



The Parish of Medstead and Four Marks

Minutes of a PCC Meeting

**Tuesday 30th April 2024, 6.45pm
at the Church of the Good Shepherd**

Present: Andrew Micklefield (Area Dean and Chair), David Duffin, Andy Walters, Debby Barnes, Peter George-Jones, Tracey George-Jones, Jeremy Griggs, Jackie Jurd, John Lofthouse, Frank Maloney, Pam Maloney, Ian Trotter, Jill Williams, David Williams

1. Welcome and Apologies

Andrew Micklefield welcomed everyone to the historic first PCC of the new Parish of Medstead and Four Marks.

Apologies were received from Jane Hughes, Timothy James, Claire MacPherson, Bob Meekums, Howard Wright.

2. Bible Reading and Opening Prayer

Andrew read from 1 Peter 1: 13ff – Hope in Jesus, expressed in love, for the sake of the Church and the World. He led us in prayer.

3. Update on Howard Wright's absence and Sunday, and other provision

Following Howard's sporting accident resulting in a fracture around his hip, he has been advised to rest completely for 6 weeks, and then gradually to ease himself back over a similar period into Parish responsibilities. PCC recorded its desire to reassure Howard of our prayers and concern for a full and successful recovery after the necessary convalescence.

There is also the matter of his Sabbatical, which was cut short immediately at the start of the pandemic four years ago, which he surely deserves, and which must not be overlooked in haste to be 'getting parish things done'.

Meanwhile, a rota for cover of services until end of June is almost complete, with always someone able to preside at communion at each church.

4. PCC – Meeting of 30th April 2023

The following responsibilities relating to the new PCC were reviewed:

a. Vice Chair

- David Duffin has agreed to act as Vice Chair – **agreed nem con**

b. Secretary

- David Williams has agreed to act as PCC Secretary – **agreed nem con**

c. Treasurer

- Claire MacPherson has agreed to continue in this role as a co-opted member of PCC. She will continue to be assisted with routine book-keeping by Tori Hewitt,

who also fills this role for Parish of the Resurrection, Alton and is familiar with our general systems. – **Agreed** *nem con*

d. Electoral Roll Officer

- Frank Maloney has agreed to act as Electoral Roll Officer– **agreed** *nem con*

e. Independent Examiner

- PCC agreed to defer a decision. A suitable person is to be found by the end of the current financial year who can take this role.

The intention had been to allocate terms of one, two or three years by lot to elected PCC members to create a rotation of future elections. However, since we are only at the beginning of our journey together as a single parish, taken from a suggestion from a PCC member, it was agreed to postpone such an arrangement for at least a year while we learn how to work together.

Following the SPCM of 16th April, there remains a single vacancy among the nine elected PCC members. This is a casual vacancy and can be filled by the PCC when it can. It was agreed that we could, if appropriate, co-opt another person. Such a member would not be a Trustee unless and until they were to be formally elected.

5. Questions and Other Business

Peter George-Jones asked about the process of establishing governance of the new Parish:

- Finance policy, spending limits etc.
- Establishing local teams responsible for buildings and equipment, local church committees leading on community engagement, etc.

Andrew offered material as examples of suitable policy, based on the experience of Parish of the Resurrection through several parish mergers.

Wardens were asked to convene meetings as necessary and report back with a draft document to the next PCC (currently slated for Tuesday 28th May 2024). Peter has offered to be part of the process.

Ian Trotter asked about emails, still being exchanged under the old separate parish addresses. David Williams advised that Matt Senior is actively working on the matter. It is proving difficult to discover the precise method for transitioning to new addresses through Google without losing historical correspondence.

6. Closing Prayer

Andrew closed the meeting with prayer at 7.40pm.