



Minutes of Extraordinary Parochial Church Council Meeting
Sunday October 1st 2023 – 11.am Rothley Parish Church

Present:

PCC: Rob Gladstone (chair), Margaret Rouse, David Wilson, Sue Wilson, Wendy Lewis, Liz Barker, Susie Clark, Linda Poole, Chris Garnett, Wendy Ferguson, Alison Parkinson, Ray Prince, Fred Sleath, Nigel Willey, Susan Pinkus, (secretary), David Hodgson, Margaret Leverment

In attendance: Sneha Ninan, **CBI Group:** Ken Arkley, Clive Jackson, Jonty Pilbeam, Angela Neill

1. Introduction and Welcome

Rob opened the meeting by outlining its purpose. Does the PCC wish to reaffirm our commitment to the CBI project in the face of spiralling costs due to inflation?

2. Updates

Ray Prince gave 3 updates to the meeting.

1:- Drawings have been completed and sent again by the architect. Any further comments or changes please send to Ken Arkley. These drawings have been and are displayed at the back of church.

2:- The DAC met on September 21st to approve the Faculty for the drilling of inspection holes in the choir vestry. The public consultation ends on October 26th. It is expected that work will take place in early November for about 2 days, overseen by the architect, Ray Prince and Ken Arkley. A report on the findings will be sent to Ray Prince.

3:- Clean up in the Choir Vestry. This is going well. Lots of clutter has been removed and it is expected that the final clear out will take place by the end of week beginning October 2nd.

3. Vision

Rob read from Psalm 127 and opened in prayer.

Our vision for the project is to provide a building fit for purpose as a place of worship, a place of heritage and a place to welcome the community.

Wendy Ferguson pointed out that we should make sure we are clear about our vision and our mission on the first two pages of the funding brochure.

4. Legal Compliance

Ken Arkley (CBI) pointed out that many of the changes we are looking at are already legal requirements for most public buildings and could become compulsory for churches sometime in the future. Clive Jackson (CBI) added that some meetings are currently curtailed by the constraints of the building.

5. Phases

Chris Garnett drew attention to the different phases of the proposed project and wondered if there were any which were independent and could be delayed if funding was not sufficient. Ken Arkley pointed out that many of the sections of the proposed development are interdependent. The only independent phase was seen to be the door and porch. After discussion, it was decided that the sensible approach would be to start with the servery and toilets.

Whatever decisions are taken, it was felt that it was very important to keep communication with the congregation going throughout.

6. Proposal from Chair

The original estimate for the project was £250,000 plus VAT. The cost is now estimated at £380,000 inc VAT, some of which may be recoverable through the government's Listed Places of Worship scheme.

From the chair, **Rob Gladstone proposed that the PCC commit to the project in its entirety.**

A secret ballot of PCC members was held. The result of the vote was: 16 for, 1 against, 0 abstentions. **The proposal was, therefore, carried.**

7. Funding brochure

Fred Sleath (PCC) acknowledged that:

1. The photograph on the front of the draft brochure is due to be changed, if possible, to a drone shot. The image used at the moment is just a stock photograph.
2. There are some grammatical errors which will be corrected.
3. The funding target needs to be updated.

Rob asked that the drawings be put on the website.

The funding brochure will be reissued for PCC approval at the next meeting on November 13th 2023.

8. Launch

A launch date for the funding appeal will be agreed at the next PCC meeting.

Fred Sleath closed in prayer.