

**MINUTES OF ST GEORGE'S PCC MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 4TH OCTOBER 2023 AT 8.00PM IN CHURCH
FOLLOWING THE 7.30PM EUCHARIST**

Present: Chris Gadd (Churchwarden)(Chair), RevLiz Quinn, Candy Williams (Deanery Synod)(co-opted), Sarah Canham (Deanery Synod), June Diaper, Marian Haughton, Sue Hodgens, Dawn Hyett, Anne Morgan, Alice Pitney, Sara Schillemore, Lynn Winter, Sara Pask (Treasurer), Jane Cook (Secretary)

Co-opted: Malcolm Brewer (Hon Assistant Treasurer)

			<u>ACTION</u>
1.		Apologies for absence: Fr Colin Lawlor, Mo Peters Did not attend: Patricia Byrne Rosy Stone has resigned as Churchwarden and from the PCC.	
2.		Minutes of last PCC meeting on Monday 17th July 2023 The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record. Several people were uncomfortable with receiving 2 sets of minutes. It was agreed that in future minutes of meetings should only be amended with the approval of the next PCC meeting.	
3.		Matters Arising (5 minutes) <u>Architect</u> – Jane asked Chris again for the name of our Architect as the Diocese keep asking. Chris said he does have it but not with him and will let Jane have the details. <u>Page 4, Item 5f)</u> – Eco Church Group – Boiler – Sara said she has all the information and paperwork needed if we want to withdraw money from this endowment account. The boiler is a capital project so would qualify. <u>Page 4, Item 7</u> – Deanery Synod minutes – Candy and Sarah attended this meeting on 21 st June but the formal minutes have not been received yet. Candy to send Jane the minutes to circulate to PCC members once received.	CG CW
4.		David Cain – Energy Report (15 minutes) Further to the thoughts for de-carbonising the church heating system, David outlined the results of the heat loss report which the PCC had commissioned. This shows that the heat loss for the building is about 37kW and the present system is reasonably effective at heating the church, except perhaps on really cold days. The report also highlights potential other ways of heating the building but by only changing the heat source (currently a gas boiler) and not the radiators, the power output at the lower temperatures that a heat pump would function, are not sufficient to adequately heat the church and further supplementary heating would be needed, either by increasing the size of the radiators or adding additional air conditioning units. The ball park figures for this are currently around £50k but there could be various grants available which may contribute significantly towards the cost. David would undertake further investigations and report back to the next meeting.	

5.	<p>PCC Values – reflection (15 minutes)</p> <p>For those people not at the Archdeacon’s training and our follow up meeting last week we came up with some values which we thought we should share in our church and in our PCC. By way of a reminder the values we came up with were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peace through the sacraments • Fellowship • Care • Welcoming • Helpful • Traditional • Commitment to our local community <p>And one of the exercises we did last time in our additional PCC was to agree on one or two of those values and how we could relate them to our PCC and to members of our church and we want to do this in baby steps so we agreed between us that we would actually make an attempt to look after people at coffee who are sitting on their own. Tonight what Rev Liz and I would like to do is start talking about those values and how we can mirror those values in our PCC meetings.</p> <p>Rev Liz said we don’t necessarily have to apply all those values to every situation. Taking those first 4 values, she felt that how we are together can reflect those 4 things simultaneously. Rev Liz said something she experienced in her training and in another church, at the beginning of meetings which was a very fruitful time was to invite each member to say how they are and what has been happening over the last week, maybe family life, friends, what you have been doing and because there are a lot of people keep it quite short to get to know each other. What we say is personal and won’t be repeated outside these walls. There was no pressure to speak if you didn’t want to.</p>	<u>ACTION</u>
	PRAYER BREAK (5 minutes)	
	Committees and Reports <u>ONLY</u> to approve any proposals (20 minutes)	
6.	a) Charity Treasurer’s Report	
	<p>Lynne emailed Jane with the following report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retiring collection in July for Mission to Seafarers was £75.39 • Retiring collection in August for Alzheimers Research was £91.33 • Retiring collection in September for Mercy Ships was £87.53 	
	b) Treasurer’s Report	
	<p>Sara gave the following report:</p> <p>Further to the financial overview reports recently sent to you all, we are currently under budget in the following main income areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Planned Giving (Standing Orders & Parish Giving Scheme) - £22,306 (budget £22,500) 2. Tax on Gift Aid - £5,623 (budget £6,003)* 3. Fundraising - £4,258 (budget £7,497) ** <p>* We are currently behind in our Gift Aid submissions to HMRC. I have been asked to take over the job of Gift Aid Secretary and hope to get our submissions up to date by the end of the year.</p> <p>** Does not include the funds raised at the Barn Dance yet.</p> <p>We are currently over budget in the following main expenditure areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gas - £8,063 (revised budget £7,506) *** 2. Church Grounds - £685 (budget £270) this may even itself out before the end of the year. <p>The Electricity spending should show as a green box as it is below the</p>	

