



All Saints' Church

Preston on Tees

**Minutes of the PCC Meeting on Monday 18th July 2016,
19.30 at 22 Dunottar Avenue, Eaglescliffe, TS16 0AB**

	Present	Action
	Kay Adeboye, Jennifer Brown, Mark Harrison, Simon Honeywell, Martin Howard, Karen Killick, Kathie Lambert, Sue Levan, Jenny Lewis, John Littlehailes, Bruce Merrick, Sarah Pocock, Pam Rushton, Richard Spratt, David Warren. <u>Chair:</u> John Lambert	
1	Opening Reflections and Prayers Mark Harrison, after prayer of thanks to God for bringing the PCC together, and prayer for blessings and peace for all its members, turned to his thoughts while preparing the period of reflection. The word which came to him then was "charge". He asked the PCC what this meant to them as a word, and various definitions were given. He then said that biblically, the word was used for precise definitions of the duties of priests. He added that in 1 Samuel 14 Saul charged his army not to break their fast until victory was secured, and went from this charge to the charge of the Light Brigade, and drew the analogy of the PCC as cavalry charging for God. He then looked at Paul's charge to Timothy (1 Timothy 6.11-18) to fight the good fight of faith etc., and at our helping, through the Parish Share, the war for Christ, and finally 2 Timothy 4.1-5 the 'charge' to Timothy: a series of instructions for his ministry, pointing Timothy towards Jesus, and an instruction to join the Lord's "armed forces". Mark asked the PCC to pray for our Bishops, Paul and Mark, for the Synods, both Diocesan and Deanery; for a clear 'war cry'; for the Parish Share, and that God would multiply our resources; and for faith to share with those who lack. The PCC then broke into four groups for prayer.	
2	Apologies for Absence Lucy Falcus, Margaret Vaughan.	
3	Approval of minutes of the meeting of 9 May 2016 The minutes of the meeting of 20 June were approved after a correction to item 5.2, substituting Pamela Rushton's name for that of Jennifer Brown. Approved unanimously.	
4	Correspondence 1) John Lambert had received a letter from Utilitywise pointing out that if we moved our gas and electricity bills to a British Gas account we would save substantially. The PCC agreed that were there no overwhelming penalties tying us into the contract, we should go ahead with the change. 2) John had also received a letter for the PCC from Sue Ireland on behalf of the MDT. This led to an immediate discussion which is reported under item 9 below.	Kathie Lambert

<p>5 5.1 5.2</p>	<p>Matters Arising (not covered elsewhere) (Item 9, 20.06.16). 1) Jenny Lewis reported that the fence had been replaced. 2)The sound system will now be installed in the Centre in mid-August 3) The water heater has now been replaced 4) The treatment of the Centre hall flooring will go ahead as planned. The hall will have to be cleared of furniture after the 10.30 service on 31 July, and there will be a request for assistance with this task. (Item 11, 20.06.16). Three people have been shortlisted by the MDT as possible representatives of the parish on the group tasked with organising the Talking Jesus Mission next March.</p>	<p>Richard Spratt</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>Financial Update Kathie Lambert distributed income and expenditure statements up to the end of June. The finances are in good shape, and giving is ahead of budget, though due to a substantial gift earlier in the year the figures are skewed even more favourably at the moment. Giving has risen by about 3.5% (having taken out the anomaly) compared to last year. There is a problem with claiming money from the solar panels, and it was suggested that a letter be sent from John Belmont, the original signatory, saying that the role of treasurer had moved to Kathie, and suggesting that the agreement be reworded so that payment was made to the Treasurer.</p>	
<p>7</p>	<p>Safeguarding Jennifer Brown said that there was nothing to report this month.</p>	<p>Jennifer Brown</p>
<p>8</p>	<p>Parish Share A letter from Lucy Falcus discussing the issue had been circulated among the members, since other church business meant that she could not be present. John Lambert gave to each of the PCC a blue and a yellow post-it. Each member was asked to write, anonymously, the percentage increase (or decrease) they would propose for the coming year’s Parish Share. By a considerable majority 5% was given, with some higher and some lower. The PCC then discussed, at some length, the issue. John Lambert pointed out that the numbers in the congregation had gone up by more than had the giving, and there will be a sermon series on generous giving in September. The current increase in giving would cover a 5% level of increase in Parish Share, but committing this money could circumscribe cash available for new initiatives. There would also be some other follow-on effects. After a considered discussion John Lambert asked that the PCC now write on the remaining post-it (again anonymously) their individual proposal in the light of the discussion. These averaged close to 5%, with a greater number quoting precisely this. John proposed from the chair “That the Parish Share contribution from All Saints’ Church should rise by 5% for the coming year”. The motion was passed, with one abstention.</p>	<p>Kathie Lambert</p>

