

PCC Digest January 2018

The PCC of St James met last Monday and this is a summary of the discussions and decisions.

Furzedown Churches Youth Work

The Trustee Boards of Furzedown Youth Centre (FYC) and Furzedown Churches Youth Ministry (FCL) are currently discussing the future of our joint youth provision and exploring the possibility of a restructure.

Finances

The treasurer reported a year-end surplus of £25,000, mainly due to a significant one-off donation, but also in part a consequence of an increase in regular giving during the year. The Advent Gift Day broke the target and raised over £17,000. The PCC approved a budget for 2018 of £222,000 and Rob will be sending out his annual finance letter and giving brochure in the next few weeks.

Mission Action Plan

The PCC spent some time reflecting on the feedback from the Away Day in November when we reviewed our Mission Action Plan and identified the main themes for development as:

- Bringing the Church outside
- Employing a Children & Families Worker
- Developing a strategy for nurture with particular focus on small groups
- Developing the welcome, involvement and integration of newcomers
- Developing a strategy for prayer
- Greater involvement of youth in the life of the church
- Recruiting more leaders & volunteers for ministry
- Greater use of personal testimony in services
- Identifying the groups we don't cater for so well (e.g. couples without children, singles, 20-30s)

Building for the Kingdom

The PCC was informed that the Working Group are currently developing a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document for general circulation as well as working on a restructure of the Working Group to reflect the progress we have made in the project. Next steps will include drawing up an Architect's Brief to enable us to commission a Feasibility Study, and to develop a Business Case for redevelopment.

Church Day Out

Saturday 9th June 2018 has been set as the date for the Church Day Out with a probable venue of Latimer Minster in Buckinghamshire. The PCC approved a draft schedule for the day with a theme of "Unlocking your Prayer Life". Further details, including costs, will be published for the congregation very soon. The Church Day Out is a first step towards a Church Weekend Away planned for 2020.

Additional Needs Policy

The PCC looked at a draft policy to guide the church's ministry with and to children and adults with additional needs. This will be revised and approved at our next meeting in March.

Team Council

A report was given on the work of the Furzedown Team Council which meets four times per year to discuss the joint ministry of St James, St Alban's and St Paul's.