

PARISH OF ST OLAVE WITH ST GILES, YORK

Meeting of the Parochial Church Council

Wednesday 27th July 2022, 7.30pm

MINUTES

In attendance: Rev Liz Hassall (Chair), Rev Nicky Gladstone, Jane Lockley, Buff Reid, Roger Button, Ben Pugh, Paul Towers, Christine Stanton, John Stanton, Mike Thunder (for first 20 minutes), Ruth Sillar, Jacqui Edwards, Margaret Eyre, Helen Robb, Frances Brock, and, observing, Jacob (potential ordinand from St Michael-le-Belfrey)

The meeting opened with prayer

1. Appointment of clerk for the meeting (as Helen Jones was absent): Frances Brock
2. Apologies for absence: Helen Jones, Janet Fox, Doreen Gurrey, Helen Button
3. Update from Safeguarding officer.
Mike Thunder, Safeguarding Officer, provided an overview of work done and needing doing and presented a parish Safeguarding Action Plan.

The Action plan was unanimously approved.

It was noted that all PCC members need to complete the online course on domestic abuse by next meeting, as part of our ongoing commitment to awareness of safeguarding issues. All agreed to email Mike with our certificates upon satisfactory completion of this new course.

All PCC members will need to complete the highest level online safeguarding training every 3 years. Mike will advise those needing to update on this.

Mike has a template for risk assessment for events, and he will be involved with this in anything involving young adults or children. Other events requiring risk assessment are to be dealt with by churchwardens and the organiser of the event.

Mike has created a poster of key pointers on actions for safeguarding, which is displayed at various points around the church and church hall. He has a copy of the 'Parish Safeguarding Handbook' available.

Action: All

4. The minutes of the meeting in May 2022 were approved.
5. Matters arising:
 - 5.1. Admin support. An advert is going in this week, and it is hoped to hold interviews in late August and appoint asap.

5.2. Ash tree. Buff Reid has been in contact with The Museum Gardens, who are grateful for our offer to donate a tree, and will advise us as soon as they have a suitable space.

5.3. Vision Survey. It was noted that there has been some confusion because of the latest survey. Helen Jones will report on the Vision Survey at the next PCC meeting.

6. Correspondence of decisions prior to meeting:

The PCC approved the licensing of Dave Hobman as Assistant Curate to the City Centre Churches.

7. Correspondence for the attention of the PCC

None had been received

8. Worship/Covid restrictions.

It was agreed that we would continue as we are, enabling people to make their own choices as to the actions with which they felt comfortable. For this reason, we will continue to give the peace in a non-contact way, and to offer both the common cup and intinction. The present arrangements are sustainable for the foreseeable future, especially with the winter months coming.

All retired clergy have been reminded of our practice regarding receiving communion.

Going up for communion from the back of church first is working well.

9. Ben Pugh provided facts and rough figures for the three initial options he has researched with regard to a new sound system.

He noted that our existing system is now dilapidated and needing renewal. The primary aim is to enable all who come to participate fully in our worship. It was also noted that our ongoing offering of an online service continues to be an important part of our mission to the new community who have gathered around it, and a new sound system would need to be able to continue and enhance this.

The Standing Committee proposed that Ben continue negotiations with Keystone and SFL, with a budget of £55k plus VAT, to see what they can offer in greater detail. The PCC agreed this, with one against and one abstention.

It was noted that a significant amount of fundraising, and application for grants would need to be undertaken if we go ahead with this plan.

The lavalier microphones in the current system are no longer working, and it was agreed that Ben and Paul would investigate and action a short-term solution with a small expenditure (to be referred to the Standing Committee).

Ben was thanked for all the work he has already put into this.

10. Interpretation Project.

The Standing Committee have agreed to pay £600 for a second 'vision survey', which has been

put on last week's newsletter, and hard copies available at the back of church. Visitors have already responded. Paul Towers will put a QR code on the poster about this survey, and we were asked to publicise it as widely as possible, through WhatsApp groups/neighbours etc.

Buff Reid was thanked for her work putting this in train.

11. Years' mind list.

Jane Lockley has begun the task of identifying those on our list, with help from our congregation. This will continue with those who are, as yet, not identified for approx. a month.

Once this is done, the aim is to create a policy that will enable us to keep the list more manageable and relevant to our current congregation.

