

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, GOSFORTH

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

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Held on Tuesday 19th November 2019 at 7.30 PM
In Church

PRESENT: Revd. Canon Andrew Shipton (chair), Revd Bev Davies, Paul Wilkinson, Ros Place, Peter Brown, Kath Davies, Dorothy Henderson, Pam Taylor, Constance Maselino Okai, Christine Willoughby, Diana Lavin, Karoline Wellborne, James Cartmell, Felicity Shoesmith, Ethel Randal, Katie Hogg, Revd. Ruth Birnie, Diane Kirkup, Claudia Newbegin, Lesley Ogilvie, Chris Jenkins, Nick Glover (secretary).

Also present: Andrew Cole (for part of the meeting) and Isaac Wilkinson

2019-07-01 **Opening Prayer and Welcome:** Welcome and opening prayer by Andrew.

2019-07-02 **Apologies for Absence:** apologies were received from Alison Proudfoot, Karen Parkhouse, Fred Carr, Nicky White.

2019-07-03 **Minutes of the Meetings, 9th September**
These were approved and signed as a correct record, with the addition of Lesley Ogilvie's apologies.

Matters Arising from the Minutes

Item 7: noted that Chris Bolland has agreed to take on the role of Fees Treasurer.

Item 8: noted that the quiz had been a successful event.

Item 10: St Hughs - Andrew reported that a lot of hard work was ongoing, seeking to be involved with and supportive of the local community. Bev Davies spoke about her work, commenting on a lot of effort going into letting church space.

MAIN ITEMS

2019-07-04 **Citizens UK**

Andrew Cole gave a report on the work of Citizens UK, with special reference to the local Tyne and Wear branch. There are now at least 20 local organisations involved, focussed on their 3 priorities of mental health, poverty and hate crime. Each branch has campaigned successfully with numerous "asks" being achieved.

All Saints' has been involved since January '18 and Andrew hoped to increase our participation, with an important event coming up soon launching a listening campaign and a review of priorities and aims. He noted that we have access to the training that Citizens provides and hoped that people might take up the opportunity.

Thanks were recorded to Andrew for all of his work.

2019-07-05 **Community Mapping of the Parish**

Isaac Wilkinson gave a presentation about his community mapping project, within which the focus is on community outreach. He gave a full summary of the nature, status and role of much of our community infrastructure, based on both statistics and meetings with people involved.

Agreed that there were other assets to be included.

Discussion about how we are to get children involved and the importance of continuing to work with them.

Discussion about how the Church should most effectively be working within this community context and where our opportunities and priorities should lie. Agreed that it is still a work in progress but that we must be open to all sorts of possibilities.

2019-07-06 **Missions of the Month 2020**

Proposed missions were received from the Mission and Justice Group and Andrew gave a brief summary of the proposals and of the changes from previous years.

Constance Maselino proposed, Karoline Wellborne seconded the acceptance of the proposed missions, accepted unanimously.

2019-07-07 **Director of Music**

Andrew suggested that John Lewis should be offered a contract to continue in his role and a meeting was proposed with John to confirm this arrangement in late November. This is based on the recommendation initially received from Ian Roberts, at the Cathedral.

Diana Lavin proposed, Dorothy Henderson seconded that this plan be proceeded with, agreed unanimously.

2019-07-08 Foundation Governor for Archbishop Runcie School
Bryony Scott Harden wishes to stand down from this role. Marian Coulson-Cave has volunteered to take over the position. Diana Lavin proposed, Ros Place seconded that the PCC should approve this change which was unanimously agreed.

2019-07-09 2020 Fees Approval
Andrew showed the official fees that we are bound to accept and suggested some small scale increases that we might make for the use of Church facilities.
Lesley Ogilvie suggested that we might introduce a "flower fee" to cover the provision of arranging church flowers for weddings. She agreed to investigate the cost of a professional florist so that any such fee would be at a competitive level.
Paul Wilkinson proposed, Katie Hogg seconded that we should approve the fees proposals, but with the possibility of a flower fee to be introduced later. Unanimously agreed.

