

Minutes of St Sampson's PCC meeting held 22nd January 2015 at 8pm

Present: Rev'd P Bradley, K Bell, V Gilks, A Grace, A Ramage, M Smith, S Smith, J Valpy, P Fray

Apologies: R Saunders, B Blyth, N Dye

PB welcomed everyone to the meeting and began with a Bible reading and prayers.

Minutes from 17.11.14 were amended as follows:

Under Chairman's Report please delete "A more traditional service would be held at 10am which hopefully would encourage those who have stopped coming to attend," and replace with, "A more traditional service would be held at 10am on the first 3 Sundays of the month which hopefully would encourage those who have stopped coming to attend. The 4th Sunday will remain as Informal Worship."

The amended minutes were approved and signed.

1. Arising

Screen and projector have been installed, now awaiting extending handle before they can be used.

AG to contact registrar regarding the faculty.

Cherubs - draft DAC proposal is with PB. AG to revise supporting statement.

Clock - AG waiting for photos of clock for DAC to approve.

Actions - AG, as above

2. Chair's report - report received by all

Points 1-8 on PB's report are being looked at by the Leadership Team. They will assess possible ways forward, priorities, financial implications etc and present to PCC. Aiming for presentation to wider congregation at April's APCM. **Action - PB**

Following requests, a monthly 6.30pm informal worship is being trialled in Feb and March in the Jenner Hall. Aimed at youth and adults.

3. Leadership Team update - report received by all

Leadership Team are continuing to consider many points around the church vision, 'Creating opportunities for everyone to experience God's love' (see attached report). PCC members also invited to share thoughts/insights with PB via email. **Action - PCC Members.**

Suggestion has come from a member of the congregation to host a Christmas Day lunch for those on their own. Also suggested that Sunday afternoon 'drop-in' times could be explored again - Waitrose/local businesses may well offer financial support.

4. Finance update

The current balance in the main account is healthy, but bills are still coming in. AG proposed that approx £200 to cover Alpha costs comes out of discretionary fund. PB seconded, all approved. Some unauthorised deductions had been noted on bank statements but have now been reimbursed by Lloyd's bank and BT. PB thanked AG for her hard work managing the finances.

5. Church teams update

MS and PB met to discuss. PB is supportive of work done so far, but now need to progress and recruit for the teams where necessary. The same number of teams will remain. PB to drive forward between now and APCM and will then meet with teams to discuss next steps.

Action - PB

6. Choir update - report received by all

Sarah Townsend is stepping down as music director and Tim Eyles (music director at Christchurch, Swindon) will take her place. He is already involved with St Sampson's choir and will continue to work with them to develop their skills further. PB and Tim are aware that, at times, choir need hymns earlier in order to have time to learn. Sarah will still play the organ on 1st and 3rd Sundays. Tim will be new point of contact for music at weddings. All other systems for organising music, hymns etc remain in place.

Action - PB formal thank you to Sarah

Action - MS inform Sarah Smith about necessary updates for wedding pack

7. Youth and children's update

These groups now meet at the 4pm Informal Worship in the school. 14 families were represented at the first service - groups are growing. Graham Otter has volunteered to help lead Vibe. Several adults have volunteered to assist with S Club in a 'helper' role, but another person to lead is needed.

8. Safeguarding

DBS checks are in process for Matt and Sarah Smith, Graham and Becky Otter. Checks for Bruce Valpy and Debbie Bradley are now complete.

PB, AG and PF met to carry out audit of safeguarding at St Sampson's. Generally OK, but some systems need reviewing/tightening. PB will send further info out to PCC next week. Aim is to harmonise safeguarding procedures across Upper Thames Group.

Action - PB, AG, PF

9. Upper Thames Group Council update - report received by all

No questions.

10. Jenner Hall update - report received by all

No questions.

11. Deanery Synod update

No meeting since last PCC. Next meeting in March, PB and KB to attend.

12. Correspondence

None

13. Date of next meeting

Thursday 19th March 2015

APCM 26th April 2015

Meeting ended at 8:55pm