



Minutes of Parochial Church Council Meeting

Monday July 3rd 2023 – 7.15 pm at Rothley Primary School Academy

Present:

Rob Gladstone (chair), Margaret Rouse, David Wilson, Sue Wilson, Wendy Lewis, Susie Clark, Linda Poole, Ray Prince, Fred Sleath, Nigel Willey, Margaret Leverment, Susan Pinkus (secretary)

1. Opening Prayers/Reading

Rob read from Philippians.

2. Declarations of Interest: None

Apologies: Alison Parkinson, Chris Garnett, Liz Barker, Wendy Ferguson, David Hodgson

Accuracy and approval of minutes from PCC May 22nd 2023 All agreed

Matters Arising: *Summer Picnics and Prayer Walks*

Susie Clark brought the PCC up to speed on the plans for 3 summer picnics in the village as part of our evangelism. They will be held on convenient green spaces on 3 of our large housing estates: July 30th on the Charles Church Estate near the school; August 13th on the William Davis Estate on Sheppard Way/Barwell Drive; 10th September on the Charles Church Estate off West Cross Lane. Leaflets are currently being designed to give out at Church and around the village. Susie's next planning meeting is July 5th and the plans will be presented to the congregation in Church on July 9th. Events to be posted on Fellowship Post and Facebook group.

3. Evangelism

Rob had asked that the PCC did some preparatory reading from a CPAS resource 'How to Nurture a Faith-Sharing Culture'. We split into small groups to discuss Practice 1 of this resource, Engage with God.

We re-grouped and shared ideas. Three themes were apparent: authenticity, modelling and encouragement.

4. Service Pattern

We discussed the current service pattern and whether changes needed to be made for the Autumn and beyond. Our 9.30am and 11am services are popular, growing and flourishing.

Rob proposed a pattern for September to December which would keep our Choral Evensong on the second Sunday, but the 4th Sunday would be set aside for prayer, both of these at 6pm. The planned service pattern will be communicated through Fellowship Post and highlighted weekly on Facebook.

5. Finance

We have recently received a donation of £100 from Rothley Park Cricket Club, one of their charitable donations from the proceeds of Party in the Park 2022. They would like this donation to be designated for the repair of the organ.

The PCC **agreed** that this money would be designated to the Organ and Music Fund.

6. Operations

Reports were circulated prior to the meeting.

Linda presented plans for the conversion of the roof space above the office into an area suitable for the storage of rarely-used items from the church. She had received a quote for £1030, but wanted to add a loft ladder to ensure easy and safe access. The expected total cost would not exceed £1,500.

Following discussion, it was **agreed** that this should go ahead, with money to be taken from legacies.

Linda then put forward plans for the installation of a static projector, screen and speakers in the Old School Rooms. She had received a quote of £5000, with a second being sought.

The PCC **agreed** and it was also agreed that the cost would be taken from legacies.

Ray Prince reported:

The clock is working.

The boiler house removal would be being signed off the following week.

We are still waiting for the Faculty for the repair of the stained-glass windows.

We are still monitoring woodworm in one pew.

Fire alarm and emergency lighting checks have taken place.

Charnwood Borough Council has agreed to repair the damage to the churchyard north boundary wall at no cost to us. We discussed the possibility of allowing part of the churchyard to become a wild grass area.

All agreed to a wild grass area, suitably managed and monitored.

The box hedge on the Garden of Remembrance needs attention. Ray has contacted the Council, and this will be attended to.

Church Improvements Update

Fred reported that, together with Ray Prince and Ken Arkley, he had met with the structural engineer re plans for excavation holes on site.

The PCC approved the siting of the investigation holes, as shown on the drawing presented at the meeting. These are trial pits to assess the quality of the foundations. The PCC **agreed** a quote of £320 +VAT (VAT might be recoverable). The eventual cost of digging is expected to be £2000-£2500.

All Agreed.

Opening Church Summer 23

Following discussion, it was **agreed** that we should open the church on weekdays until 3pm, with the proviso that if there is any damage or theft we would close and/or review.

6b. Health and Safety

The PCC **agreed** the appointment of Mark Davies as Health and Safety Officer. Fred Sleath will be meeting with Mark and there are plans to liaise with Clive Jackson for the formal handover of responsibility.

7. Working Groups

None have met since our last meeting.

8. Safeguarding

Just a reminder to PCC that it is a legal requirement that you have completed your safeguarding training so, for those members whose training is still outstanding, please complete as soon as possible.

9. Vicar's Report

Rob reported on the success of the CPAS School Venture. Mark Baird and 10 children from Rothley Primary School Academy went on this break in June to have a holiday but also engage with the gospel and learn more about God.

The PCC would like to extend our thanks to Mark Baird for his time and involvement with this opportunity for our local young people.

SBGT: Depending on diocesan capacity, we are expecting an invitation to join with other parishes in the north of the Diocese to discuss the possible creation of Minster Communities.

LLF: Rob has completed his series of talks in church. The House of Bishops are currently still discussing the implementation of changes.

Anglicans in many parts of the world, most notably the Global South, are moving away from recognising the Church of England as the Mother Church of the Anglican Communion and the Archbishop of Canterbury as its leader.

LLF will be discussed further at the General Synod meeting in November.

Meeting closed with prayer at 21.07 pm

NEXT MEETINGS:

Business Committee: Wednesday September 6th 7pm, 56 Grangefields Drive, Rothley

PCC Monday: Monday September 18th, 7.15pm, venue to be announced

*Papers and requests for agenda items/time to Susan Pinkus by **Sunday September 3rd** please.*

SusanPinkus July16th 203