



All Saints' Church

Preston on Tees

**Minutes of the PCC Meeting on Monday 21 January 2019,
19.30 at 22 Dunottar Avenue, Eaglescliffe, TS16 0AB**

| | Present | Action |
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| | <p>Paul Arnold, Debbie Bunford, Lucy Falcus, Lawrence Gnanaraj, Martin Howard, Karen Killick, Kathie Lambert, Sue Levan, Stuart Levin, Pamela Rushton, Richard Spratt, Margaret Vaughan, David Warren. <u>Chair:</u> John Lambert.</p> <p>Nathan Bruce from Diocese Finance was present for items 1 and 2.</p> | |
| 1 | <p>Opening Reflections and Prayer</p> <p>Kathie Lambert read Matthew 2.1-18, the arrival of the Magi. Christmas is joyful celebration and in popular culture Magi are included in the fun. In Matthew, they actually bring sadness; as a result of their visit many young boys are killed. The full Magi's story is often not told today. Kathie said that if her children had heard this story when they were young, they would have had nightmares as it is horrendous true story. The Magi weren't Jews, but learned men, they were part astronomer and part astrologer. As non-Jews they recognized Jesus' importance. As a result of their visit Jerusalem was disturbed. Why? Because Herod and his authority was threatened. The Magi recognized Jesus as a king and brought gifts for a king and God.</p> <p>This year as a PCC we might need to make difficult decisions, but we need to remember that Jesus is with us to walk with us and guide us. We need to get our strength from God. It might put us in danger like the persecuted church. The PCC then broke into small groups to pray about the year ahead.</p> | |
| 2 | <p>Parish Giving Scheme</p> <p>Nathan Bruce, Parish Giving Champion at Diocese of Durham gave a presentation about the Parish Giving Scheme. The PGS is a direct debt system through which members can only give to their own church. Gift aid is automatically done every month and reduces the workload of church volunteers. It is designed to encourage regular givers, but it can also handle one-off gifts. It can't do all types of giving so cash, cheque, plate and envelopes schemes can continue side by side with the PGS. Some churches have abolished envelopes as a result of PGS. It is not for all givers, the giver can still have a choice of how they give. Givers can be anonymous to the church so that only PGS know the givers name, but most are not anonymous. The scheme follows big charities who are now asking for Direct Debts compared to years ago when they asked for cash.</p> <p>By using PGS the total giving to a church increases and giving by other means reduces. There will be church members who don't give and a new scheme might encourage them to start. When a giver joins the scheme they are given the option for their gift to automatically increase every year in line with inflation. Also, each year givers are encouraged to review their giving. PGS is an independent charity with trustees appointed by each diocese. All the admin is done centrally by PGS. It is very secure. Currently it is a paper and phone-based system but it will be moving online later this year. Each diocese pays to use PGS. Durham Diocese currently pay £27,000.</p> | |

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| | <p>PGS is a newish scheme in Durham diocese. Across all dioceses £2.61m was handled by PGS in December 2018 from 1990 parishes.</p> <p>PCC members were asked to think about the presentation and the scheme will be discussed at the February meeting.</p> | |
| 3 | <p>Apologies for absence Kay Adeboye, Simon Honeywell, John Littlehales, Ian Taylor, Nicola Wrightson.</p> | |
| 4 | <p>Minutes of previous Meetings Minutes of the meeting of 11 December 2018 were approved. All in favour save one abstention.</p> | |
| 5 | <p>Correspondence None.</p> | |
| 6 | <p>Matters Arising (not covered elsewhere on the Agenda) Jan is now on sabbatical and has a spiritual director. The Staff Management Team are updating Staff Handbook re: sabbaticals and compassionate leave. The handbook will be presented to the PCC for approval.</p> | |
| 7 | <p>Financial Update Almost final 2018 accounts circulated, one amendment moved an expenditure from Extraordinary items to AV & PA. At the January Standing Committee meeting they agreed to pay £500 to the Moses Project out of mission giving to help replace items stolen at a recent break in. There is more money available from 2018 Mission Giving budget which will be carried over into 2019.</p> <p>We have recently started to be charged bank charges (December £60). The £1.50 charge is for each cheque and on every £100 of cash handled. We will be challenging this by going into the branch in person. To reduce the number of cheques and amount of cash that is handled we will be getting a card reader so that payments can be paid through ChurchSuite.</p> <p>The Lord has been good to us and thanks were given to all who contribute and thanks to Kathie Lambert for her work.</p> <p>Kathie Lambert told the PCC that Richard Spratt is interested in taking up the role of the Assistant Treasurer. Proposed by Pamela Rushton and seconded by seconded by Martin Howard "That Richard Spratt become Assistant Treasurer." All in favour except that Richard Spratt abstained.</p> | Kathie Lambert |
| 8 | <p>Safeguarding Nicola Wrightson said by email that there was nothing of note to report. Tees Valley Safeguarding are offering free training in June for NW if we want to take it up.</p> | |
| 9 | <p>Wardens' Update Men's toilets in centre has new lighting. The toilet has been fixed and the walls will be painted next week.</p> <p>A bike rack will be installed near the centre.</p> <p>Trees around the church need trimming as per the Report from REACH. We are getting quotes.</p> <p>We are in the process of obtaining quotes to clean gutters and sky lights. Likely to be about £1000.</p> <p>A new law requires us to increase the energy efficiency rating of 558A and B. We are in the process of getting quotes for double glazing. The cost is expected to be around £10,000. The wardens were asked to confirm that fitting double glazing alone would be sufficient to increase the energy efficiency to above the required minimum.</p> | Karen Killick |
| 10 | <p>REACH Richard Spratt said that the installation of the new heating system will start on January 28 and last approximately 3 weeks. Karen Killick has organised a</p> | |