<p>9</p>	<p>MDT Report</p> <p>This item was actually discussed following the item of correspondence from Sue Ireland. It is reported here to follow the agenda sequence.</p> <p>After three meetings of the MDT devoted to Jan Peters' ministry, Sue Ireland, writing on behalf of the MDT, asked that the PCC should review the children's ministry within the church.</p> <p>Jan had produced for the MDT a set of aims for the future comprising</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To expand the schools ministry, seizing the opportunity presented by the success of the Life Exhibition and the contacts Jan had established while setting it up. 2) To increase the time and energy devoted to the church's own children. 3) To support families within the church who may be in difficulties. 4) To develop further the links we have established through activities such as Play and Praise, Messy Church, and the Toddlers. <p>The MDT asked that the salary being paid to Jan or her successor should be considered along with a review of the role through an overarching audit of the children's work.</p> <p>After some discussion it was agreed that the PCC look at the children's and other ministries, asking the question 'what does the PCC actually want from the children's ministry', determining how Jan's job can support that and prioritising its objectives overall.</p> <p>There has been some change: when the schools ministry took a higher profile the Toddlers' meeting on Wednesday was shelved.</p> <p>To move forward it was agreed that Jan should refine, and bring up to date the useful document she produced for the MDT, and that John Lambert would then ask the Staff Management Team to work to marry up the actual work being done and the priorities recognised with the Job Description (known to be outdated because of agreed changes).</p> <p>This would then be a major item for the next (September) meeting of the PCC.</p>	<p>John Lambert</p> <p>John Littlehailes</p>
<p>10</p>	<p>Caretaker Contract</p> <p>Jenny Lewis had provided an excellent paper proposing that the core hours worked by the caretaker should be amended from 14 to 16 hours, since the current 14 hours did not cover the work requirements, and it would be advantageous to Peter to have some of the extra hours he has been working incorporated into the core.</p> <p>After some discussion it was proposed by Kay Adeboye that the caretaker's core hours be increased to 16 hours from 1 September. Seconded by Sue Levan. Passed with one abstention and one against.</p> <p>It was also agreed that the Church Wardens, with John Lambert and Sandra Griffiths should review his working arrangements.</p>	<p>Jenny Lewis</p>

11	<p>Review of the Life Exhibition</p> <p>Jennifer Brown reported that 511 children and 36 adults had been through the exhibition, including Bishop Mark, who was full of praise for it. Sharon Pritchard had helped, and was hoping to bring the exhibition into the Durham area. The feedback had been very good from both children and adults. While next year the exhibition is fully booked up, it was suggested that we might invite them back in two or three years' time.</p>	
12	<p>Deanery Synod Report</p> <p>The Synod met at Long Newton, where John Lambert described progress within St. Mary's and community.</p> <p>Elizabeth Stout has been appointed as the new secretary.</p> <p>We are asked to remember in our prayers the "Talking Jesus" mission coming up in March.</p> <p>The major topic was the Diocesan Synod report about the Parish Share request for the coming year: this provided the basis for the letter to the PCC from Lucy Falcus referred to above.</p> <p>Ben Bentham, who has been looking after the Country Parish, is leaving to take up a post in Herefordshire.</p>	
13	<p>AOB</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The church re-ordering group has met three times recently, once with the architect. <p>He has presented three options to the group who have replied with a suggestion amalgamating aspects of each, a honed down and more specific proposal for him to work on.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2) We have had a course on "Dementia Awareness". There has been a review of the church to produce a Dementia Environmental Report, and Dawn Wheeldon is going to apply for us to become a "Dementia Friendly Church". 3) A defibrillator is now in place by the foyer doors. 4) A Fire Alarm test is needed: it is proposed by Mark Harrison that this should be on 31 July. 5) John Littlehailes offered to provide the Opening Period of Reflection and Prayer and at the next meeting: Monday 19 September. <p>Mark Harrison thanked the PCC for the times we have spent together, and promised to continue to pray for us during his time in Durham.</p> <p>John Lambert and a group of PCC members laid hands on Mark and prayed for him as he prepares to leave, and for a blessed 2 years in Durham.</p> <p>The meeting finished with the Grace.</p>	