

Minutes of St Sampson's PCC meeting held 17th May 2017 at 8pm

Present: Rev'd P Bradley, R Evans, K Bell, A Grace, M Smith, A Ramage, A Bradbury, L Dodd, G Otter, R Masters, J Valpy
Apologies: None

Darren Rhys was elected as Churchwarden at the APCM, but has subsequently felt unable to commit to the role for personal reasons. Therefore we will continue with one Churchwarden for the foreseeable future and consider other options"

PB welcomed everyone and began with a Bible reading (Acts 2:42-47), quiet time and prayer.

1. Minutes from 6.3.17 and 2.4.17 were approved and signed.

2. Matters arising

No matters arising from 2.4.17.

2 matters arising from 6.3.17:

PB explained that the Upper Thames Group Council has disbanded as it is not needed at the moment. Can reform as the need arises.

ND has created a set of powerpoint slides presenting info on church finances (as requested at last meeting).

PB and AG to discuss further and plan next steps. **Action - PB, AG**

3. Chair's report (previously circulated)

The church's vision is still to be developed further along with a plan for implementing it. PB feels main focus at this time should be to build ourselves up, creating a church community which is strong together and with firm foundations, before reaching out in big ways. All were in agreement.

The Cricklade Town Festival Cttee have offered us the opportunity to have a 'presence' on the High St. PCC discussed this and recognised it will take planning and time, can be hard work to generate meaningful conversations, would be good to have more specific things to benefit community (eg. parenting course). The church building offers peace and quiet on festival day. It is good to remind Cricklade people that church is there and will work towards doing something on festival day in the future. Discuss again on January agenda. AG to contact Angela Jensen. **Action - AG**

4. Finance

Main Account	£27,799 of which	£9,319	General Purposes
		£18,480	Fabric Fund
No. 2 Account	£8,642 of which	£2,994	Vicar's Discretionary Fund
		£4,440	Organ Fund
		£1,158	Roof Fund
		£50	Youth Worker

Currently £9,000 in credit this month. Gift Aid of £5852 has been received and congregation has generously increased giving. Gift Aid to be claimed back quarterly instead of annually and will therefore give truer indication of income. Overall, money is still tight and need regular giving to increase further - at least £1000. Standing Order is preferred method for giving, rather than envelopes because income remains more consistent and is therefore easier to plan.

Fabric Fund will soon be moved into a new ring fenced account and Discretionary Fund will move to General Purposes, with an addendum.

The amount given in Pledge to the Diocese is decided by the PCC. This will be reviewed in July. Diocese themselves are also running very low and have make many cutbacks as a result.

Diocese have produced new material on 'Giving' and 'Finance' and AG will attend training evening on this in June.

PCC still aims to present finance info to wider congregation, but this is still being planned. Not right to add it into the newsletter at the moment.

All expenses need to be looked at to see what we can continue to afford. Choir costs of £200 a month (organist and Time Eyles' fees) are one example. Could they become self-funding? PB to discuss with them. **Action - PB**

Also, heating and lighting - these costs were reviewed last year and remain in place. It is essential to fill up oil tank 4 times a year, but now moving into warmer season, so possibly cheaper for a while.

6 lights need mending in church, but is this essential, especially in light of the fact that we may do significant re-ordering in future. PB requested a detailed proposal and quotes to assess need and cost implications. PB and RE to discuss with John Hickman. **Action - PB, RE**

5. Church Building Regeneration

Our church building needs a lot of work - roof, pews, floor - to address issues with leaks, dry rot and death watch beetle. Quinquennial inspection due in December and this detailed assessment will help us work out priorities. PB feels we should start to consider what we need to make our church living, missional community. Prayer meeting in June to begin this and then work towards a 'Statement of Need' which really captures people's attention. Some money has already been given towards cost of building work.

6. Buildings - change of architect

The PCC discussed whether or not to continue with David Arnold as the architect for any current and future work to the church building.

The following points were raised:

- to change architect would mean a costly tender process
- the end result could be to appoint the same architect again
- David Arnold have vast experience in church buildings, including re-ordering of other local churches
- They were the architects for the re-ordering and kitchen fitting in the south aisle and were very good to work with

As a result, the PCC voted unanimously to continue with David Arnold as our architect. AG will confirm this with the Diocese. **Action - AG**

Visits to other local churches who have gone through a re-ordering process will take place at the appropriate time.

7. Leadership Team

PB intends to ask the Leadership Team to now become part of a larger group who kick off the church building regeneration work and begin to consider a Statement of Need.

8. Deanery Synod

The last meeting was on finance. Minutes to be circulated. **Action - KB**

9. Communications Team

No meeting since last PCC. JV to include Sharon Smith as comms contact when requesting agenda items in future. **Action - JV**

10. Together we are Stronger

The purpose of this group is to reach out into the community and make connections. 2 coffee mornings have taken place and been successful. The group is also organising a Christmas Tree festival for 2017 with local groups decorating trees on a given theme.

11. Youth and Children's

We have a trainee youth worker starting with Upper Thames Group in September - her name is Hannah. She will lodge with Ruth and Jon Evans. There are no cost implications at present. Donations towards this work have been received and could set up a support fund if needed. Hannah is a trainee and is likely to spend much of her first few months learning, rather than doing.

Youth Alpha is going well with 8 attendees.

12. Safeguarding

PB and AG to attend safeguarding evening with the Diocese in June.

13. Jenner Hall

No issues, various minor repairs currently.

14. Events

St Sampson's Day BBQ - 16th July. AG to plan catering. Action - AG

15. Next meeting Wednesday 5th July, 8pm, Red Lion.