



All Saints' Church

Preston on Tees

**Minutes of the PCC Meeting on Monday 20th June 2016,
19.30 at 22 Dunottar Avenue, Eaglescliffe, TS16 0AB**

	Present	Action
	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, Margaret Vaughan, David Warren. <u>Chair:</u> John Lambert	
1	Opening Reflections and Prayers Bruce Merrick, reflecting on the walk led by Bishop Paul and the talks given by Bishop Mark directed the PCC towards 5 readings, Luke 11.39-41, Luke 10.30-37, and Matthew 7.7-12, Matt. 12.46-50, and Matt. 19.13-15. He asked the PCC to split into groups, to read the passages, and to say which each group felt was most pertinent to the themes of compassion, generosity and caring. The replies were various, but there was interesting discussion around the choices. The PCC then moved into prayer for a series of local charities involved with our community.	
2	Apologies for Absence Kay Adeboye, Lucy Falcus.	
3	Approval of minutes of the meeting of 9 May 2016 The minutes of the meeting of 9 May were accepted after some corrections to the list of those present and the apologies. These Minutes were approved unanimously without further alteration.	
4	Correspondence None.	
5	Matters Arising (not covered elsewhere)	
5.1	(Item 10, 09.05.16). Richard Spratt reported that the revised quote for the Centre projector has been received. The mesh cover must be larger than expected, but the rest of the quote is as expected.	Richard Spratt
5.2	(Item 11, 09.05.16). Jennifer Brown expressed concern that people coming to vote on 23.06.16 would be able to gain access to the church while the Life Exhibition children were in the centre. The doors into the church will be secured.	
6	Financial Update Kathie Lambert distributed income & expenditure statements up to 20.06.16. The finances are in good shape. There was some confusion due to delayed payments, and it was suggested that Kathie revert to previous practice of only bringing to the PCC the accounts to the end of the previous month, to remove some uncertainty in the report. Kathie has been having some problems with the excel spreadsheets, and will soon be getting some training in their use. Kathie told the PCC that she had received a request from Kathryn Belmont	

	<p>that the PCC pay for Brooke and Heather (Gap year helpers) to go to Soul Survivor. There is a precedent for this as a thank you for all the work they have been doing for us. The PCC agreed without dissent to do so, the sum being £140 for each of them.</p> <p>It was suggested that this sum be added to the Youth Budget, expressly for this in future years, so Kathryn had the money available to her.</p> <p>Kathie also asked that the Street Party organisers be given a further £250 to cover the overspend on their budget. The Standing Committee had agreed that this was an important event. There were important points raised about the need for tasks to remain within budget, but in this case the PCC agreed unanimously to make good the shortfall.</p>	<p>Kathie Lambert</p> <p>Kathie Lambert</p>
7	<p>Safeguarding</p> <p>Jennifer Brown said that Peter Lankford had not yet been cleared by the DBS, and was due to be helping at the Life Exhibition. It was agreed that a culture of vigilance was more important than the certificate, and that he should continue to be involved, while recognising the issue.</p> <p>Jennifer also raised concerns about the possible interaction of the children arriving by coach with the general public. It was agreed that their teachers are used to this sort of interaction, but that vigilance, as always, was needed.</p>	<p>Jennifer Brown</p>
8	<p>Parish Share</p> <p>Margaret Vaughan explained the move from a “taxation” to a “pledge” system, in which mutuality (supporting ministries for those unable to pay for it themselves) is very important. She went on to outline the changes, too, to access to monies from the national centre, which are in part (and will be to an increasing extent) moving to a project oriented basis: Diocese must bid for the money in a fully rigorous way.</p> <p>All this means that the Parish Share must rise: she felt that nothing less than 5% would be reasonable.</p> <p>There was considerable discussion, in the course of which it was pointed out that during the past 8 years the overall increase in our Share has been 46%, and lately against a background of very low inflation. The point was also made that the character of the C of E was moving from the traditional pastoral role for a Christian community to a more mission oriented stance in a non-Christian society.</p> <p>The discussion stopped for prayer, and it was agreed to finish the discussion at the next meeting: our pledge must be in by the end of July. It was left to the PCC to continue to pray and think through this issue.</p>	<p>All Members</p>
9	<p>Church Fence</p> <p>The fence between us and our neighbours blew down in the recent storms. The base is rotten, and the fence, which has had a temporary repair, needs to be replaced. She has two quotes: a third has not replied. The cheaper is from Calvert’s, who are quoting £640 to replace like – for – like.</p> <p>Jenny proposed that we proceed with Calvert’s, seconded by Martin Howard, Passed unanimously.</p> <p>Jenny then spoke about the Kitchen water heater for drinks, which has failed after 12 years of intensive use. It was repaired by DMS, but failed again after</p>	<p>Jenny Lewis</p> <p>Jenny Lewis</p>

