

### PCC Minutes, 17th July 2023

#### To / Present

- 1. Diane Backhouse (PCC Sec, PSO & SC)
- 2. Gillian Davison
- 3. Lucy Falcus (Deanery Synod)
- 4. Simon Honeywell
- 5. Martin Howard
- 6. Geoff Jowett (SC)
- 7. Alexandra Lamond
- 8. Matt Levinsohn (Chair & SC)

- 9. Pamela Rushton
- 10. Ben Scott (Curate)
- 11. Chris Vass (Warden & SC)
- Margaret Vaughan (Deanery & Diocesan Synod)
- 13. Elaine Webster
- 14. Paul Wheeldon
- 15. Guy Wingate (Treasurer & SC)

### Agenda Items

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#### **Opening Prayers and Reflections**

Karen was due to bring the reflection to PCC for July. In her absence Diane brought Karen's thoughts:

With all that is going on in the world right now, in general news, wars, politics, people in the public eye with feet of clay, strikes, short term government planning for our country, etc. and at All Saints's sadness in our church family, budget worries with a substantial deficit on planned deficit, long term illness of church members, etc. etc. PCC read Psalm 121 and Psalm 46 in New Living Translation.

1. Karen wanted to emphasise that provided we love and trust Him, God is to hand watching, helping, and loving us. Wec see it personally as evidenced in Ps 121; and wider – All Saints', Europe, the world as evidenced in Ps 46.

'A scared world needs a fearless church' - A.W. Tozer

PCC then took a few minutes to read through Psalms 121 and 46 individually and prayed quietly, then prayed a one sentence prayer round the circle according to what God had put on their heart. The reflection ended with a prayer thanking God for his love and care.

Next Reflection and Prayers: Alex Lamond

### **UPDATE: Connect**

Karen Snowden brought an update concerning Connect ministry with Jenny Scaife.

- a) Origins of Connect started by Sylvia Wilson approx. 20 years ago numbers up to 70 + but have dropped since Covid. Meets on 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month, except April and August. Seated exercise meets on Tuesdays when no Connect lunch and is run by a lady who comes to Connect. Pamela Rushton does a short thought for the day at these meetings.
- b) Leaders and responsibilities 5 main leaders Cynth Latcham (kitchen and treasurer), Kate Pickover (setting up room and other), Jenny Scaife (entertainment), Sue Levan (service in church) and Karen Snowden (overall leader for anything else, making sure we have enough helpers on day and general trouble shooting!) Connect also has a further 15 volunteers but never have that number as not all can attend every month. In addition some people from church attend who come to chat to our guests.
- c) Short service before meal –11.45 to 12.15 Sue,and Karen are main leaders Janet Smith plays piano regularly, Gill Clayton, Paul and Margaret Fleming bring a short talk e.g. Forgiveness, God's love for us, how God changes us. About 20 regularly attend this service at present, has been near 40 attending at times.



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	<ul> <li>d) Meal 12.15 to 1.15pm - 2 courses e.g. chicken mushroom pie/pancakes, quiche, salad strawberries - cater for 19 special diets.</li> <li>e) 1.15 to 2pm Entertainment - quiz, craft, talks, choir, music – ukelele group, themed evenings, 'Connect's Got Talent' in October and a trip out once a year.</li> <li>f) Photos of events and trip to Glass Centre were then shown.</li> <li>Future plans</li> <li>a) Increase availability for prayer - at present prayer happens during service, grace before meal, prayer box just started – want to offer prayer after service.</li> <li>b) To keep in touch with guests who no longer able to come considering taking communion to those who want it in their homes.</li> <li>c) Guest speakers at service from congregation.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>d) Alex Lamond has started a coffee morning in Timothy Hackworth Court to meet 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month to build relationships and have Christian input (Dec will be 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday – 19<sup>th</sup>).</li> <li>How can PCC help?</li> <li>a) Tell people about Connect lunch club. Visit on a Tuesday and book in lunch.</li> <li>b) Pray for increase in numbers once more and best way to publicise.</li> <li>c) Pray for all present leaders and helpers, and more helpers, e.g. to help in the kitchen to prepare meals, buy ingredients, etc., or wash up.</li> <li>d) For best way to communicate what we do to the wider congregation.</li> <li>e) Know how to share God's word sensitively with those who come to the meal but not the service. Those who attend Connect see All Saints' as their church.</li> <li>f) For best way to keep in touch with those no longer able to get out.</li> <li>Questions</li> <li>a) Where do attendees of Connect generally come from? Church area or wider afield? Out of the area are invited by many – may need to publicise more local area.</li> <li>On behalf of PCC Matt thanked Karen and Jenny for their involvement and running of Connect and prayed for the ministry.</li> </ul>
3.	Apologies for absence, and declarations of interest  a) Apologies had been received from: Adam Burns, Karen Killick and Anne Rolfe.
4.	<ul> <li>Approval of minutes of the meeting         <ul> <li>PCC were asked if there were any comments, issues or concerns relating to the minutes taken at the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2023. None were given.</li> </ul> </li> <li>b) PCC was asked to approve the minutes for June as a true record of proceedings, proposed by Chris, seconded by Paul: 11 in favour/3 abstentions/none against. Motion carried. (ACTION – Diane - to forward minutes to Shiromi).</li> </ul>
5.	Actions/Update and matters arising, not covered elsewhere on the agenda  a) All of actions from June PCC have been completed. No questions raised.
6.	<ul> <li>UPDATE: Chair</li> <li>a) Matt expressed his thanks for everything PCC had done this year. We have continued to press into discipleship. To return to what we are called to in going deeper and making our church and the Jesus we represent, to be accessible. Work on the website continues. A few of us have felt we need to start in the Autumn to pray more about God's direction and leading for next steps. That could be about planting, it could be about all sorts. A time of listening and pressing in.</li> <li>b) Ben (new curate) has settled in really well and thanks everyone for their welcome.</li> </ul>



