

## PCC Minutes, 12th December 2022

To / Present	
1. Diane Backhouse (PSO & SC) 2. Lucy Falcus (Deanery Synod) 3. Rob Govier 4. Simon Honeywell (SC) 5. Geoff Jowett 6. Karen Killick (V. Chair & Diocesan Synod) 7. Alexandra Lamond	8. Matt Levinsohn (Chair & SC) 9. Anne Rolfe (Warden & SC) 10. Pamela Rushton 11. Chris Vass (Warden & SC) 12. Margaret Vaughan (Deanery Synod) 13. Paul Wheeldon
#	Agenda Items
1.	<p><b>Opening Prayers and Reflections</b></p> <p>Margaret brought a reflection: Interruptions and disruptions.</p> <p>Previously she had been challenged by, and was mulling over, the following questions relating to the field of renewal of God's church in NE England.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Where would the disruption come from? Would we recognise it and welcome it and, if we did, how would we respond to it?</li> </ul> <p>An Advent reading relates to this: "therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour" Matt 24:44.</p> <p>We need to be ready for the unexpected hour. Ministry can often happen in the interruptions. We need to make time and invest in interruptions – could lead to fruitfulness rather than frustration at not accomplishing what we set out to do.</p> <p>Advent is an entire season of interruptions and disruption. Many people's lives were interrupted and disrupted around the first Christmas: Joseph, Mary, shepherds, wise men, etc. and later John disrupting people's comfortableness with his prophetic teaching and call to repentance and Jesus work of healing and wholeness then disrupts John's expectation of a Messiah who is coming to judge and punish.</p> <p>What are we all waiting for in advent – stress free time at Christmas or waiting for the one who comes at unexpected hours?</p> <p>Are we ready for God's holy disruptions in this season and beyond, of hope, peace, joy and love, both individually and as a church body? Will we welcome them as they interrupt our lives? Will we be ready for a season of holy interruption and disruption?</p>
2.	<p><b>Apologies for absence, and declarations and conflicts of interest and statement of confidentiality</b></p> <p>a) Apologies for absence had been received from: Jonathan Backhouse, John Belmont, Mark Boyes, Sarah Hope, Martin Howard.</p> <p>b) There is one potential declaration of interest,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Matt Levinsohn as incumbent, his wife as an employee (Receptionist).</li> </ul> <p>a) At meeting with Matt, Diane and Jonathan earlier this month it was agreed that Jonathan would step down from the PCC and his role as PCC Secretary with effect from yesterday 11th December 2022 – for personal and work circumstances.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jonathan passed on the message, to be read "Thank you for everyone who has supported me as PCC Secretary."</li> <li>He also wished to thank Diane for her support over the last few months with help with the minutes, and to Lucy who completed the minutes in November.</li> </ul> <p>b) It was also discussed at the meeting that Diane would take on the additional role of PCC Secretary until the ACPM next year (date tbc). Alex proposed Diane as PCC secretary until</p>

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	<p>APCM, Pam seconded, all in favour.</p> <p>c) Pass on thanks from PCC to Jonathan for all his work for PCC.</p>
3.	<p><b>Approval of minutes of the meeting – November PCC</b></p> <p>a) The PCC were asked if there were any comments, issues or concerns relating to the minutes taken, by Dr Lucy Falcus at the meeting held on <b>21<sup>st</sup> November 2022</b>. None were given.</p> <p>b) Matt proposed that the minutes be agreed as a true record of proceedings: all in favour, two abstentions. <b>(ACTION – Diane to send minutes to Shiromi)</b></p>
4.	<p><b>Actions/Update and matters arising, not covered elsewhere on the agenda – Matt</b></p> <p>Matt updated the PCC, informing them that</p> <p>a) Luis Pilau 2024: agreed to work towards this for 2024, however, no further progress as yet.</p> <p>b) Signage: Nethanja is starting to redesign image.</p> <p>c) Deanery Synod transformation presentation: attended by a number of church members.</p>
5.	<p><b>UPDATE: Financial</b></p> <p>In John's absence Margaret updated the PCC, informing them that</p> <p>a) A positive financial update was seen in latest report</p> <p>b) Generous donation with gift aid being claimed aided lower deficit than anticipated. Also £8,000 Utility grant being returned shortly.</p> <p>c) Staff salaries: a 10% rise had already been budgeted for. After discussion Matt proposed 10% rise for staff on Main Pay scale. All in favour, 1 abstention. Matt also proposed a 10% pay rise for administrator role, all in favour. These rises are to take place from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023 <b>(ACTION – Treasurer)</b>.</p>
6.	<p><b>UPDATE: Safeguarding</b></p> <p>Diane had previously emailed a confidential Safeguard Report and informed PCC that</p> <p>a) New Parish Dashboard had been activated and level 1 completed.</p> <p>b) Need to bring Action Plan to PCC <b>(ACTION – Diane)</b>.</p>
7.	<p><b>UPDATE: Warden(s)</b></p> <p>Chris updated the PCC, informing them that</p> <p>a) Flat 555A has new shower and floor covering. Awaiting quotes for extractor fans for kitchen and bathroom. Anti-condensation paint has been applied and is making a difference.</p> <p>b) Pest control – no squirrels found – 2 visits £100.</p> <p>c) Further roofing quote to repair squirrel damage and roof area visible from car park and above outer door near cleaning cupboard was obtained: Hartburn Roofers £3216. John Whitfield had quoted £1791. Simon proposed John Whitfield be given work, Paul seconded, all in favour <b>(ACTION – Wardens)</b>.</p> <p>d) QI Report – Bell needs servicing – potentially being provided free by Taylor's of Loughborough – Rob liaising <b>(ACTION – Rob &amp; Wardens)</b>.</p>
8.	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p>Matt was asked if any response to PCC letter sent to Diocese had been received. Comments have been made, however, no official response - Matt to ask for a written response <b>(ACTION – Matt)</b>.</p>
9.	<p><b>UPDATE: Chair</b></p> <p>Matt led a time of reflection, worship and prayer: what sort of year has it been and what has God been doing? After discussion many highlights were brought forth:</p> <p>a) First church weekend away in a while – went well: good for building relationships and being family together. 50 people also attended New Wine from church.</p>

