

St George's Church, Wilton

Minutes of the **Parochial Church Council**, held on
Wednesday 24th July 2019 at 7pm in the Church Hall, St George's Church Hall

Present	James Clapham (Chair); Mike Yardley (Vice Chair); John Page; Carole Smith, Clare Steel, Jenny Norman, Rachel Neal, Hilary Buckley, Peter Joyce, Bethan Baigent, Pete McKegney, Hilary McKegney, Rosa Parsloe and Chris Michell.
Apologies	None

Ref	Item and Action	Action	By When
1.	Welcome and Prayer Rachel led us in prayer to open up the meeting		
2.	Apologies No apologies.		
3.	Welcome to new PCC Members James welcomed Hilary and Pete McKegney onto the PCC.		
4.	Approval of the Minutes All approved the minutes of the meeting held on 27 th March 2019.		
5.	<p>Finance</p> <p>4.1 Quarter 2 Accounts</p> <p>The Treasurer outlined our traditional policy of paying the Parish Share quarterly, but having just managed to pay the 2018 Parish Share in full in February the bank account was left with insufficient funds to cover the payment for the First Quarter. Consequently, it was decided to pay just two months' worth in April, which was followed by a further two months' worth in June with the hope of paying another two months' worth in July. This practice would then bring the full payment for the Q1 and Q2 up to the expected level of the previous years. The Treasurer emphasised that payment of the Parish Share will continue to be kept under strict review, and the subsequent schedule will be established in line with what we can afford to pay at the time. Furthermore, the schedule needed to be set against the requirement stated in the Annual Accounts to retain 3-months' Reserves of Unrestricted Funds (currently £28,500) in our bank account.</p> <p>The Unrestricted Funds at the end of the Second Quarter amounted to £10,187, which showed a reduction of £9,538 since the beginning of the year resulting directly from the continuing trend of Expenditure exceeding Income. Nevertheless, there were encouraging signs in the key elements of the accounts to provide a degree of cautious optimism. Compared to the end of the same period last year, Christian Giving was up £1,888 ; Hall Revenue was up £1,131 ; and Maintenance Costs were down £3,177 attributable mainly to a grant of £2,795 for work undertaken in the Church secured from the Listed Places of Worship Scheme thanks to the staunch endeavour of our Church Warden. Further encouraging</p>		

	<p>balances showed the Hall Refurbishment Fund standing at £5,226 and the Churchyard Fund standing at £787.</p> <p>James thanked John for all his work and how he is managing the Parish Share. James also thanked the fundraising team for raising enough funds for the refurbishment of the Hall Gents toilets.</p> <p>Although it was agreed it would be tricky to do a Three Year Financial Plan, the costs involved with actions and ideas related to the proposed Development Plan would need to be considered.</p> <p>Rosa asked whether the push for new Christian Givers had been successful. Although the total number of church members in the scheme had reduced, the average amount given had increased thereby increasing the total donated.</p> <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Produce a slide for Christian Giving which can be shown every few weeks on the revolving notices screen at the beginning of a service. 	BB	August 2019
6.	<p>Defibrillator</p> <p>Everyone had read Bethan’s letter regarding the suggestion to buy a defibrillator, following fundraising jointly with Nicky Mumby . Mike explained to the PCC how a defibrillator worked and explained that training was not essential as users are talked through how to use this by the Ambulance service.</p> <p>Hilary emphasised that as we hire out the Church Hall, particularly to groups with older members, we should provide a defibrillator. It may be possible to obtain a grant to purchase one if it is to be a community asset situated prominently outside the Hall.</p> <p>Peter pointed out that the Resuscitation Council (UK) and the British Heart Foundation have jointly published “A Guide to Automated External Defibrillators (AED’s), April 2017”. This provided helpful advice.</p> <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carry out further research about suitable types and costs of defibrillators, and their service requirements. 	HMck	October 2019
7.	<p>Scout Hut</p> <p>7.1 Legal Advice</p> <p>Pete had been in touch with the Diocesan solicitors Harris and Harris to ask them to put in writing for the record, the conclusion of the legal advice that the PCC is the Managing Trustee responsible for the management of the Scout Hut, and the Diocesan Board of Finance is the Custodian Trustee. However, it has proved very difficult to get a response.</p> <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To chase Harris and Harris to confirm their legal advice in writing. 	PMck	October 2019

<p>7.2</p>	<p>Repairs to the Scout Hut As the Scouts wish spend a substantial sum of money carrying out repairs to the rear of the Scout Hut, they wish to be reassured that the Church has no alternative plan for the building and its site. They had questioned whether a lease was necessary. It was proposed that rather than a legal contract, a letter of intent should suffice.</p> <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peter to meet with the Scouts to identify the proposed work and ensure that it is appropriate, and also to further discuss the need for a lease or a letter of intent reassuring them of the Church’s commitment to supporting the 1st Wilton Scout Group. • Research if other local churches connected to Scout Groups lease their buildings to them. 	<p>PJ JN</p>	<p>August 2019 October 2019</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>Development Plan Peter and Bethan informed the PCC about the Archdeacon’s recent meeting about aligning resources with the Diocese’s priorities for Mission and growth. They discussed declining church membership and finances, and talked about using our gifts wisely, to prioritise those who are vulnerable and struggling in communities, and to see how the church can engage the 18-30 age group. Although the St George’s draft Development Plan does not necessarily incorporate the same priorities, it was agreed that it needs to be a working document which is referred to at each PCC meeting and which guides future action and planning. The whole congregation needs to be responsible for it being implemented. There should be some form of leaflet or card showing the areas that St George’s is focusing on. The discussion covered various points such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ being aware of our current congregation’s needs and not making changes that would alienate them. ➤ being mindful of the age of our congregation and serving them well. ➤ Having one main focus as a church such as loneliness and social isolation, perhaps characterised by the phrase “No one alone”. This could include providing church transport ➤ Having a working group to deal with each section of the Development Plan, eg. Pastoral, Worship and Home Groups. ➤ Considering how to include better those with disabilities, and their carers. <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add the Development Plan as a standard PCC Agenda item. • Organise working groups to tackle each section of the Plan • Ask Alex Cameron if he could help with putting together a leaflet summarizing the Development Plan for the congregation. • Including reference in the draft document to the Bible Study resources available through Marion Nunn. 	<p>JC/BB “ PJ JC/BB</p>	<p>October 2019 “ “</p>