The suggested criteria for the list are

- a) those with a relative who attends or has associations with St.Olaves
- b) those who have a direct association with St.Olaves
- c) those who are 'adopted' by a current member

Kingsley Boulton began keeping records about 10 years ago, so it is suggested that , after 10 years, names are removed from the list unless they fulfil one of these three criteria.

This is obviously an issue that will need very careful and sensitive introduction to the congregation.

Various suggestions were made, including:

- the lists be kept online, be reviewed annually , at All Souls, and this might become part of the new Administrator's responsibility.
- A book might be created, and those names which are removed, be written there (NB permission needed for this).
- We might pray for those whose names we intend to remove this year at All Souls.

12. Social Events

A new social events coordinator is yet to be found, and Ruth Sillar would like to meet them, to hand over the material/contacts which she has collected during her time in this role.

Both the Platinum Jubilee party and Nicky's Ordination were celebrated most successfully, and involved using our churchyard for refreshments. It was particularly pleasing that these events involved people from the parish, and visitors as well as our regular congregation.

Both church and churchyard are to be open during the York Unlocked weekend. We hope to arrange various activities during this time, and Doreen Gurrey, Buff and Jane L. are planning . The PCC are asked to sign up to help for a couple of hours.

Action: Doreen Gurrey, Buff Reid, Jane Lockley; All

On 14th August, the group who went to Oberammergau are holding a shared lunch in the

church hall to tell us about their experiences.

13. Items from Priest in Charge:
There were none.

14. Report from the Green Working Group.

Our surveys have been submitted to Arocha and we hope to gain the Bronze Award. We agreed a donation of £125 to Arocha, and £85 for the plaque.

The group will report in more detail to the next PCC meeting, and will circulate details of their meetings to all PCC members.

15. Treasurer's report

The Treasurer's report was circulated to members.

It was agreed to add Buff Reid as signatory to the CAF account.

It was noted that there will have to be a discussion of our freewill offer for next year at the next PCC, and, as Christine Stanton won't be present, someone will need to fill in the relevant details online. Christine will email Helen Jones with her recommendations.

Action: Christine Stanton

It was noted that Goodbox have gone into administration but the card machine will continue to work.

The St Crux sale raised just over £1000. We agreed to send Liz Backhouse a card and flowers in thanks for her help stepping in at the last minute.

Action: Frances Brock

16. Churchwardens report.

Roger Button has reinstated the hot water in the St Giles room.

Due to the rising cost of electricity, we must change our spotlights to LED, and investigate the possibility of zoning the church lighting, so as to use less when not necessary. Roger Button has begun investigations and will continue and report back with costs.

Action: Roger Button

The St Giles Room roof needs to be replaced, and damp in the Sacristy still needs dealing with.

Chris Mitchell is leading in going through the paperwork in the boiler room, we need to find storage for what is necessary to keep. LH mentioned the "Keep or Bin" document which has useful advice for church records.

The churchwardens and Standing Committee have agreed the long-term loan of black funeral

vestments belonging to St Olave's, to St Lawrence, and an agreement has been signed to this effect. Both churches are keeping copies of this agreement in the Terrier and Inventory.

There is a shortage of sides-persons, and we are asked to consider who might be approached to join the team.

Coffee post-service has been resumed, and there is a rota again.

Monthly knit and natter continues to be a successful and valuable social event, and might be advertised slightly more in advance in the newsletter?

Church Hall Choir Room damp. Liz and Buff need to make further enquiries to find out whether we can do this under a faculty, or whether local authority planning is required.

Action: Liz Hassall, Buff Reid

Regarding 29 Marygate Trust, the PCC agreed to the signing of a letter to allow the bank to move the account.

Liz thanked all the churchwardens for the work they do.

17. Deanery Synod Report

Various issues were discussed:

- a leaflet about St Olave's to be added to the University and St John's Freshers' week
- could we add a link to the Deanery Synod reports in the newsletter
- members could put a link to their report in the newsletter

18. It was agreed to continue bi-monthly meetings, and the next PCC will meet on Wednesday 21st September, then 23rd November.

Nicky Gladstone kindly offered to provide a bullet point report of the meeting for the newsletter.

The meeting closed with prayer at c9.45pm.