

Parochial Church Council

Minutes of meeting held on 18th July 2017

1. **Welcome and prayers:** The Vicar welcomed all and the meeting opened with prayer.
2. **Attendance:** The Revd Julian Francis (Chair), Carol Austin, Susan Booth, Marion Clarke, Maggi Cull, Anne Game, Simon Kirby, Derek Mertling-Blake, Justin Pinkess, John Russell, Caroline Shaw, Charles Williams. Apologies: Carol Couse, Philip Couse, Nick Gibbs, John Hurman, Jenny Uff
3. **Minutes of the PCC meeting on 23rd May 2017:** were approved with the following amendments and duly signed: Item 2: Justin Pinkess in attendance; Item 7: to read Tim not Time.
4. **Half Yearly Financial Review:** John Russell circulated copies of a selection of reports taken from the new Data Development software package that he and David Maw have been working on over the last six months. Although JR stated that there was still much work to be done, these reports were taken directly from the data that had been entered, thus making it a more accurate reflection of the current financial situation. JR talked the meeting through the reports and explained that in future the budgeted figures will be shown alongside the current figures. In response to questioning JR confirmed that currently the Data Development package was not accessible online so that security was not an issue although it might become so in the future. JR also stated that as he and David Maw were the only two people who knew how to access and operate the DD package, he would in the near future need to teach others how to use the programme. JR was thanked for his hard work and SB agreed to write a letter on the PCC's behalf thanking David Maws for all his hard work.

Note: The following document, in support of the above, was circulated during this item. PCC: Financial Governance – Finance Through the Year – JF and the Finance Group July 2017.

5. Matters arising:

- 5.1. Revised PCC Reports schedule – SB circulated a revised schedule, (see attached) to include the new format for reporting financial matters.
- 5.2. Safeguarding – PCC members & DBS – all were reminded to return their completed forms to the Church Wardens in the first instance and that the forms would be seen and logged by the Vicar and kept in a secure place.
- 5.3. Breast Feeding in Church – SB agreed to remind Zoe Challenor that notes relating to her presentation to the PCC in May are awaited.
- 5.4. Parish Weekend away – the Vicar reported that, although numbers were low, it was a refreshing and rewarding weekend. Notes pertaining to the teaching during the weekend are to be circulated in due course. It was agreed that early advertising of the next parish weekend away might help increase uptake, as might the forthcoming parish away day planned to focus on a review of St George's mission in the context of Transforming Church
- 5.5. Roof Repairs / Emergency Stone Work Repairs – JF reported that work was on-going and progressing well. JF agreed to speak to NG to determine the current status of the contract relating to the extra work needed to be carried out while scaffolding was in place.
- 5.6. Lighting update – although this is to be an agenda item at the September PCC JP asked about the process in place for gathering feed-back from the recent display mounted on boards in church. SK responded that informal feed-back had been received by group members and this

had yet to be assimilated and analysed. SK assured the PCC that a presentation and feedback would be invited at a future stage in the process.

6. Reports

- 6.1. Junior Church – Suganthi John's report had been circulated prior to the meeting. SJ and the JC team were thanked for their ongoing work with the young children.
- 6.2. Education & Worship – Caroline Shaw's report had been circulated prior to the meeting. CS and the E&W Committee were thanked for their ongoing work. CS stressed the need for more servers and helpers in relation to preparation and clearing away before and after services. JF reported that although some younger people had been approached to consider becoming servers they had not felt called to this aspect of church life. JF commented that the committee were in ongoing conversation regarding worship in general and evening worship in particular and that worship, as mission, would be considered as part of the Parish Mission Day.
- 6.3. Deanery Synod – Anne Game, on behalf of the three Deanery Synod Representatives, had circulated a report prior to the meeting. All were thanked for their attendance at DS and for reporting back to PCC. AG drew attention to the talk on the Food Bank in Oldbury and Quinton, the address by Bishop Anne and to The Revd Nick Tucker taking over as Area Dean from The Revd Pricilla White.

7. Transforming Church – Growing Younger, Shaping the Future and People and Places Update:

JF reported that he is to attend a Diocesan Away-Day shortly and therefore TC-GY-StheF&PandP will be a substantial agenda item at the September PCC when JF will have an opportunity to report back fully on the current state of affairs. But briefly JF stated that Shaping the Future is the second phase of Growing Younger and that People and Places relates to clergy deployment. Clergy deployment is currently linked to Sunday attendance and therefore needs to be seen in the context of St George's mission as identified in Item 5.4 above. JF commented that clarity on mission is also important in the context of 'Finances Through the Year' (Item 4 above).

8. **Vicar's Sabbatical:** JF reported that the process of arranging cover for his period away is ongoing. The Revd Ian Smith has agreed to cover all the school Christmas Carol Services plus some additional services. As part of his preparation for cover during his absence JF stated that he needs the PCC to identify the Christmas Charity. St Mary's Hospice and The Children's Hospital were both identified as possible charities and JF agreed to approach them to gain a commitment to preach at an allotted service in December (Probably Dec 17th) and to attend Light up the World and the Office Carol Service.

9. **Correspondence:** none received

10. **Future / current events:** Summer Series

11. **AOB:** none received

12. **Date of next meeting:** 26th September 2017

13. **The Grace:** the meeting closed with the saying of the Grace.

Susan Booth
Secretary to the PCC

Phone 07966 538479

Email susanbooth2000@gmail.com