

Minutes of Rushen PCC meeting held in St Mary's Church Hall

Tuesday 3rd July 2018 at 7.00pm

Present: The Rev'd Joe Heaton (Chair), David Ali, Suzanne Ali, David Bowman, Gerald Callister, Ann Curtis, Stephen Curtis, James Dale, Harry Dawson, Malcolm Hale, Peter Hayhurst, Daniel Heaton, Adam Kelly, Claudia König, Voirrey Kinley, Peta Mills, Michael Porter, Barbara Qualtrough, Jennifer Stewart, Jonathan Taylor and Janice Withey.

1. Welcome and Prayers:

The Rev'd Joe Heaton welcomed everyone to the meeting. He then read from John 11 and followed this with a prayer.

2. Apologies for Absence: Three apologies had been received prior to the meeting, these were: Margaret Galloway, Wendy Heaton, and Roy Oliver.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 15th May 2018 *(and matters therefrom)*

The chairman referred to the minutes of the previous meeting and asked if they were a true record of the proceedings. Peter Hayhurst proposed, and David Ali seconded that they were. There was unanimous agreement. He then asked if there were any matters arising. Peter Hayhurst referred to the new tables which had now arrived in St Mary's Church Hall. The chairman stated that the new chairs would be arriving within the next two weeks. He then referred to the submission of committee reports to the secretary which he felt should be with David Bowman at least two weeks prior to the next PCC meeting. This would then allow the standing committee to discuss any issues that may have arisen and to prepare the agenda of the meeting accordingly.

4. Reports from Sub-Committees: *(and matters arising therefrom)*

Finance Committee Report

Stephen Curtis (Treasurer) referred to the PCC accounts which had been circulated. These showed the figures up to May. The June figures were now available, and these were distributed at the meeting. These show a deficit for the first six months of £6,442, much in line with budget for the year. Figures had been boosted in June by some large one-off donations as well as wedding and funeral fees and collections. Planned giving for the period January to June was £21,129, slightly up on last year. Collections in 2018 totaled £19,683, well ahead of last year and ahead of budget. The total ordinary income for the half-year is £54,921, which if repeated in the second half-year would result in an increase of £11,500 over last year's income and trigger matched funding of £10,000. Stephen then referred to the matter of churchyard insurance which has been resolved and that the PCC has recouped a portion of the annual premium from the Burial Authority. The expenditure on St Mary's Hall tables and chairs is not included in the accounts as the St Mary's Ladies Working Party income & expenditure figures are not yet available. The PCC current account balance is £60,635, compared with £63k at the date of the last meeting. A question was raised regarding the income expected from the chairman's sponsorship from the Parish Walk and whether this had been included in the figures. The chairman responded by stating that as yet the funds derived from the walk had not been included but was happy to report that at the present time a figure of £2,300 had been raised and that this could increase.

Worship Committee Report

The chairman reported that the committee had met to plan the different services for the next six months. These had been listed on the report that was circulated prior to the meeting. He referred specifically to the Remembrance Sunday services which this year fall on 11th November. As usual there will be a Civic Service at Kirk Christ at 10.45am, there will also be a joint service between the two port churches at St Catherine's Church at 10.55am. The format of the services leading up to Christmas will follow the usual pattern, but with Christmas Day falling on a Tuesday, it was felt appropriate to have a joint communion service and the Parish Carol Service on Sunday 23rd December. The Christmas Day Communion Service at Kirk Christ would commence at 10am and on the following Sunday, 30th December, a joint Holy Communion service would take place at Kirk Christ commencing at 11am. Another item discussed was the monthly alternative services which in the past

have been moved around the churches. In future they will be held at the parish church at 6.30pm. Claudia König asked if the service was one where a church hall would be more appropriate, such as Café Church, would it still be held at the parish church. The chairman responded by stating that if a service demanded such a venue it would probably be moved. Claudia also asked if the monthly evening communion service would be reinstated at St Mary's Church. The chairman explained that these had been Book of Common Prayer services and that the attendance had been very low and as such there was no intention to reintroduce them.

Social Committee Report

Janice Withey referred to the report that had been circulated prior to the meeting. She explained that James Dale had been invited to attend the last meeting, held on 18th June, so that he could give some input regarding fundraising. The next committee meeting is to take place on 31st July. She then referred to the Strawberry Tea which is being held on 28th July. The chairman asked if this event had been well advertised which yielded a positive response. Janice then referred to the coffee mornings, planned to coincide with 'Rushen Roamers', which did not seem to be very successful, and wondered whether there were any suggestions as to why. There was some discussion regarding this matter which included the possibility of increasing the number of coffee mornings each month so that they became a regular feature. It was decided that a trial run would be held from September, with fortnightly coffee mornings being held at St Catherine's Church Hall. Claudia König asked if there was an advertising coordinator who was in charge of overseeing that all of our events are advertised in as many outlets as possible. The chairman responded by asking Claudia if she knew of any places where we don't advertise, and that if she did could she feed the information to the social committee. He also suggested that we compile a list of all advertisers, so that whenever an event takes place we use every avenue we can to advertise it.