<p>9.</p>	<p>Social Events / Fundraising The regular Special Saturday lunches will continue again in September. Rosa has called a meeting for after the 10am Sunday Service for people to get together to agree some dates for future fundraising events. Having regular, but varied social events each month will be discussed and considered. When there is an event focussed on fundraising is planned, it will need more support and more people stepping up to help. A possible new project for fundraising may be the ladies upstairs toilets in the Church Hall.</p>		
<p>10.</p>	<p>Reports 10.1 Churchwarden Report Peter thanked all the clergy that helped to preside and preach throughout the time of James' absence. Through the winter the new boiler and heating system had worked well, maintaining a minimum temperature of 12 – 13C when the Church was not in use (as recommended by the Church Architect) and 16 – 18C during services. The gas bill will be looked at to see what impact that had made. The survey for the Parish Share in 2020 had been completed and returned. Our socio-economic category has been changed from 'D to E', as it more realistically reflects the situation of our church membership and will have the effect of reducing our Parish Share next year. The flat roof in the Hall will need to be replaced at some point in the near future.</p> <p>10.2 Christian concerns Carole informed the PCC that she attended an Environment Day in Wells run by the Diocese and is interested in looking at what more St George's can do to help our environment. The new charity collection list was circulated and approved.</p> <p>10.3 Churchyard Group Quotes are to be collected to repair the damaged wall on the road to the Hall. There is still very low numbers turning up for the Churchyard Group every 3rd Saturday. A volunteer, or alternatively a reasonably priced contractor is needed to cut the hedge.</p> <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to advertise and promote the Saturday sessions in the Churchyard • Ask the congregation if anyone is willing to cut the hedge <p>10.4 Deanery Synod Nobody was able to attend the last Deanery Synod Meeting.</p> <p>10.5 Bishop Henderson School Rev'd Justine Richards has been appointed to St Michael's Church, Galmington and will therefore be a new ex-officio School Governor. She has a wealth of experience with young people so will be a great asset to the school as well as the church.</p>	<p>BB</p> <p>Jane Joyce</p> <p>BB</p> <p>“</p>	<p>October 2019</p> <p>September 2019</p>

	<p>The new Headteacher, Rachel White will be taking up post at the beginning of the new academic year.</p> <p>Action: Invite Revd Justine to preach at St George's.</p>	JC	October 2019
12.	<p>Health & Safety, Security & Safeguarding No matters of concern had arisen recently.</p> <p>Peter reported that the bolts securing one of the entrance doors to the Hall are often left undone, and consequently both doors can be pushed open even when they have been locked. This leaves the Hall vulnerable and is an insurance risk.</p> <p>Action: Put up a sign reminding Hall users to secure the bolts before locking and leaving.</p>	BB	August 2019
13.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>13.1 Scouts Jenny Norman mentioned the parking situation in which the Scouts had spoken very impolitely to some Church Members. A code of conduct for the Scouts was suggested.</p> <p>Action: Discuss with Scout Group acceptable ways to communicate. They need to inform us if they will be on site in order for us to check any clashes for the use of the Hall and car park.</p> <p>13.2 Coffee in the Hall Clearing up after coffee in the Hall is very often left to the same people each week. This used to be part of the role of a Welcomer but this is not always possible. Able bodied people are needed to help.</p> <p>Action: Reminder in News Board that help is needed to clear away after coffee as not everyone is able to put away the tables.</p> <p>13.3 Prayer Course The Prayer Course will be starting in the Autumn term so a flyer with a return slip will be required.</p> <p>Action: Clare to meet with James to discuss the logistics of the Course. Bethan to design and print a flyer.</p>	BB/PJ	September 2019
		BB/PJ	September 2019
		CSt/BB	August 2019
14.	<p>Review of the Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was a positive meeting. 		

15.	Key Messages <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whilst expenditure continued to exceed income, there were some encouraging signs in key areas of the Accounts, but it is unlikely that we will be able to pay the Parish Share in full. • The draft Development Plan was accepted with a few minor suggested changes. It will be treated as a working document with progress to be reviewed at every PCC meeting. • The possibility of buying a Defibrillator was discussed, but more research was needed before making a decision. 		
19.	Next PCC Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wed 23rd October 2019, at 6.45pm for 7pm start. 		
20.	Prayer A volunteer is needed to lead the next meeting in prayer.		
21.	End The meeting closed with the saying of the Grace.		

Signed : Chairman.

Date :