

Minutes of St Sampson's PCC meeting held 20th July 2015 at 8pm

Present: Rev'd P Bradley, K Bell, A Grace, A Ramage, S Smith, J Valpy, P Fray, R Saunders, N Dye

Apologies: B Blyth, M Smith, Rev'd S Danby

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

1. Minutes from 19.3.15 and 26.4.15 (post APCM meeting) were approved and signed.

2. Arising

Cherubs have been restored and are now in place in church. Thanks to all who were involved in this process. The application for the removal of the clock is in progress.

PB noted ND's suggestion to involve someone from the community in PCC activities - continue to keep this in the minutes for future action.

Thanks for all involved in hosting the Archdeacon's Visitation - a good occasion.

9 feedback forms from Awayday with lots of positives. 21st May 2016 will be next Awayday.

3. Chair's report

All had read PB's reflections - encouraging and exciting. PB will produce prayer points as part of raising prayer awareness across our church community. Possible ideas from Anthony Fletcher about a prayer course, prayer tips during services - a good way to share personal experiences of prayer.

4. Deanery Synod update

The new Diocesan Strategy will be launched in September and PB will bring more info to PCC at future meetings. Next Deanery Synod is 16th September. We have 2 vacancies for Deanery Synod reps - please consider who might be interested from our congregations. **Action - all**

Within the context of building up school links and extending them (Diocesan Strategy) St Sampson's is planning to set up a Youth Cafe for Yr 7s in September. It will be in the Jenner Hall on Tuesday afternoons, 4-6pm and will be manned by volunteers - several people have offered already. Wiltshire Council are currently running a similar cafe at The Barista, but for an older age group. The church one may expand in time. PB has invited The United Church to take part too.

5. Leadership Team

PB presented a description of our church following discussions at Leadership Team meeting:

'that we grow in faith as disciples through sharing our faith with others, and are repaired and re-energised through our worship'

PB had used a similar description when preaching at the previous Sunday's service. What do the PCC think about such a description? We recognised that it is important for the congregation to be repaired/re-energised etc in order to be able to go *out* - could be seen as scary, we are not all evangelists. Important to recognise our different gifts, we can share faith by being ourselves and being willing to talk if someone asks us. Can we find ways to involve people from outside our

regular congregation - people can belong before they believe (eg. new people at the BBQ on St Sampson's Day).

A big thank you to Adina and everyone who made the BBQ such a successful event.

6. Finance update

Main acc £32,342

No.2 acc £16,719 (£3,000 discretionary fund, rest organ restoration)

Fabric acc £23,169

Overall, finances are healthy. We prayed about finances and are seeing results!

Half of pledge has been paid, 19K still to pay. **Action - AG**

£800 to pay for our share of cost on cherub restoration. **Action - AG**

PB still to claim expenses. **Action - PB**

BBQ and Awayday were both non-profit events, but actually made nearly £100 on each.

Suggestion of an 'events' folder with pro-forma for organisers to fill in - will help future organisers.

AG proposed buying 4 new cupboards for choir vestry. 1 will be for crockery, the others will replace old choir cupboards. (£150 per cupboard, but BOGOF.) There is money left from quiz night. KB seconded, all approved. **Action - AG**

PB will become another signature on Christian Aid account.

7. Church Teams

Still in progress. PB commented that the tasks around hospitality events may need sharing out more.

8. Choir update

2 members are taking their bronze award and 2 silver. Heading for one of the best 'medalled' choirs in the Diocese. The choir would like more members.

Organ restoration - 3 promises of grants:

£5000 from Church Care

£1650 from Town Council

£1500 from Red Lion

£8150 now approved and money is in the account.

AG to put together a faculty that covers everything inc.net covering to prevent bat mess and work to choir stalls. **Action - AG**

PB proposed to accept Clevedon quote for organ restoration, JV seconded, all in favour.

We will advertise that the church will be closed during restoration period, 6-8 weeks work expected. Sarah Townsend and choir to discuss further and bring back issues to PCC.

9. Youth and children's update

All fine

10. Safeguarding

Some have completed online training, others still to do.

Becky Otter, Michael Potter and Yvonne Edmunds have all had DBS clearance. Yvonne is a second DBS recruiter.

11. Group Council

No minutes from previous meeting as yet. All agreed to continue giving to Kigezi water and sanitation project in Uganda, Harvest collection will be donated. There may be another Diocesan trip to Uganda in 2017.

St Sampson's needs to provide another rep to join Group Council.

12. Jenner Hall update

All well. Chair, Vice Chair and Treasurer all re-appointed.

13. Events

PB to run 10K in October for Christian Aid, others will cover morning services.

Henry Olonga visit on 20/10/15. All agreed for PB to use discretionary fund to cover refreshments, PB to co-ordinate adverts etc. **Action - PB**

Suggestion on trips up the tower on Harvest Sunday. AG to put in Chronicle. **Action - AG**
Barn Dance event? **Action - PB**

All agreed to keep St Sampson's Carol Service on the Sunday, but move it to 6pm to avoid direct clash with Town Band carol concert. Perhaps Band may move theirs half hour later? **Action - SS**

Possibility of a Quiet Morning during Advent, run by Phil and Shirley.

14. No Correspondence

15. AOB

PB proposed that the PCC give consent for existing LLMs to continue to be licensed to St Sampson's - Pam Cowler (PTO), David Tarr (PTO), Michael Potter, Katy Bell, Peter Tuck and Suzi Tipper. (PTO - Permission to Officiate, given after an LLM has retired)

PB proposed, RS seconded, all approved.

16. Date of next meeting

Monday 21st September 2015, 8pm