

**Parochial Church Council
Minutes of meeting held on 12th July 2016**

1. **Welcome and prayers:** Simon Kirby, chairing the meeting, welcomed all and opened the meeting by reading from Ecclesiastes before inviting all to pray.
2. **Attendance:** Carol Austin, Doreen Beevers, Carol Couse, Philip Couse, Anne Game John Hatch, John Hurman, Simon Kirby (Chair), John Russell, Caroline Shaw, Jenny Uff, Charles Williams, **Apologies:**, Kirsty Butler, Maggi Cull, The Revd Julian Francis, Ian French, Pat World
In Attendance: Eve Kirby, as observer
3. **Minutes of the PCC meeting on 17th May 2016: were approved and duly signed.**
4. **Matters arising:**
 - 4.1. Co-option to the PCC – it was proposed and accepted that Susan Booth be co-opted as a PCC member as well as continuing her appointment as PCC Secretary.
 - 4.2. Safeguarding – amended documents relating to the role of Church Warden and that of PCC Member, circulated by Pat World prior to the meeting, were accepted by the meeting. It was noted that these and other safeguarding documents now resided in the Church Office within The Safeguarding Folder.
 - 4.3. Malawi Retiring Collection – although a final figure for the retiring collection is still awaited, after discussion, it was agreed that the PCC should make a gift of £200 to the 50th Anniversary Appeal.
 - 4.4. John James Legacy – it was agreed a third outside bench be purchasing from the J James legacy, the positioning of which should bear in mind the mowing of the grass.
 - 4.5. Eucharistic Assistants – it was reported that Chris Mills is to return to being a EA, along with existing EA's: Marion Clarke, Jane Darnton, David Hill, Caroline Shaw, Neil Sumner, Jenny Uff and Charles Williams.
 - 4.6. Staff Salary Increase – John Russell reported that both St George's employees have been offered a 2% salary increase, in line with last year. This is to be backdated to April.
 - 4.7. Parish weekend – date, venue and leader have now been secured. Caroline Wickens, Methodist Superintendent on the Dudley Circuit, is to lead the weekend away at Elim Conference Centre in West Malvern, 8th / 9th July 2017, at a cost of £95.00 per person. A small sub-group of the Education and Worship Committee are finalising the programme. Suggestions and ideas are welcomed, including how best to offer financial support to **those** who might be in need of it.
 - 4.8. Communication – Parish Office support – after discussion it was agreed that modernisation of all forms of communication is needed. The Standing Committee will be looking into this matter to see how things might be improved, including seeking offers of help from the congregation.
5. **Roof Repair Fund** – Carol Couse reported that the recent application for funding has been successful and that £35,600 has been awarded towards the cost of the repair work. Detail regarding exact work to be undertaken, timescale etc would be clearer after Friday when CC and Jane Darnton attend a meeting with The Listed Places of Worship Roof Repair Section

of the Heritage Lottery Fund. After discussion the following resolution was proposed and accepted:

"The PCC accepts the offer of the grant awarded by The Listed Places of Worship Roof Repair Fund, will seek the necessary Permission to Start from the Heritage Lottery Fund and apply for Faculty to begin the roof repairs."

*Proposed by Jenny Uff
Seconded by Charles Williams
The Resolution accepted unanimously*

The PCC expressed their thanks to Carol Couse and Jane Darnton for all their hard work thus ensuring the success of the grant application.

6. **Lighting Project:** Simon Kirby reported that David Hill is now chairing the group and that progress is being made. The group had met with Gerry Browne, a specialist in church lighting, who has already been very helpful. Given the rapid changes in lighting technology the process to ensue the right solutions are found is likely to be lengthy process, particularly as the group is considering lighting for the church as a performance space as well as worship. In view of the depth and breadth of the project a temporary fix may be necessary.

7. Reports

7.1. Junior Church Report – thanks was expressed to Suganthi Daniel for submitting the report prior to the meeting as it gave members time to read and digest. Discussion of the report included the following:

- Storage space is an ongoing problem and solutions are still being sought. It was agreed that the cupboards in the Whitmore Room be re examined to try to identify space for JC storage as having the equipment in the room is important. Carol Couse agreed to investigate and report back to PCC
- Disappointment was expressed that the summer party had been cancelled.

Thanks was expressed to Kirsty and Heather for their loyal weekly service, and to Suganthi for co-ordinating the work of JC

7.2. Deanery Synod – thanks was expressed to Caroline Shaw for submitting a report of the recent Deanery Synod meeting. After discussion it was agreed that the four deanery representatives take it in turns to report to PCC. It was noted that Ian French was in the process of resigning from Deanery Synod as he was moving away from Birmingham. It was agreed that a new representative be sought from the wider congregation.

7.3. Education & Worship – thanks was expressed to Caroline Shaw for submitting this report prior to the meeting. During discussion it was noted that

- There is a desire to encourage young people to get involved in becoming Servers.
- Jim Brackley involvement during the 10.30 is greatly appreciated. He should be thanked on a forthcoming Pew Sheet.
- The use of the Nave Altar and the scheduling of services seem to be working well. Congratulations to all who are involved in this.

7.4. Treasurer Report – John Russell took the meeting through the most recent print out of the General Account. JR's report and subsequent discussion included the following comments:

- A major car park user may be leaving and this will affect income, although a waiting list exists of people wanting a space.

- Space in the car park will be needed, in due course, for the contractors to work on the roof and this will affect income
- Insurance costs are not yet reflected in the accounts due to the way the payment scheme works.
- Donation for the use of the church appear to be down but JR not sure why so will investigate.
- A recent £1000 bequest from Molly Martineau has been received.

John Russell was thanked for all his work on the accounts.

8. Correspondence: None received

9. Future events:

- *July 3rd/10th /17th Summer Series at 5.30pm – Three Sundays – interviews with three of the congregation on faith and life – followed by shortened Evening Prayer at 6.30pm*
- *July 6th Lunchtime Concert – 1.15pm*
- *July 13th Remembering Srebrenica: Act of Commemoration (Wednesday)*
- *October 9th Harvest Festival*
- *November 18th Calthorpe Edgbaston Village Christmas Lights Switch (Friday)*
- *July 8th / 9th 2017 Parish weekend at Elim Conference Centre West Malvern.*

10. Any Other Business:

11. Date of next meeting Tuesday 20th September 2016 at 7.00pm

11. The Grace: The meeting closed with the Grace.

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