



# All Saints' Church

Preston on Tees

Minutes of the PCC Meeting on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2016,  
19.30 at 22 Dunottar Avenue, Eaglescliffe, TS16 0AB

	<b>Present</b>	<b>Action</b>
	Kay Adeboye, Jennifer Brown, Lucy Falcus, Mark Harrison, Simon Honeywell, Martin Howard, Karen Killick, Jenny Lewis, Stuart Main, Bruce Merrick, Sarah Pocock, Margaret Vaughan, David Warren. <u>Chair:</u> John Lambert	
<b>1</b>	<b>Opening Reflections and Prayers</b> John Lambert reflected on the verse for the year. A recent Christian magazine that he had received had carried an article on 6 notable individuals reflecting on holy places. He shared some of their thoughts ending with Joel Edwards' reflections on Wesley's Chapel and Prayer Room (Central London) that holiness is not to do with bricks and mortar but due to the Godliness of the many people who down the ages (and in current times) have worshipped and prayed in a place. Psalm 69 – "better is one day in your house than a 1,000 elsewhere"; Col. 3:16; Heb. 10 24-25; 1 Cor. 14-24.25. John closed by saying that it was his heart's desire that everyone who walks into the buildings at All Saints' would say "God is in this place". His hope was that God's glory would continue to shine from this place both now and in the future and this was the basis for our desire to develop the building further. The PCC shared a time of prayer.	
<b>2</b>	<b>Apologies for Absence</b> Charlotte Benjamin, John Littlehailes, Pam Rushton, Richard Spratt	
<b>3</b>	<b>Approval of minutes of the meeting of 14 December 2015</b> The minutes of the meeting of 14 December were approved with one minor amendment - there were two "item 11s". This was corrected. Minutes approved with 5 abstentions for absence.	
<b>4</b>	<b>Correspondence</b>	
<b>4.1</b>	A card had been received from Sarah Peters thanking the church for their prayer and financial support for her mission activities in Romania.	
<b>4.2</b>	John Lambert read out a letter that he had written to James Wharton MP regarding a debate coming up in Parliament to extend the remit of OFSTED to cover out of hours activities and teaching activities to children in faith settings. James Wharton MP had replied to John and this reply was read out. The reply indicated that our MP would be following the debate carefully and noted and responded to some of the concerns that John had raised. The PCC thanked John for writing the letter.	
<b>5</b>	<b>Matters Arising (not covered elsewhere)</b>	
<b>5.1</b>	Item 5.2 Dec 2015: Wooden disabled access ramp. The churchwardens reported that this ramp could not be found; the metal ramp had been found but was cumbersome to use. The churchwardens were continuing to work on finding a solution to the problem noted of ramps for chancel step.	