	<p>one day. It is proposed to replace it. Like for like would amount to £650. Karen Killick pointed out that the kitchen renovation fund had enough residual funding to allow its replacement. It was agreed to use this money in this way, after discussion with DMS as to what our best option would be.</p> <p>Jenny made the point strongly that we should have an enhanced maintenance budget to cover both reactive and planned maintenance.</p> <p>She noted that the window locks in the Centre will soon need to be replaced. HMP Kirklevington may be able once more to provide teams for less urgent maintenance tasks. This is under discussion.</p>	<p>Karen Killick</p> <p>Kathie Lambert</p>
10	<p>Hall Flooring</p> <p>Jenny Lewis gave to the PCC details of the three quotations she had received for the resurfacing of the Hall floor, and information she had gained on the merits of the systems from Paul Watson. She had looked at work done by Floorcraft NE, who do a lot of work for local schools, in Preston Hall: this was very good. Their quote is for £2,511.</p> <p>After some debate it was moved from the chair that we use Floorcraft NE, that we opt for a solvent based matt finish. This was carried unanimously.</p>	<p>Jenny Lewis</p>
11	<p>Talking Jesus</p> <p>From 2-5 March 2017 there will be an intensive evangelical campaign in the Durham Diocese, involving all the Bishops in the Northern Province, together with students from Cranmer and curates from around the region. Discussions will be held as to how best to conduct this exercise, and we shall need a representative from this Parish to be involved. The MDT will be devoting part of the next meeting to this, and will bring to the PCC a suggestion as to who they think is the best candidate.</p>	<p>John Littlehailes</p>
12	<p>The Queen's Birthday: feedback.</p> <p>The Street Party on 12 June was felt to be a great success, though it was felt that perhaps fewer people joined us from the street than last time. The Messy Church people were very enthusiastic.</p> <p>The PCC expressed its thanks to Jan, Jennifer and Gary, who were the organisers.</p> <p>The parallel celebration at the Connect Lunch Club was described as "brilliant" and went very well, greatly appreciated. The PCC again thanked those responsible for a wonderful event.</p>	
13	<p>Project Management Conference, 9.6.16 at Hexham Abbey.</p> <p>Jenny Lewis and Richard Spratt went to this event, and found it very valuable. There was a wide range of speakers, from various sources. All were interesting, though there was from some an emphasis on the problems of listed buildings. The key messages were on partnership and cooperation with the various bodies, and keeping people in touch with progress. Projects need key drivers to keep things moving. Clarity is needed on what we actually need as opposed to what we want. There was information on fund raising and on procurement.</p> <p>Richard pointed out that a significant mistake was to get the clergy to run the process. He said that consultation was vital, asking people what they wanted from the project – "what would you do?"</p>	

	Jenny said that there will be information from the meeting appearing on line.	
14	<p>Feedback from the visit of Bishop Mark</p> <p>The members of the PCC found him a deeply thoughtful man, and easy to talk to. He was open and friendly. His talks delivered to the congregations were very well received, especially his manner of prompting questions and thought rather than a didactic approach. He was very much at home in each of the congregations, and, for example, fitted in well at the Youth Service. Altogether an excellent and thought provoking visit.</p>	
15	<p>AOB</p> <p>There was no other business.</p> <p>Mark Harrison offered to lead the period of Opening Reflection and Prayer at the next meeting: Monday 18 July 2016, which will be his last before he leaves us to start his training for ordination.</p> <p>The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.</p>	Mark Harrison