2019-07-10 Improvements to the Sound System
Ros reported that 3 separate quotes had been received after survey visits.
A small local business, run by Frank McLoughlin appeared to offer the best service with replacement of the mixer and other recommendations/improvements suggested for a figure of £1430.
The fact that he is locally based was noted with approval.
Felicity Shoosmith proposed, Christine Willoughby seconded, that we should ask the Church wardens to proceed with Frank McLoughlin's plans. Unanimously accepted.

2019-07-11 Shakespeare on the Green
Ros suggested that we should invite the Handlebards to give a Shakespeare performance on the Green in August 2020. Would need a wet weather alternative; could be the Centre, which would restrict numbers or use of the Church was suggested. Ros recommended the quality and fun that such performances achieve.
She spoke about ticketing costs: Diana Lavin raised the problems and potential costs of the necessary licensing arrangements.
The possibility of working with Trinity Church was raised, under the Churches Together umbrella.
Karoline Wellborne proposed, Claudia Newbegin seconded that we ask Ros to proceed with enquiries, to cover all potential possibilities. Unanimously agreed.

2019-07-12 Herschel Trio Concert Bookings
The Herschel trio has 3 concerts booked in for 2020; questions arisen over costing arrangements. The suggestion made was that they should be charged a flat rate of £150 per concert; Karoline Wellborne proposed, Dorothy Henderson seconded that we should proceed with that arrangement. Unanimously agreed.

2019-07-13 Christmas Arrangements
Andrew reported that the Christmas cards have now been printed and are in the process of being distributed.

STANDING ITEMS

2019-07-14 Finance
In Fred's absence, Peter spoke about the Parish Share arrangements. He reported that Diocesan Synod is now going to proceed to make a decision based upon a complex formula. He suggested that All Saints' should commit to paying a 2% increase on our 2018 payment so as to fulfil our financial commitment to the Diocese. Ethel Randell proposed, Kath Davies seconded that we should accept this proposal, agreed unanimously.

2019-07-15 Fabric
Paul summarised a number of salient points listed in the Fabric Committee minutes, previously circulated and discussion followed over repairs to the rood screen.
Quotes had been obtained for the repair of the screen: £1320+VAT for removal etc. of the problem area, plus £1.5/£2k estimated for the repair work. Some concern expressed over this apparently open ended figure. It was agreed that so long as we are kept aware of any increases in this figure, we might proceed. Diana Lavin proposed, Christine Willoughby seconded that we ask the Fabric Committee to proceed with this work; this was agreed with 2 abstentions.

2019-07-16 Update Reports
i) Standing Committee: in the recent Committee notes, it was pointed out that Chris Bolland has agreed to be the "Fees Treasurer", not "Treasurer" as noted.
Director of Music: noted that the reference referred to was effectively given by Ian Roberts, at the Cathedral.

ii) Safeguarding and Access: noted that on 11th February there will be a Safeguarding Training session at All Saints', open to all volunteers in the congregation. All will be encouraged to attend.

iii) Health and Safety Policy Renewal: Andrew pointed out that this policy must now be renewed, and indicated that certain new clauses have been added. Diane Kirkup proposed, Christine Willoughby seconded that we should accept the new policy, unanimously agreed.

iv) Deanery Synod: there were no meeting details to be reported.

2019-07-17

Administrative Business

i) Correspondence: letter received from Lindisfarne College of Theology, thanking us for our involvement in their recent Church Chase event.

ii) Alterations to the Electoral Roll: no applications received.

iii) Late Items: nothing raised.

iv) Date of Next Meeting: Monday 13th January, to take place in the Upper Room.

2019-07-18

CLOSING PRAYERS

Andrew closed the meeting with a prayer and the Grace.