

**Parochial Church Council
Minutes of meeting held on 17th May 2016**

1. **Welcome and prayers:** The Vicar opened the meeting by welcoming Alison Treasure, in attendance for part of the meeting. He then invited all to pray.
2. **Attendance:** The Revd Julian Francis (Chair), Doreen Beevers Carol Couse, Philip Couse, Maggi Cull, Ian French, John Hatch, Justin Pinkess, John Russell, Caroline Shaw, Charles Williams, **Apologies:** Simon Kirby, Anne Game, John Hurman, Jenny Uff, Pat World
In Attendance: Alison Treasure (on placement at St George's)
3. **Minutes of the PCC meeting on 8th March 2016:** were approved and duly signed with the following amendments: Item 4.4. to read: 'giving directions as to how to access the Diocesan accounts and budget.' Item 6.3. to read: 'spawning'
4. **Matters arising:**
 - 4.1. **Church Warden – vacancy** – The Vicar reported that although no one as yet had come forward Nick Gibbs has expressed his intention to stand for election in 2017. The Vicar thanked John Hatch for his willingness to stand again for this coming year. John Hatch expressed his desire to stand down in February 2017 on his 80th birthday and so hopes someone will come forward before then.
 - 4.2. **Bishop Fanuel's Visit** – all agreed that this had been a great success. His talk was thought provoking and his strategy for encouraging clergy and lay workers to fund their ministry by providing funds for them to start small businesses was said to be inspirational. During discussion about how best to support the 50th Anniversary Appeal it was agreed that a) A retiring collection be taken throughout the month of June in order for the congregation to show their appreciation of Bishop Fanuel's visit. b) All to reflect on how best the PCC might support the Appeal and to discuss at July PCC meeting c) In the meantime JR/JF to clarify situation regarding the Gift Aiding of any donation.
 - 4.3. **Safeguarding update** – it was agreed that this should be held over until the July meeting.
5. **Matters from the APCM**
 - 5.1. **Outstanding Vacancy for Church Warden** – as above
 - 5.2. **Appointment of PCC officers, co-options and committee chairs** – it was reported that the following individuals are willing to continue in the following posts: Simon Kirby as Vice-Chair of the PCC, John Russell as Treasurer and Susan Booth as Secretary to the PCC. All agreed this was acceptable and those above were thanked for their willingness to serve in these roles. A list of committee and group membership and chairs was circulated and comments invited.
 - 5.3. **Dates for 2016-2017 PCC & Standing Committee** – a list of PCC members 2016-17 circulated prior to the meeting, along with dates of both PCC and Standing Committee meetings was approved.
6. **Reports**
 - 6.1. **Treasurer's Report:**
 - 6.1.1. **Budget** – John Russell circulated and talked the meeting through two papers a) Report upon the Current Account of the General Fund b) General Fund

(Unrestricted) Budgets. JR reported that the fruits of Funding 15 are now showing in the income stream, and thus the accounts are looking relatively healthy.

6.1.2. **Salary Increase** – JR asked the PCC to consider the annual up lift in salaries for the two paid staff. After discussion it was Proposed (Charles Williams), Seconded (Ian French) and all agreed that they both be offered the same increase as last year. JR agreed to establish exactly what this was and to act accordingly.

6.1.3. **Pension** – JR reported that the salaries of both employees are under the threshold of the requirement for an employer contribution to a pension to be made. However both salaries are close enough to the threshold for the employees themselves to ask to opt in.

6.1.4. **John James Legacy** – JR reported that the church was now in receipt of £1000 unspecified bequest from John James. To date the following uses of the money had been put forward a) A third and possibly fourth outside bench b) Silver vials for Holy Oils c) Trolley / Castors for the Nave Altar d) Home Communion Set e) Pyx for Gluten Free Wafers. It was agreed that, as all the options need to be costed, the matter of how the money could be spent should be reviewed at the July PCC.

6.1.5. **Anonymous Donation** – it was reported that an unrestricted donation of £500 has been received.

6.1.6. **Grant Money** – Carol Couse informed the meeting that there had been two responses to letters written in relation to the stone work repairs. Firstly a promise of £8000 had been received from The Roger & Douglas Turner Charitable Trust. This money would be donated when other monies, in due course, were raised. Secondly, a cheque for £1000 had been received from The Lord Austin Trust specifically for the repair of the stone work. CC pointed out that the recent splitting of the grant applications for roof and stone repairs has been helpful. The outcome of the roof repair application is still awaited. CC expressed her optimism that the necessary funds for the roof and stone work repairs could be raised with or without HLF support.

6.2. **Diocesan Synod** – a written report (attached) was circulated, read and discussed. It was agreed that matters pertaining to Transforming Church Initiatives be discussed after the July Diocesan Synod meeting. Jenny Uff was thanked for her report.

7. **Eucharistic Assistants – PCC Permission:** it was agreed that this come back to the July meeting of the PCC after which time the Vicar will have clarified the position of all those currently on the list to officiate.

8. **Thy Kingdome Come:** JF informed the meeting that a short time of prayer is to be held on Wednesday 18th in the Lady Chapel to mark the end of the Lord's Prayer Novena. Trinity Prayers are to start on Wednesday 25th May, at 6pm in the Lady Chapel.

9. **Correspondence:** None received

10. **Future events:** the events listed on the agenda were noted and added to by those listed below:

- June 4th – Prayer Walk for Peace in Ladywood – led by Alison Treasure
- June 12th – Queen's Birthday is to be marked by prayers & by the sale of a Booklet recounting the Queen's life of prayer
- July 13th – Commemoration of the Srebrenica Genocide to be held at St George's with the approval of the PCC (all agreed)

11. Any Other Business:

- 11.1. **Malawi Partnership** – JF circulated a booklet detailing the partnership.
- 11.2. **Parish Weekend** – JF reported that Caroline Wickens has agreed to lead the weekend but that the preferred venue in Malvern now had limited availability.
November 26/27 – January 7/8 or 14/15 – February 4/5 or 18/19 – after discussion it was agreed to bring back to the PCC in July
- 11.3. **Daffodils mown down prematurely** – could the gardeners be asked not to do this in future
- 11.4. **St Peter's Flower Festival** – it was reported that St George's had been asked to contribute to this event.
- 11.5. **Communication within the congregation and the Parish** – concern was expressed that an accurate mailing list was still not available / being used despite it being urgently needed. The Pew Sheet is read by only those attending a service and the Magazine had a long lead in time. Time and effort is surely needed in this area if the church is to grow. It was noted that an administrator for the Lunch-time Concerts is soon to be in post.

12. Date of next meeting Tuesday 12th July 2016 at 7.00pm

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

Susan Booth
Secretary to the PCC
Phone 07966 538479
Email susanbooth2000@gmail.com