



All Saints' Church

Preston on Tees

Minutes of the PCC Meeting on Monday 17th October 2016,
19.30 at 22 Dunottar Avenue, Eaglescliffe, TS16 0AB

	Present	Action
	<p>Kay Adeboye, Jennifer Brown, Lucy Falcus, 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.</p> <p>Visiting: Debbie Bunford (Staff Management Team), Sharon Pritchard.</p>	
1	<p>Opening Reflections and Prayers</p> <p>Sharon Pritchard, with responsibility across the Diocese for promoting Children's Ministry spoke eloquently about her role and the importance she felt should be given to the our work with children.</p> <p>She talked of the culture evolving around us, with</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Advances in technology meaning that children have in their pockets at once vastly enhanced communication, huge adventure and huge danger.2) Changes in the world around them with terrorism accepted as normal among young children.3) Changes in expectations of children, reflected in testing at ages as early as 7, an increasing number with mental health problems, and with worries about body image.4) Family life is changing: the once conventional family structure has changed, and continues to do so. <p>These all provide challenges for us in our approach, as churches, to young people</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) We must meet them "where they are" and not "where we think they are."2) We need to "be Jesus to them".3) We must "invest in the children", not as extras, but fully part of the church community, and honour the children's workers. <p>To achieve these goals we need to invest time, energy, and money now, to nurture them, get to know them, and be with them. She said that we need to get the balance right between ministry to youth and ministry to children.</p> <p>In response to questions Sharon said that she recognised the parallel importance of the ministry to the elderly. She quoted a children's worker known to her who is working 35/37 hours and getting £22 – 25,000 per annum. She felt that such a worker should be full time "at least". She said that an hour of face-time with children needs 2 hours of preparation time.</p> <p>In response to a question as to how to get a group of volunteers to help the paid worker, she said that the best way was to raise the profile of children's work, really recognising that it is fundamental to the work of the church, and</p>	

	<p>not to be afraid to talk about the need for such a team.</p> <p>She said that it was difficult to define the needed balance between church work and schools work, but commended us to take church into schools.</p> <p>John Lambert thanked her for her contribution to our consideration of this important issue.</p> <p>(Logically, Item 9 was then discussed, and will be reported below in the Agenda order).</p>	
2	<p>Apologies for Absence</p> <p>None.</p>	
3	<p>Approval of minutes of the meeting of 18 July 2016</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting of 19 September were approved with 3 abstentions for absence and none against.</p>	
4	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>None.</p>	
5 5.1	<p>Matters Arising (not covered elsewhere)</p> <p>(Item 8; 19.08.16). Re-ordering of the Church. Jenny Lewis told the PCC that David Beaumont has sent a plan, which arrived on the day of this meeting. It will be circulated to the PCC. We still await his full report, but he does say that he is concerned that the Stockton Council may not give permission to knock down the present Coffee Lounge, and points out that were there to be expansion North we will need a pillar at the corner where the music group currently exists.</p>	Jenny Lewis
6	<p>Financial Update</p> <p>Kathie Lambert distributed income and expenditure statements for the year to date.</p> <p>The finances are in good shape.</p> <p>We shall be getting an agent to assess the value of rental for 558a and we shall enquire about their handling the rental for us.</p> <p>Gift Aid is showing as below budget because of the periodic nature of application for the refunds.</p>	Kathie Lambert Jennifer Brown
7	<p>Draft Budget 2017</p> <p>Kathie Lambert presented to the PCC an amended draft budget for next year. There was discussion around the issue of Staff expenses, and it was decided to include a separate line for this item. Similarly, a difference between the Youth Work and Children's Work budgets is attributable to the payment to Youth for Christ, so this, too, will be included in a separate line.</p> <p>Karen Killick pointed out that there will be an expenditure of the order of £1,500 for our lightning conductor (see item 11 below).</p> <p>The issue of a maintenance budget for the IT was raised again: a sum of £500 per annum was suggested.</p> <p>We are paying (at present) for what is seen as inadequate cleaning for the Centre. This is being discussed with the provider, and is an issue to be addressed by the PCC in the future.</p> <p>The level of salaries for our staff was addressed. Kathie will bring to the PCC two budgets with differing allowances for inflation of salaries at the next meeting.</p>	Kathie Lambert Jennifer Brown John Littlehailes

8	<p>Safeguarding</p> <p>The corrected Drivers' Bank list is now in use. There remain some questions as to the current policy for Drivers (numbers needed, and age limits) which Jennifer is addressing and will bring to the PCC for their approval.</p>	<p>Jennifer Brown John Littlehailes</p>
9	<p>Children's Ministry: SMT Report</p> <p>On behalf of the Staff Management Team Debbie Bunford reported that the SMT has not yet finished its report, which is currently in draft form, awaiting some further input from Jan. It will then be passed to Jan and to John Lambert for their comments before being presented to the PCC.</p> <p>The issue is complex, since many children's workers have combined roles, and there exists a range of responsibilities and salaries. The SMT has also looked at increasing efficiency of support roles.</p> <p>John Lambert then read from St. Matthew's Gospel the account of Jesus calling for the children to be allowed to come to him, and the PCC spent some time in prayer.</p>	
10	<p>Mission Support</p> <p>Sue Levan had circulated the proposals from the Mission Giving Team for the second tranche of giving in 2016, amounting to £8,420. The larger sums are sent to overseas mission. The Angel Tree contribution is to provide presents for the children of prisoners in Holme House Prison.</p> <p>John Lambert proposed from the chair that the PCC accept the proposals. Carried Unanimously.</p>	<p>Sue Levan</p>
11	<p>Lightning Conductor</p> <p>Karen Killick reported to the PCC that testing of our lightning conductor has shown a steady approach towards non-compliance, and a recent test showed us to have passed this point. Karen has researched extensively the insurance consequences and the state of testing across the Diocese, as well as seeking out the best provider of these systems. Taylor Haswell has quoted a ball-park figure of £1,280 + VAT to provide us with two conductors. They will test our system for £250 + VAT, which Karen recommended to the PCC be done. All Agreed.</p>	<p>Karen Killick</p>
12	<p>Charges for Centre Use</p> <p>John Littlehailes reported on behalf of the Standing Committee that while our fees are clearly higher than other Halls in the area, we have a much larger Hall, and one in very good condition. We have no difficulty in filling it. In the light of the PCC's views expressed at the last meeting it is Proposed "That the PCC maintains the current base price for the use of the Hall, but that the discount of 50% offered to regular users be reduced to 33% (1/3rd) in the light of the extensive improvements put in place lately. There will be a separate charge for the use of the audio-visual system lately installed." The current regular users will be informed by Sandra. Seconded by Bruce Merrick. All in favour.</p> <p>Kay Adeboye will find a recent cost for the use of an audio-visual system.</p>	<p>Sandra Griffiths Kay Adeboye</p>
13	<p>AOB</p> <p>Pam Rushton raised an important concern about a personnel matter. There was extensive discussion about the issue, which will be pursued by Jenny</p>	<p>Jenny Lewis</p>

	<p>Lewis.</p> <p>At the next meeting, 21 November 2016, Lucy Falcus has offered to lead the period of Reflection and Prayer.</p> <p>The meeting finished with the Grace</p>	<p>Lucy Falcus</p>
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