Mission and Outreach Committee Report

5. Jennifer Stewart presented the report which had been circulated prior to the meeting. The committee reviewed the purpose of the group and referred to five aims to foster the building of relationships between the church and the community. These were: 'To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom to non-believers; to teach and nurture all believers; to respond to human need by loving service; to seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and to pursue peace and reconciliation; and to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew life of the earth. This was followed by discussing the plans and implementation of previous PCC proposals by looking at ongoing activities and recent events. The committee discussed the previously proposed farm service and carol singing at Christmas time. Finally, other ideas were analysed such as a parish Alpha course, a 'Care for the Family' presentation, the development of listening skills to be able to listen to God, and to one another to support our faith journeys. Conversation then centred on the future of the committee and possible items for discussion. The chairman was grateful to the committee for its full and interesting discussion and stated that it would be impossible to undertake everything suggested at the same time but perhaps two or three could be considered as a starting point.

Building Committee

David Ali reported that the roof work at St Mary's had now been completed. He referred to the work at St Peter's which included repair to the guttering which should now prevent any dampness to the inside wall. He stated that a damp meter was to be purchased which would be helpful in ascertaining damp problems in all four churches and the two halls. Gerald Callister referred to the problem of the trip switch at Kirk Christ which keeps tripping. The electrician had been called to look at this and it was now hopeful that the matter has been resolved. There followed some discussion as to why this problem had occurred. Gerald then referred to the breeze boards around St Catherine's Church which need to be repainted. It was suggested that Chris Barnes be asked to undertake this work. There followed a discussion with regard to Kirk Christ organ. Michael Porter explained that half of the work required had been undertaken and that further work has still to be done. Referring back to the work required to the breeze boards Gerald Callister asked if this work could be undertaken. A discussion regarding the cost suggested that the work would cost no more than £200. Claudia König raised the painting of the railings at St Mary's which need to be undertaken and David Bowman raised a concern with regard to the gate latch at the Cronk Road entrance to St Mary's which is sharp and needs attention. Peter Hayhurst stated that he would have a look at it. The chairman suggested that the work

required to the breeze boards and the railings at St Mary's Church be undertaken. It was suggested that Christopher Barnes be asked to do the work required.

6. Report from Churchwardens':

Peter Hayhurst referred to his report that had been circulated prior to the meeting. It highlighted an overview of the parish as a whole and the services and activities which take place within it over a three-month period. The chairman felt that this had been a useful exercise. The chairman then stated that he had omitted to add a 'Synod Report' on to the agenda and gave a brief report of the recent meeting. In it he explained that the archdeacon had given a detailed diocesan financial report. The highlights were that 10 out of the 15 parishes were paying their parish share, four of the remainder were not paying theirs in full, and one, nothing at all. Another point raised was that Manx law had been different from English law in connection with weddings and that in future the two were to become similar, thus making it easier for people to get married in the church of their choice. Finally, the chairman referred to a pie chart of the diocesan finances which is to be produced for all to see. These would be pinned on to church notice boards.

7. Fundraising Opportunities:

The chairman explained that there were two matters to be raised. One of these was the soiree which is to be held at Kirk Christ on Friday 7th September. Those attending will be expected to wear smart casual clothes. It commences at 7.30pm and attendees will be served canapes and wine. Tickets are to cost £10. The event will be advertised across the island. The evening will include musical numbers sung by well-known island performers, and Gareth Moore will be the organist. There will be a raffle with three good prizes. Publicity will be island wide and advertised on the radio. Gifts will be purchased for the performers who will be presenting their acts for free. It was suggested that a photo album be compiled of the event so that it can be part of a portfolio of all church activities. The second item discussed was regarded as confidential and is minuted separately.

8. Kirk Christ Organ – Grant Award:

The chairman stated that he had applied to Culture Vannin for a grant as the organ was being renovated. It kindly granted the PCC £1,000 towards the project. The total cost is likely to amount to £5,000.

9. Liz Hull's Ordination:

The chairman stated that this is taking place on 29th September. He has asked Liz if she would like to come and meet the congregations prior to this. He also suggested that the PCC might like to fund the cost of a coach so that people could travel en masse to the event. Discussion followed which resulted in an opinion that the use of cars for lifts would be a better option. Sign-up sheets at the back of churches for those wishing a lift will be arranged.

10. Correspondence:

There was no correspondence

11. Any Other Business:

David Bowman informed the PCC that a Christmas tree will be erected in the grounds of St Mary's Church during the festive season. The chairman then referred to nominations for two vacancies to serve as PCC members to represent St Mary's Church. These were from David Inch and Raymond Halford. The PCC was asked for its approval that these two serve for the next three years. There was unanimous approval.

12. Confidentiality:

There was one item of confidentiality.

The meeting closed with a prayer at 8.50pm

Signed: _____

Rev. Joe Heaton
4th September 2018