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	c) Church camp went well. 2 more people than last year for staying overnight. Fewer day visitors.
	More God input. Margaret raised concern from a number of 9am congregation – no service offered at All Saints'.
	d) Marriage course has been small but has gone well. Final session was w/c 17 <sup>th</sup> July. Preliminary
	thinking about doing it for the community.
	e) Elaine Ely is looking into a wellbeing course which might appeal to those outside the church
	(Jan/Feb 2024) (ACTION Matt).
	f) Transition event for Youth to Young Adults Group has been positive: 2 moving up.
	g) Staff day away in Saltburn – a great time to reflect and pray.
	h) Preston Primary have invited us back to do assemblies.
	i) Looking at the Applied Theology course which is running through TVCC and Matt is going to
	meet Michael from their church who runs it on 19th July to see if it is something we might want to
	collaborate with (ACTION Matt).
	j) Teesside churches Prayer in the City was great. There is a day fixed for Alpha to start end
	Sept/Oct 23 - will grow a team and advertise.
	k) Current American team (17 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> July) has been great.
	I) Deanery Planning: In October All Saints' are hosting a morning to re-evaluate the plan for the
	deanery in this area. That includes what focus we feel called to, where vicar's stipends should be used, how we might apply for Strategic money from the diocese and so on. We need to send
	2 members of our PCC to represent us. We also need to evaluate our thoughts on several
	questions which will be sent around about our vision, our strengths and areas to work on, future
	plans, and viability prior to Sept PCC (ACTION Matt).
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	UPDATE: LLF Roadmap
	a) Matt updated the PCC on the progress made at General Synod regarding LLF. Of particular note
	was the sense from the GS working parties that they are not convinced they will have completed
	their work in time for the GS November meeting. PCC discussed whether to continue the partial
	pause on Parish Share which we began in March. The discussion included concerns around
	whether we are acting as Jesus would, whether the pause is targeted appropriately as it impacts
	the diocese but is directed more to the direction of parts of GS, a desire to ensure we are
	representing the congregation well, an evaluation of the effectiveness of the pause in
	communicating our voice and questions over what could lead us to pay or not pay the
	remainder. It was decided to continue the pause at this stage, which will be revisited later in the
	year. Matt proposed that this PCC will continue to pause 25% of its Parish Share pending
	decisions made in November Synod: 9 favour, 3 abstentions, 3 against. Motion carried.
7.	b) It was also decided that we need to continue to listen to the congregation so we have an
	accurate perception of their feelings, and to pray more around the next synod and lead the
	church in doing so. It was proposed a series of prayer events from the 11 <sup>th</sup> to the 16 <sup>th</sup> November
	and then onwards to the end of November.
	c) Finally, it was also decided to do some work on welcome, and so Ben (Curate) will start a piece
	of work which will include gathering opinions around how we welcome all types of people
	including those of different ages, marital status, sexuality, parents or not, ethnicity and so on.
	This was borne out of the question of how easy is it for different people to join the church and a
	desire that all should be welcomed well and helped to integrate, grow in faith and join the family
	here. Matt closed the section of the meeting on LLF by stressing how painful this is for all of us,
	how none of us like division, and how we want to ensure whilst paying attention to this important
	issue, that we do not allow it to overwhelm all the other things God has for us at All Saints.
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	U	PDATE: Financial
	G	uy brought this month's finance update to PCC.
	a)	Mid-year accounts for first six months of 2023 shared at PCC for review and discussion.
	b)	Newsletter with summary of church accounts with provisional figures was sent out via email to
		church membership followed by a short presentation at Sunday services (9am and 10.30am) 16 <sup>th</sup>
		July.
	c)	
		noted below.
	d)	Final end of June Balance shows overspend of £2,900 to budget which is mainly due to unplanned
		maintenance costs associated with fixing winter damage to roof and keeping electrics up-to-date
		for building certification required by diocese.
8.	,	Plan to defer non-urgent building maintenance to 2024 to help recover immediate overspend.
	f)	Finance during rest of year to include sound desk upgrade and start of new Serve Team member (Intern from USA). Costs for this year already in 2023 budget.
	g)	Awaiting direction on our church mission giving donations for second half of 2023 from Mission
		Support Group. We will prioritise donations over next few months to overseas mission partners to
		maintain the continuity of our regular giving to them.
	h)	Final figures still need to be collated for Church Camp, but expect to have run at a loss.
	i)	Separately, there has been some recovery in balance of available contingency funds. Now just
		marginally behind the principle of having money two-months worth of operating costs available to
	:\	cope with an unforeseen significant situation(s).
	j)	Financial planning to begin shortly with proposed budget coming to PCC late autumn for review and approval.
	k)	We have continued to pause payments of 25% Parish Share (started 1st April) awaiting resolution
	,	to Synod LLF developments. This money is ring-fenced so that it is available come such time we
		decide what to do with it.
	I)	Thanks to Martin for offering to take on Payroll.
9.	U	PDATE: Working Parties Feedback
		one was given.
		PDATE: Safeguarding
		ane updated the PCC regarding safeguarding.
10.	a)	A new Diocesan Safeguard Policy was distributed prior to the meeting. Diane proposed
		acceptance of the new Diocesan Safeguard Policy 2023 as All Saints' Safeguard Policy, seconded
	<b>ل</b> ما	by Simon: all in favour ( <b>ACTION Diane – send to Shiromi for website</b> ).
	b)	Diane discussed with PCC the types of concerns brought to her attention as PSO without breaking confidentiality.
	11	PDATE: Warden(s)
		hris updated the PCC regarding:
		At June PCC it was mentioned in the Warden's report that Nigel Stoves Plumbing and Heating Co,
		who installed and service our boilers found an electrical fault on the warm air unit PCB. The cost
		of the replacement parts is £517 (includes vat) and the cost to install the parts will be £270.00
11.		(includes VAT + labour). Total cost would be £787.00, and wardens were asked to obtain another
' ' '		quote. At the time they were not aware that we had already accepted the Nigel Stoves quotation
		and we were delaying installation until the following month (July) – Guy Wingate had been aware
		of the situation and knew we had already purchased the part required. Wardens apologised for
		misinforming the meeting.
	b)	
		Honeywell repaired the brickwork on the fire exit. A big thanks to everyone involved.