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	<p>b) Mentoring has started: 15 being mentored at present.</p> <p>c) 134 out of 261 adults are in life groups.</p> <p>d) Youth – very active committed and being more involved with adults – apprenticeships.</p> <p>e) A number of training opportunities to find out how can use gifts in church have taken place: SHAPE course, prophetic teaching resulting in an increased focus. Other courses have been offered: LLF, Faith Taster, Alpha, Dementia Awareness to both church members and the community.</p> <p>f) Three believers baptisms have taken place: 20 children, young people and adults in total.</p> <p>g) 20+ group growing and gaining momentum.</p> <p>h) Connect – especially summer group meeting for coffee in homes</p> <p>i) Messy church has changed format – more conversations and more families, including new ones, coming back.</p> <p>j) More schools involvement has developed throughout year: Life Exhibition, Assemblies and lessons in new and old schools.</p> <p>k) Worship – new songs being introduced at both services, training evenings are taking place.</p> <p>l) We have looked at Luke's gospel; then kingdom culture and current culture weighing up big questions; then studied Ezekiel and finally focused on Jesus during Sunday morning preaching.</p> <p>m) Encounter is developing – needs advertising more widely.</p> <p>n) A Safer church with better systems. Safeguarding is very much embedded, and we have dealt with a lot.</p> <p>o) We have a system in place to aid integration into church, which is working well. We are seeing people reconnecting with church, and men becoming more interested.</p> <p>p) Financially we began the year anticipating a deficit budget, however, it now looks likely we will finish the year pretty much breaking even.</p> <p>q) We have accomplished a lot of building works, including maintaining the fabric of the building, and also installing a sound and Wi-Fi system.</p> <p>r) There has been more sharing of stories of evangelism, prayer and testimony. Taking risks.</p> <p>s) Curate is joining in summer: Ben, Emily and baby Lucas who are visiting 18<sup>th</sup> December.</p> <p>t) We have started connecting with wider community through offering warm spaces, inviting partner organisations to meet and offer their support at same time as Connect, advertising training courses. A more positive reaction to church is developing from the community around us.</p> <p>u) Partnering more intentionally with St Paul's from this month: some preachers are going to preach there.</p> <p>v) Mission partners visiting throughout year and are being supported through Life groups.</p> <p>w) Social events including meals, walks, games nights and parties have been developed.</p> <p>Discussion was then held concerning what we would like to see God do, and us to be part of, in next year - 2023.</p> <p>a) Want to see more people come into the kingdom of God.</p> <p>b) Planting: As the STF bid goes through we need to evaluate if we are ready to plant congregations or whole churches and whether to do that here or elsewhere?</p> <p>c) Life Groups: Our average size of group is too big. We need to have space in them for new people to join and embed. Therefore we need new groups and multiply existing ones.</p> <p>d) A possible afternoon café style service to increase contact with Messy Church families' on alternate fortnight to Messy church.</p> <p>e) Develop and offer further courses to engage the wider community and to increase our visibility.</p> <p>f) Engaging our fringe, plus the 80 or so people not serving as far as we know.</p> <p>g) LLF- Gay marriage etc. Feb announcement.</p> <p>A time of prayer followed – giving thanks to God for 2022 and bringing our hopes for 2023 to him.</p>
-	<b>Close</b> - The meeting finished with the Grace
-	<b>Date of next PCC meeting</b> – 16th January 2023