6.1 Newcomers event went well.

6.2 Flyer has been produced listing the Christmas services. Retiring collections to be split between St Georges Crypt and Otley Food Bank (Christingle collections to Childrens Society)

6.3 More volunteers needed for Christmas Tree festival

6.4 PCC Away Day is on January 13th 2024, 10-4, venue and schedule as last year.

7. Finance

7.1 Finance update – we are on course for a deficit, but not as large as first feared. There are some maintenance items which have not been completed and will thus not be invoiced until next year. The fees to Missional Generation were not budgeted.

7.2 Budget – see details in the Treasurer's Budget Report We are anticipating a continuing deficit budget, to be funded from reserves if giving does not increase significantly. This approach is acceptable for the next two years, but spending would then need to be restrained if income has not increased. The budget included the proposal to reduce the rent for OCRH use of the Chestnuts in view of their reduced hours and difficult financial situation. Acceptance of budget proposed by Kevin Keefe, seconded by Ken Dale, passed unanimously.

7.3 Wedding and funeral fees – proposal to accept Tony's recommendation from Norman Barr, seconded by Tom Raper, passed unanimously.

7.4 Charges for lettings – proposal to accept Tony's recommendation from Norman Barr, seconded by Tom Raper, passed unanimously.

8.0 Properties

Tom has received approval for the tree work in the churchyard. He has obtained three quotes in the range £1900 – £2100 , Approval to proceed with work proposed by Kevin Keefe, seconded by Eric Cairns, passed unanimously

Standing Committee has approved an update to the IT equipment used in the Vicarage.

9.0 Community / Churches Together

John has supplied dates for Prayer Breakfasts and dates of other CTO events in 2024.

10.0 Prayers at next meeting – Eric

Date of next meeting: Proposed dates for 2024 meetings to be circulated separately.

Agreed as a true record at January 2024 meeting:

Proposed:

Seconded:

Signed:

APPENDIX

Leading Your Church Into Growth (LYCIG)

Aaron led us in the second session of the LYCIG process. This is an attempt to capture what was discussed during the session.

The video presentation was dealing with Implementing an Effective Strategy.

The Venn diagram for growth identified three pillars:

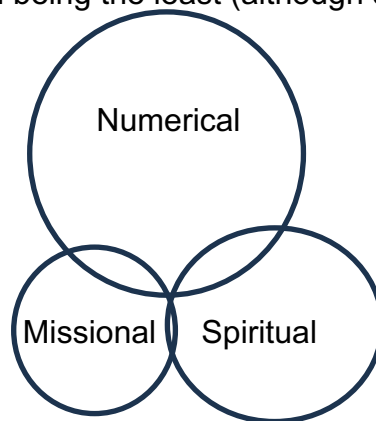
Numerical Growth

Spiritual Growth (becoming more like Christ)

Missional Growth (reaching out into the community)

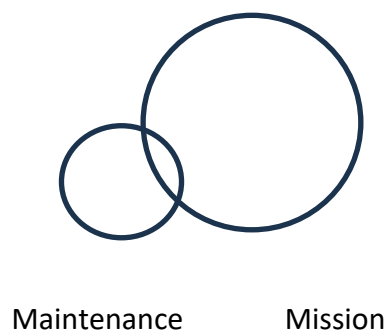
We were asked to discuss in pairs which of these we were strongest in.

The majority felt the strongest element was Numerical, with Spiritual the second strongest, missional growth being the least (although someone wanted to vote for all three!)



We were then asked to rate the church between being a Maintenance Church or a Missional Church.

The consensus was that we were largely a Missional Church with an inevitable smaller Maintenance element.



The basis of implementing an effective strategy are the 4Ps:

Praying; Presence; Proclamation; Persuasion

Praying

The three options for prayer are:

The Leader prays

The Leadership prays

The congregation prays.

We were asked to discuss in pairs how we could encourage and improve prayer in our church. The resulting suggestions were:

- To emphasise that we can pray at any time, not just in church.
- We can encourage more spontaneous prayer.
- We can consider reintroducing a regular prayer meeting.
- Use the Collect for Growth as part of every service.
- Use a Prayer Room as we did during Thy Kingdom Come.
- Encourage House Groups to pray and to pray for growth.
- Ask people to pray at a fixed time wherever they are at that time.

Presence

Paul made his presence felt. We need to be known and engaged in community and relevant to people's lives.

We discussed again in pairs and the resulting comments were:

- Messy Church was a major successful community event, but requires significant resources and organisation.
- Open the Book is a significant presence in local schools.
- We could have a 'Prayer Stall' at the carnival and maybe other community events.
- We should major on Christmas events.
- We should make more use of social media.

Proclamation

See Acts 17

- We should use the major festivals, Pentecost; Christmas; Easter.
- Again, Messy Church was an ideal opportunity to proclaim our faith.
- There was a suggestion to set up a Church Band which could perform at outside events.
- Chevin Cross

Persuasion

Suggestions:

- One to one
- In small groups
- Accompanying people on their faith journey.
- START course in January
- Meeting in a pub
- Eric's music band, carols at care homes

Aaron will devise a calendar of events, indicating which of the 4Ps are involved.