

## Minutes of St Sampson's PCC meeting held 6th March 2017 at 8pm

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

Apologies: R Saunders

PB welcomed everyone and began by expressing his thanks to Paul, Sharon and Nick for their time serving on the PCC. This is the last meeting before the APCM and the forming of the new PCC.

PB led a prayer and time of quiet.

1. Minutes from 23.1.17 had been approved by email. Signed at the meeting by PB and displayed in church and on website.

2. Matters arising - everything covered under agenda items.

3. Statistics for Mission

AG reported that she has completed the Diocesan annual questionnaire regarding church attendance.

Jan - Dec 2016

- an average of 84 adults and 23 children regularly attend weekly Sunday services (15 children in 2015)
- numbers in our congregations at major festivals remain similar to 2015
- 14 adults and 14 children have joined our church in 2016

These figures are obviously encouraging and show numbers have increased overall.

The Electoral Roll is currently being updated.

PB expressed his thanks to AG for completing the questionnaire and the job will be handed over to the new wardens for next year.

4. Finance

AG circulated the annual financial report, now audited. AG proposed that the accounts be approved by the PCC as a valid record of financial activity for 2016, PF seconded, all approved. Accounts will be presented at APCM.

Current account:	General purposes fund	£897
	Fabric money	£18,306
	Total	£19,203

No.2 account:	Vicar's discretionary fund	£2,894
	Organ fund	£6,005
	Total	£8,899

February income and expenditure (previously circulated) - AG clarified that £1050 is for oil for the heating. Parochial fees - these come out of fees that are charged for weddings and funerals. A portion is sent to the Diocese to cover clergy expenses.

Gift Aid will now be claimed quarterly instead of annually.

The PCC recognised that fabric money is ringfenced and therefore we have an ongoing deficit of approx £3,000 per month with our everyday running costs (general purposes money). PB has announced this to congregations at services and we are all asked to prayerfully consider our giving.

There is no collection plate at the 4pm service because PB is keen to encourage the congregation to give regularly by standing order. This makes our income more reliable and also increases a spirit of working together to look our church. It also does not put visitors under pressure to give.

The PCC discussed ways in which we (both PCC and wider congregation) could gain more understanding of the financial responsibility of running our church.

All agreed that more information, inc. breakdown of regular costs etc, presented in different ways (pictorially, figures, words) could be shared in a leaflet, with members on electoral roll and perhaps during an evening of questions and answers.

PB is keen to increase our vision for giving, so that we have money to pay for essential everyday costs and some surplus to prayerfully spend/give. It was recognised that we are not a profligate church.

AG and PB to send ND info on finances. ND to create doc/leaflet to circulate to PCC for comment, ultimately to issue to wider congregation. **Action - AG/PB/ND**

Finance evening to be held, most likely end April, early May.

#### 5. Buildings - change of architect

Michael Bartosch is retiring and it makes absolute sense to formally change our architect to David Arnold, of the Bartosch Arnold Partnership. The Diocese have indicated that we need to go through a costly formal tendering and interview process. Not sensible! AG and PB to further discussions with relevant people at Diocese and in Deanery to reach a reasonable outcome. **Action - AG/PB**

#### 6. Leadership Team

No meeting since last PCC. PB to arrange a meeting for March. **Action - PB**

#### 7. Deanery Synod

No meeting since last PCC. KB and AG to attend this week's meeting.

#### 8. Church Teams

Communications team - Facebook page is live. Protocol needs putting in place. Kathryn Reed checks the page everyday and is currently the only one to be able to put things on it.

#### 9. Choir (update circulated at meeting)

It was questioned whether we need a separate agenda item for Choir.

#### 10. Youth and Children's

Simon Phillips is leading Youth Alpha at the Vicarage on Monday nights - 7 attended the first session. PB has received an application for a SWYM youth worker.

#### 11. Safeguarding

Safeguarding action plans have come back from the Diocese. PB and AG to progress. **Action - PB/AG**  
Sharon Smith, Pauline Loveday, Simon Phillips and Liz Hughes have all completed DBS checks.  
4 more people in process.

#### 12. Upper Thames Group Council

This group has probably run its course and may no longer meet. MS to send terms of ref to PB.  
**Action - MS**

#### 13. Jenner Hall

AGM on Wednesday

#### 14. Events

Away Day will be 20th May. PB suggests Latton walk, picnic, games for all UTG and will advertise.

#### **Action - PB**

Maundy Thursday service 13/4/17, 7.30 at United Church

Good Friday 10am service at St Sampson's followed at 11am by Walk of Witness

Quiz - 29th April at school, 7 for 7.30, SS to organise food. **Action - SS17**. Date of next meeting

APCM - Sunday 2nd April 2017, 11.30 in the Jenner Hall followed by meeting of newly formed PCC