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	<ul> <li>c) Several people have reported pigeons nesting in or near to the solar panels and some rendering has also been dislodged. Wardens have spoken to John Whitfield (roofer), who agreed to quote for metal netting around the solar panels. Part of a down pipe at the rear of the centre has fallen off so there are a couple of tiles that have been dislodged and John has been asked to quote for these as well (ACTION Wardens).</li> <li>d) Nathan Myers and Josh are beginning the installation of additional lighting for the front of the</li> </ul>
	during July.
	e) Electrical survey on flat will take place during August (ACTION Wardens).
12.	<ul> <li>UPDATE: Policy/Procedures</li> <li>Discussion was held regarding each presented policy/procedure.</li> <li>a) Drivers Bank Policy and Declaration Form – Matt proposd acceptance of the policy and declaration form with minor amendments: all in favour (ACTION Diane to make amendments and send to Shiromi for website).</li> <li>b) Matt thanked Diane for her work putting the policy and declaration form together.</li> </ul>
	Any Other Business
13.	a) Retirement of Bishop Paul was discussed. Leaving in February 2024 and replaced by 2025. Bishop Sarah will fill post in meantime. Margaret explained appointment process.
-	Close - The meeting finished with the Grace
-	Date of next PCC meeting – 18th September 2023 at 7:30pm.