		<u>ACTION</u>
	<p>revised budget.</p> <p>*** The big increase in our gas expenditure has arisen because we are now paying 100% of the gas bill for the Church and Hall together with the general increase in the cost of gas. We have revised the budget for Gas to allow for this.</p> <p>Our Parish Share for 2023 is £66,200 but we have only been able to pay £11,020 against this year's quota. The remaining £11,020 which we paid this year related to last year's quota. We have advised the Diocese that we may be able to pay a further £5,510 before the end of the year depending upon our financial position.</p> <p>Here are some figures which you may find of interest:</p> <p>In September 2022 our regular giving total was £2,184 (Standing Orders & Parish Giving Scheme).</p> <p>In April 2023 (following our Stewardship Campaign) our regular giving total amounted to £2,531.</p> <p>In September 2023 our regular giving total amounted to £2,174</p> <p>Eight people/families have joined the Parish Giving Scheme and five people/families have left the Parish Giving Scheme. The result of this is that our monthly regular giving is now slightly below what it was a year ago. This will amount to roughly a reduction in annual giving of £4,300. If any of you are still making your regular giving by bank standing order, please do change to the Parish Giving Scheme as this means less administration for us and the quick receipt of the tax refund.</p> <p>I am pleased to report that all the Hall Roof loans have now been repaid.</p> <p>Any questions?</p> <p>Q: What have the Diocese said about our inability to pay all our parish share?</p> <p>A: The Diocese haven't commented on our inability to pay the full parish share and we are certainly not the only church in this situation.</p>	
	c)	Fabric, Finance and Quinquennial Committee Report
		Minutes of the meeting held on 18 th September have already been circulated. Chris needs a decision from the PCC for Sara and David Cavey to assume responsibility for opening the envelopes and submitting the Gift Aid returns. This was a job Alex was undertaking but she doesn't have the hours to do it anymore. Chris proposed that Sara and David are authorised by the PCC to undertake this job. This was seconded by Malcolm and agreed unanimously.
7.		Other Committee Reports
	a)	Pastoral Committee
		Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 20 th September have already been circulated.
	b)	Church Hall Committee
		<p>Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 13th September have already been circulated.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PCC permission needed to reduce the amount of cleaning from 6 to 3 days due to the fact we have lost 2 hirers. • PCC permission needed for Malcolm to contact the company who offer free advice on the type of dishwasher we need to replace the one we have and the cost or whether we look at leasing one. • PCC permission needed to offer a 10% discount until the end of the year to any new hirers as an incentive. <p>PCC gave their approval to all the above.</p> <p>Malcolm also commented that because he had to wait to get PCC permission to cut the cleaning hours instead of doing it straight after the Church Hall Committee this has cost in excess of £300.</p>

		<u>ACTION</u>
	Chris said that if there is a decision which needs to be taken by a Committee in between PCCs there is a Standing Committee (Incumbent, Churchwardens, Secretary and Treasurer) which can be convened at a moment's notice to make a decision. Just need to contact Jane. An urgent decision can always be done electronically.	
	c) Mission and Stewardship Committee	
	Not met.	
	d) Families Ministry and Young People's Ministry	
	No report has been written. Dawn said that the toddler toys have been used for birthday parties, Dawn wasn't asked but told it was going to happen and she's worried about the toys getting broken but more importantly are we insured to lend out the toys. Chris thinks because a privately hired birthday party is not a church event we wouldn't be insured. The PCC voted unanimously that the toys should not be used by private hirers.	
	e) Social and Fundraising Committee	
	Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 27 th September have already been circulated. PCC permission needed to hold a Christmas Bazaar on Saturday 2 nd December. The PCC agreed that this should go ahead. Sara asked if a decision has been made about a Gift Day this year, usually held about October. It was pointed out that this is usually a Church decision and has previously not come under the Fundraising Committee.	LQ/CG
	f) Eco Church Group Committee	
	Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 28 th September have already been circulated.	
8.	Safeguarding Report	
	Sonja's Safeguarding report for tonight's meeting has already been circulated. Sonja has sent emails to those people whose DBS certificates are up for renewal.	
9.	Deanery Synod Report	
	We talked about this earlier and Candy will report back next time.	
10.	Correspondence / AOB	
	a) Discuss if name of celebrant at the Wednesday and Sunday 10am Eucharist can be put in the Bulletin	
	It matters very much to some of the congregation. Through 2 Interregnums we always knew who the Celebrant would be. It was dropped without any discussion at PCC. Rev Liz said it is personal to her and went into the Sacristy while discussion took place. It was pointed out that putting the name of the Celebrant is in fact giving people a choice. Chris said that St George's decided to welcome Liz here as a Curate. Always doing something a certain way is not necessarily a reason for continuing. The question is do we offer people a choice and put the name of the Celebrant on the Bulletin. A vote took place and by 1 vote it was agreed to put the name of the Celebrant on the Bulletin.	CG
	b) Churchwarden	
	A question was asked about appointing another Churchwarden as Rosy has resigned. This is not possible until the APCM and Chris said we will then need 2 Churchwardens as his term ends. However if Chris is willing to stay we could look at passing another resolution to change the	

		term. We will need to look into this further.	<u>ACTION</u>
11.		Date of Next PCC Meeting	
		The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 19th December 2023 , in Church at 8.00pm following the 7.30pm Eucharist. It was proposed that we go for a drink afterwards.	ALL
		Closing Prayer – The Grace	
		There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.35pm.	