5.2	Item 10 Dec. 2015: Treasurer's post. Stuart reported that he was in discussions with a couple of people regarding the role of treasurer.	
6	<p><b>Financial Update – Year end 2015</b></p> <p>Stuart distributed draft year end 2015 income and expenditure statements. Income £188k vs budget £186k. Expenditure was £189.5k vs budget £186k however much of that overspend had been authorised e.g. improvements to ground floor flat, replacement equipment for music group; additional mission giving due to raised income,</p> <p>This led to an overall deficit of just over £1k. Stuart noted that the unrestricted fund balance at year end was approximately £40k.</p> <p>Noted that in 2016 some budget expenditure categories would be split out further. The importance of rental income was noted and that to retain this level of income, facilities and fabric needed to be kept in good repair which required steady expenditure year on year.</p> <p>The PCC thanked Stuart for all his work getting the draft numbers available.</p>	
7	<p><b>Safeguarding</b></p> <p>Karen Killick said there was nothing to report. She reminded the PCC that she would be stepping down from this role in April and as yet no one had been identified to succeed her. The PCC reflected on the skills needed for this role and some names were identified as being possible successors to Karen. For the successor it would be helpful to have a brief role description. The PCC paused for collective prayer. Any suggestions of successor to Karen to be shared with John Lambert /Karen Killick.</p>	All members
8	<p><b>Vision Day 6<sup>th</sup> February 2016</b></p> <p>There would be week of prayer and fasting 1-7<sup>th</sup> Feb; Mark Harrison and Prayer team are putting programme together.</p> <p>Proposed timetable for the day:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 8:30-10:00 Prayer breakfast</li> <li>- 10:00 – 12 (ish) In church together</li> </ul> <p>John Lambert keen to encourage a consensual mood, his current thinking is to have some of the morning dreaming and sharing in small groups. Might some people share short testimonies of what had happened to them in the buildings? JL to then give "visionary talk", why we cannot stay as we are, then share ideas that have been tabled at PCCs over the last few months.</p> <p>Move to a point of holding a formal EGM – tabling a motion on the lines of "this meeting authorises the PCC to commission an architect to draw up plans to reorder ..." This motion wouldn't commit the PCC to any major project at this stage but would require modest expenditure. Suggested that the motion contain an upper limit of expenditure – e.g. £5,000</p> <p>John asked for feedback from PCC members to the proposed programme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- LF: How do we encourage people to see the day as a whole not a prayer breakfast followed by the meeting?</li> <li>- DW: Communications about the day needs to include the week before – i.e. the day is the culmination of the week of prayer</li> <li>- MH: How are we going to involve children and young people</li> <li>- KK: how do we free up parents? Provide childcare?</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- SP: Can we acknowledge what has gone before; the journey of projects that has brought us to this point</li> <li>- MH: Declare a “need to do” list and a “love to do” list</li> <li>- MV: to respect the possible physical weariness of those who have been involved in major projects before and find ways to harness their experience from past projects.</li> </ul> <p>John thanked the PCC for these comments.</p>	
<b>9</b>	<p><b>Gift Day 7<sup>th</sup> February 2016</b></p> <p>Karen Killick reminded the PCC of the background to the decision to focus the Gift Day on key equipment (centre chairs, tables, crockery). The need was for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Up to 150 new centre chairs (mix of styles with and without arms)</li> <li>• 2 long tables</li> <li>• 2 circular tables</li> <li>• Variety of crockery</li> <li>• Replacement computer for service visuals (see item 10)</li> </ul> <p>In total this would amount to £11,500 approx. Flyers were being distributed at services in the lead up to the Gift Day. In addition various different styles of chair had been placed in the “choir vestry” for everyone to look at and there was a flipchart to make comments on.</p>	
<b>10</b>	<p><b>Visuals Computer</b></p> <p>Stuart reported that the visuals computer had ceased working just before Christmas and was declared “dead”. Richard Davies had spent considerable time retrieving data files from the machine and as a temporary measure a laptop had been borrowed from John Belmont. Richard Davies has priced up a replacement machine with the requisite number of video ports and capability / software required. His estimate to replace was £750 inclu. VAT. Given the need to resolve this situation the PCC approved this expenditure from Gift Day income and requested Richard to proceed in replacing the machine.</p> <p>Proposed Stuart Main; Seconded David Warren – carried unanimously</p>	
<b>11</b>	<p><b>Christmas and Easter Services</b></p> <p>John Lambert requested feedback on the Christmas services: It was noted that there had been an incident (reported and investigated) when a child had fallen off a crowded stage at crib service; The numbers attending the crib service had been high and it was noted that there had been a potential risk of emergency exits becoming blocked.</p> <p>Christmas morning service – one of the sections of the service had been a game which was difficult to understand if seated towards the back of the church. Carol service – church had looked very welcoming and beautifully decorated. Midnight Communion - felt to be slightly higher numbers than previous years, a couple of non-regular church goes were present.</p> <p>The general feeling was that the Christmas services had been varied and well attended.</p> <p>Easter 2016: Easter is at the beginning of school holidays. Good Friday the church will be</p>	

	<p>open from mid-day till 15:00 for reflection. Easter Sunday there will be a 9am and 10:30 service. Bruce reminded the PCC that the Ecumenical service would be on Good Friday (time tbc) but there would be no march this year.</p>	
<p><b>12</b> <b>12.1</b> <b>12.2</b></p>	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p>Date of ACPM is 17<sup>th</sup> April</p> <p>Lucy Falcus gave a brief update of Deanery Synod (11/1/16).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Good update on developments in Parish of Christchurch (parish formed from merger of St Johns'. St Chads and St James in Stockton)</li> <li>- Bishop's Prayer Walk 12-15<sup>th</sup> May; Bruce, Mark and Bill attending coordination meetings. Likely that Bishop Paul will be in our parish on Sunday afternoon – focussing on Preston Park / Skate Park etc.</li> <li>- There are a couple of lay vacancies on Diocesan Synod – talk to Margaret Vaughan for more details</li> <li>- Deanery Plan had been reviewed briefly at Bishops' Council</li> <li>- Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebration weekend, churches being encouraged to "do something"; [John Lambert added that Hope UK had produced a small booklet celebrating the Christian Faith and what it means to the Queen, he had registered a non-binding interest in possibly ordering 100 copies. Connect lunch around this period might focus on birthday celebrations. Messy Church is happening over that weekend.]</li> </ul> <p>There was no further business. Lucy Falcus will lead the Prayer and Reflection period at the beginning of the next Meeting Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February.</p> <p>The PCC concluded in prayer.</p>	