

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, GOSFORTH

'The Community of All Saints': living, thoughtful, caring faith'

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Held on Tuesday 2nd July 2019 at 7.30 PM
In the Church

PRESENT: Peter Brown (chair), Rev. Sarah Moon, Ros Place, Paul Wilkinson, Alison Proudfoot, , Dorothy Henderson, Fred Carr, Pam Taylor, Karen Parkhouse, Diane Kirkup, Ethel Randall, Nicky White, Katie Hogg, Rev. Ruth Birnie, James Cartmell, Christine Willoughby, Karoline Wellborne, Diana Lavin, Constance Maselino Okai, Nick Glover (secretary).

Also present: Ian Ness, Church architect

- 2019-05-01** **Opening Prayer and Welcome:** Welcome and opening prayer by Peter.
- 2019-05-04** **The Quinquennial Report** Item taken out of sequence, to minimise Ian Ness's time.
Ian summarised the requirement for, and the nature of the Report.
He then focussed on his recommendations; nothing too major – roof tiles, parapet gutters, some masonry deterioration.
He clarified a question re. a lightning conductor test – it needs to be completed.
Agreed to refer the Report to the Fabric Committee, to review and make recommendations.
Ian Ness left the meeting, with our thanks.
- 2019-05-02** **Apologies for Absence:** apologies were received from Jo Errington Stevens, Felicity Shoesmith, Claudia Newbegin, Lesley Ogilvie, Kath Davies.
- 2019-05-03** **Minutes of the Meetings, 13th May**
These were both approved and signed as a correct record. Proposed by Diane Kirkup and seconded by Dorothy Henderson.
- Matters Arising from the Minutes**
Item 12: it was explained that the work referred to will be completed by another contractor at a better price.
- MAIN ITEMS**
- 2019-05-05** **The Security of the Church**
Paul summarised the vandalism problems encountered since February around the Church, and the actions taken by the authorities.
Peter raised the question of whether we can reopen the Church during the day; do we wait till term time in September, or have an earlier rota of manned opening times. This would raise problems of getting volunteers and of locking up the building.
Discussion followed of possible strategies with general support for the importance of being open.
Sarah Moon proposed, Constance Maselino seconded, that we should reopen the Church as soon as possible, closing at 2pm each day. This was agreed.
- 2019-05-06** **Improvements to the Choir Vestry**
Paul summarised the problem with the Vestry, primarily the expense and inefficiency of having to heat the whole Church to achieve some warmth in the vestry.
Agreed that a heating upgrade is required; an electric wall-mounted heater one possibility.
Clarified that no decisions have been taken and that we must review the possibilities, which need also to deal with the problems caused by the large windows.
- Peter summarised by stressing that we must remember that the main use of the room is music.
The opinions of the Director of Music – current and soon to be appointed – must be considered.
The heating limitations must be dealt with.
The changes could enable the room to be used for other Church purposes.
- The issue should now be referred to the Fabric Committee for further consideration.
- 2019-05-07** **A New Loop System for Church**
Paul reported that contractors have been appointed to review how we can improve and upgrade the loop system and the whole sound system.

- 2019-05-08 Director of Music Recruitment Update**
Peter reported that the role has now been advertised in the Church Times and details are on line.
Closing date 12th July, shortlist meeting 17th July, interviews 5th August.
- 2019-05-09 Sarah Moon Items**
i) An Update on St Hugh's: gratitude to Fred Carr for his offer to help with their accounts, after the death of Bob Ridley, their treasurer. Emphasised how St Hugh's needs our help, now more than ever.
ii) Sarah would appreciate any help in identifying any members of the congregation who are unexpectedly missing and who may appreciate a pastoral visit.
iii) She expressed her gratitude for all the help and encouragement that she has received.
- STANDING ITEMS**
- 2019-05-10 Finance**
Fred gave a reminder, to new members in particular, that all members of the PCC are Trustees and what this implies.
Also that certain details of each PCC member are required on the Charity Commission website.
- 2019-05-11 Fabric**
Paul reported that additional paving work is to be done on 4 areas around the site, by a new contractor as mentioned earlier.
The lawn mowers have been checked, 2 been repaired and one probably needs replacement.
Thanks to Keith Davies for taking on this role.
A grounds gardening session fixed for Friday 5th July.
- 2019-05-12 Update Reports**
i) Standing Committee
i) Management fee with letting agents; in view of legal changes, this has increased from 7% to 10% but agreed that this still represented a good arrangement, especially in view of the good service received.
ii) Clarified that the cleaning contract fee will actually be more, but we can expect a much better service.
iii) Desk space for the new Parish Assistant; discussed that desk space at All Saints' would provide him with a base when working here. To be clarified in September.
ii) Safeguarding and Access
Kath Davies asked that the matter of Confidential Declaration forms and DBS checks be raised with new members. The one new member present (Ethel Randall) reported that this was in hand.
iii) Health and Safety
No issues to be raised.
iv) Deanery Synod
The most recent meeting had heard presentations about the developments at the Cathedral and the new Resource Church and the nature of the support these developments will need.
- 2019-05-13 Administrative Business**
i) Correspondence No items received
ii) Alterations to the Electoral Roll No applications received
iii) Any Other Business
Peter reported that research into the Parish Share system was still ongoing and so no changes were imminent.
iv) Date of Next Meeting
Monday 9th September at 7.30pm in Archbishop Runcie School.
- 2019-05-14 Closing Prayer**
The meeting was closed with the Grace, at 8.35pm.