

## Minutes of St Sampson's PCC meeting held 5th July 2017 at 8pm

Present: Rev'd P Bradley, K Bell, A Grace, M Smith, A Ramage, A Bradbury, L Dodd, R Masters, J Valpy  
Apologies: G Otter

PB welcomed everyone and began with a Bible reading (Mark 4:30-32) and prayer.

1. Minutes from 17.5.17 were signed by PB.

AG requested an amendment to Item 6 (Buildings-change of architect), as follows:

The PCC discussed whether or not to continue with Michael Bartosch or to change to David Arnold, both are partners in Arnold Bartosch and the diocese requires a named individual rather than a company. The following points were raised:

- David Arnold had been advising us on the roof repairs and unsuccessful Heritage Lottery Fund application on behalf of Arnold Bartosch
- Usually to change architects a costly tender process is advisable to obtain best value for money. As we would be changing to a partner in the same company and are satisfied we already have value for money, would there be any benefit?
- After a tendering process the end result could be to appoint the same architect again
- Arnold Bartosch have vast experience in church buildings, including re-ordering of other local churches
- They were the architects for the re-ordering and kitchen fitting in the south aisle and were very good to work with

As a result, the PCC voted unanimously to appoint David Arnold as our architect continuing our relationship with Arnold Bartosch.

AG will confirm this with the Diocese. **Action - AG**

2. Matters arising

PB confirmed that Darren Rhys will not be taking up the role of church warden. Since the last meeting, Ruth Evans has also informed PB and the PCC that she is unable to continue as church warden, and has stepped down with immediate effect. She expressed that the role is too large in its current form. At present, there is no-one else to take up the church warden post.

PB is happy to continue without wardens at present. The PCC continues to hold legal responsibilities, in particular with finance and fabric and PB intends to draw others into carrying out other warden jobs/roles as much as possible. Members of the congregation are asked to go to direct to PB when they might have typically communicated with a warden. This will begin to make the role of warden less onerous and more manageable in the future. PB agreed not to take on more than he can manage and will circulate a description of the wardens' role as it currently stands to increase PCC's awareness of what's involved.

**Action - PB**

The PCC unanimously agreed to continue without any church wardens until April 2018 (next APCM), but this will be reviewed at each PCC meeting between now and then.

Standing Committee members are PB, AG, JV and one other member of PCC to be co-opted as necessary. The Standing Committee's job is to agree any urgent financial decisions.

Nick Dye has produced powerpoint presentation on finances and PB planning to run session in September to incorporate the church vision and current plans for the church building. 5 repeat sessions planned, range of times and dates, hopefully to reach everyone in congregation.

AG will speak to Angela Jensen about church involvement in Cricklade Festival by January. **Action - AG**

### 3. Chair's report (previously circulated)

PB's report was discussed. He explained that a gift day is when the congregation is invited to see and discuss plans for a particular project, pray and then make financial pledges towards funding it. A day like this would be for church people, rather than wider Cricklade community, and experience shows that they are usually very successful.

PB asked PCC for alternative suggestions to the name 'Church Regeneration Project'. All to send ideas to him in the coming week. **Action - all PCC**

In terms of evolving our church services, PB envisages a group of people from across our church community to spend time looking at all the services that take place. This would include addressing accessibility issues (eg. loop system).

### 4. Finance

All Gift Aid has now come back and there is another £900 to move from fabric to general purposes fund. However, our outgoings continue to be higher than our income by £530 and the current healthier state of our finances is short term. AG will now move ring-fenced fabric fund money into a separate account.

The choir have proposed that they fundraise to cover Tim Eyles' fees (£100 per month). Organist fees will continue to come out of church funds (also £100 per month). The PCC voted in favour of this proposal agreeing to pay July's fees, with the choir self-funding from August onwards.

There will be no repairs to lights at the moment, other than the spotlight over the North Aisle.

AG will do a budget and PB will review it. **Action - AG**

AG thanked Gloria Light for her roof fund donation.

### 5. Church Building Regeneration

A prayer meeting for this is being planned for August/September.

Because of the planned re-ordering, PCC recognises that we won't carry out any other building work at the moment unless it has significant effect on worship. The roof definitely needs repairing, but hope to include it in the main project. PB's Chair's report sets out steps to take towards a big project.

### 6. Deanery Synod (information previously circulated)

PB has a meeting with Clare Fussell coming up soon. She is new Diocesan Officer for Giving and Resources, comes from Christian Aid and will be great for fundraising.

We need to consider how our giving reflects inflation/salary increases etc and the Diocese have produced a new tool for supporting churches looking at Stewardship.

PB is now Assistant Area Dean.

### 7. Communications

Nothing to update

### 8. Together we are Stronger

Next meeting on 9th July to discuss Christmas Tree Festival.

### 9. Youth and Children's

Youth Alpha has finished and gone well. The group meet once more for a social and will then continue in September.

Our new trainee youth worker, Hannah, will arrive in September. All plans are in place - host home, finances. PB will be her line manager.

Messy Church has now finished. We have been experimenting with an all age service format called 'Explore Together' at 4pm and believe it to be a good time to run it monthly and invite Messy Church and baptism families too. Want to encourage people to get involved from across all service congregations and need help setting up different stations for activities, not just 4pm people.

#### 10. Safeguarding

AG has received diocesan feedback on our survey and this will be reviewed. **Action - AG/PB**

#### 11. Prayer

PB is keen to increase the amount of prayer within our church community. He sees it as key part of a growing church - prayer at the centre. Regular Monday morning prayers and evening prayer slots are examples of recent gatherings and prayer network via email is very active.

PCC to consider other ways in which we can build up prayer life of church. Send ideas to him, copy everyone in to get ideas circulated. **Action - all PCC**

#### 12. Jenner Hall

Repairs to chimney will take place.

#### 13. Events

Organ Recital - 8th July

St Sampson's Day BBQ - 16th July

Evensong - 10th September

Harvest - 24th September

Choral Evening - 30th September

Light Party - 31st October

#### 14. Correspondence

PB and JV have received Parish Share 2018 information from the Diocese. For discussion at September's meeting within context of budget.

AG away for September's meeting, but will prepare budget beforehand. **Action - AG**

15. Next meeting Wednesday 13th September, 8pm, Red Lion