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| | <p>Cleaning and Curry Night on 14 February to clean the church after the work is completed.</p> <p>The faculty for Phase 3 was submitted on time and was discussed at the DAC meeting on the 15 January. But as of yet we have had no feedback. The planning application for phases 2 and 4 is ongoing with discussions about parking at the east end. We have met with Highways and they are supportive of reinstating the entrance from Yarm Road for a small car park. The gateway will not require widening, but the road way inside will. David Beaumont has corresponded with the Tree Preservation Officer as the parking is under trees with preservation orders and the work will need to ensure that the trees are not affected both during the building work and the long term. Proposed by Richard Spratt and seconded by Karen Killick "The PCC will withdraw the current planning application and resubmit in the summer." All in favour.</p> <p>"The PCC agrees to transfer £25,000, from the sale of 558 Yarm Rd in the 1970s, into the REACH account, noting that we will be reducing our reserves significantly." Proposed from the Chair, all in favour.</p> | <p>Richard Spratt</p> |
| <p>11</p> | <p>Resource Church</p> <p>Paul Arnold presented about All Saints' becoming a Resource Church, with money from the CofE Strategic Development Fund. Paul Arnold is currently writing the bid. Stockton Parish Church is about to become a RC to seed communities across the area. We are about to plant a church in Newtown and are then planning to plant further churches in order to grow the church in struggling areas or amongst groups of people who need to be reached. The money will allow us to take on staff to do this. Our bid is due to be submitted in October 2019 with money starting to be received in the summer of 2020, to build a team for launching into St Paul's in 2021. We are bidding for £500,000 to develop potential leaders over 7 years so that we have a ready-made team to plant another church. Capital projects are not funded. After 7 years we, or the plant, would need to find the money ourselves to continue the work and pay the paid leaders. Margaret Vaughan is part of the team that scrutinises bids and will declare a conflict of interest in the future.</p> | |
| <p>12</p> | <p>Church Centre Hire</p> <p>Twice in the last 7/8 months the centre has be left in a very dirty state by external hirers on a Saturday night. In both cases the hirer was not a member of the church and it was only discovered by John Lambert on Sunday morning. As a result, he had to clean the centre rather than attend 9am service. Martin Howard proposed and Pamala Rushton seconded "That All Saints' cease Saturday night bookings after 6pm for external hirers and that we review the policy in May." All in favour. It was agreed to look back over last year's hall hire to ascertain the number of times the hall has been hired and to whom.</p> | |
| <p>13</p> | <p>AOB</p> <p>(1) John Lambert asked if anyone is considering standing down in April. Lawrence Gnanaraj stated that he would like to continue on the PCC, but in future will only be able to arrive at 8pm. Sue Levan said she is considering not standing in April.</p> <p>(2) Lucy Falcus volunteered to lead the Opening Reflections and Prayers at the next PCC on Monday 18 February 2019.</p> <p>The Meeting ended with The Grace.</p> | |