



## Minutes of Parochial Church Council Meeting

**Monday January 24<sup>th</sup> 2022 - 7pm at Rothley Parish Church**

### **Present:**

Revd. Rob Gladstone,(chair) David Wilson, Sue Wilson, Wendy Ferguson, Ray Prince, David Hodgson, Fred Sleath, Margaret Rouse, Alison Parkinson, Linda Poole, Alison Godfrey, Wendy Lewis, Liz Barker, Susan Pinkus (secretary)

### **1. Opening Prayers/Reading**

Rob read from Malachi Chapter 4, reminding us that we are God's 'treasured possessions' and must live by faith in him.

### **2. Declarations of Interest: None**

**Apologies:** Margaret Leverment, Jonty Pilbeam, Chris Garnett, Jenny Pilbeam,

**Accuracy/Approval of minutes from 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2021:**

Agreed as an accurate record.

**Matters arising:** None. All actions completed.

### **3. Finance**

The PCC were presented with the provisional accounts for 2021 and, with recent additions, we have ended the year with a small surplus due to a surge in end of year donations.

There is £198,000 of the legacy money still available and it was proposed we pick up the Church building project which has been on hold due to the pandemic.

<b>Action:</b> Churchwardens to establish exactly where we are in this project and liaise with Mike Ferguson re the up-to-date paperwork.
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In response to a question, Sue explained that the overspend on telephone and broadband accounts was due to increases in the cost of the contracts, rather than usage. BT has publicly announced price rises of 9% in 2022.

At the March meeting, the PCC will be asked to agree the sign off of the accounts.

### **4. Send**

The main tithe for 2022 proposed by Send was agreed.

The proposed Discretionary Tithe allocations were agreed.

The PCC expressed huge thanks to Ros Taylor for her many years of work on this group, most recently as chair.

#### **5. Operations (including Health and Safety)**

Linda Poole drew attention to the need to replace the oven in OSR and is in the process of obtaining quotes/prices for its replacement.

Ray Prince reported that the church gutters, fire alarms and emergency lighting had all been checked in January.

Charnwood Borough Council have finished work on the lime tree in the churchyard.

The planning application for the removal of the boiler House has been submitted and a response is anticipated in three to four months.

#### **6. Discipleship**

The group would be meeting the following week .

#### **7. Safeguarding**

All up to date.

#### **8. Service Pattern**

The PCC agreed that the pattern of services during the Christmas period had been very successful, especially as those shielding or worried about the surge in COVID numbers were able to access the services online.

300 people watched the two Carol services online. The Christmas Eve outdoor service at 4pm was very successful and the best-attended of all services. The PCC discussed making this slot a permanent fixture in the future as there does seem to be a demand for it in the local community.

The PCC split into small groups to share feedback and Rob addressed questions and comments afterwards. It was felt that efforts to use a variety of service styles/patterns had been relatively successful, despite the challenges of the pandemic, and we were very grateful and appreciative of the musical input at all services. The May PCC meeting will include a further review of service patterns.

#### **9. Shaped By God Together/Addressing one of the three Diocesan Vision Statements**

We discussed our strengths and weaknesses and how we could benefit from partnerships, as well as what we had to offer to other churches. It was felt that our strengths were:

- We have largely maintained congregation numbers despite the pandemic. This is due in part to the fact that the ministry team maintained online services every week even when the church building was closed.
- Introduction of the Fellowship Post and the Young Families WhatsApp group has been an added bonus of the pandemic.

●Our connection with Rothley Primary School Academy has largely been maintained and is beginning to grow again.

The main area of weakness is our youth work, but, sadly, numbers seem to be dwindling in all churches.

### **10. Vicar's Report**

We are very pleased with the outcome of the Ofsted Inspection at the school, which happened at the end of the Autumn Term in the middle of a surge in COVID infection and with half a day's notice.

We were anticipating a Section 5 Inspection which would have possibly moved the school from 'Good' to 'Outstanding'. The Section 3 inspection which did take place was only able to agree that the 'Good' rating should be maintained, as it does not include the authority to raise it.

The report stated:

*'Rothley Church of England Primary School continues to be a good school. There is enough evidence of improved performance to suggest that the school could be judged outstanding if the inspector were to carry out a section 5 inspection now. The school's next inspection will be a section 5 inspection.'*

The PCC noted that Sasha Baird had applied to become a Foundation Governor [appointment since confirmed]; there remains one vacancy.

It is hoped that the PCC can undertake a course on evangelism from the CPAS PCC Tonight series. It was suggested that the PCC should attend an away day in the Summer Term to complete part of this course to help sharpen our thinking on evangelism as distinct from church activity in the community.

Rob also informed the PCC of forthcoming arrangements for Baptisms and Confirmation Services.

### **11. Arrangements for APCM**

The APCM will take place at 11am on 3<sup>rd</sup> April.

Fred Sleath and Margaret Rouse have agreed to stand for election as Churchwardens for another year.

Susan Pinkus has completed six years on the PCC plus one year as a co-opted member and must therefore stand down from the PCC in April. She has agreed to continue as Secretary however.

The meeting ended with thanks and prayers at 8.40pm.

### **NEXT MEETINGS:**

**PCC MEETING MONDAY 7<sup>th</sup> March - venue Rothley Primary School Academy**

Please note, reports for the PCC meeting must be sent to Susan Pinkus by **SUNDAY 20th February** in order to assist the Business Committee in preparing the PCC agenda at their meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> February.

**BUSINESS COMMITTEE WEDNESDAY 23rd February 7pm: 56 Grangefields Drive.**

*SusanPinkus February 6<sup>th</sup> 2022*