

Minutes of the Parochial Church Council, St. Peter's Draycott

Held on 14/11/2017 at 7:45 p.m. at Kundasan, Draycott.

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1. Opening prayers

Stuart opened the meeting with a reading from Psalm 40 and a prayer.

2. Attendance and apologies

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|-----------------|----|-------------------------|----|
| <i>Present</i> | | Colette Jeff | CJ |
| Stuart Burns | SB | Tricia Heckbert | TH |
| David Cheetham | DC | Alison Jeffries | AJ |
| Richard Dingley | RD | Tricia Lumley | TL |
| Gill Dury | GD | Pat Mulla | PM |
| John English | JE | Thea Oliver | TO |
| Chris Green | CG | <i>Apologies (none)</i> | |

3. Any amendments/ signing of minutes from 20/07/17 and 12/09/17

(NB. 20/07/17 minutes were already confirmed as accurate, but not signed).

Minutes from 12/09/17 were also deemed accurate. Minutes of both meetings were signed.

4. Additions or amendments to the agenda

(none received).

5. Brought forward and arising matters from the minutes

(Minutes from 20/07/17)

5b. Welcome to John English.

Any further news on shadowing churchwarden roles for both TH and DC? (none)

#6a Church locking)- issues? Currently still locked. After discussion we agreed that we should unlock the church again until Advent, then review, with the following precautions: shorter day (at most, daylight hours only); remove any unused candles (e.g. candelabras); unplug the electrically operated chandelier. *ACTION*: TH to organise a rota - the same

person to be responsible for both unlocking and re-locking in a given day. All who can take part please mail Tricia. We will put a notice on the board to announce this.

#6b Archdeacon's visitation)- anything further? Thea confirmed that the desiccator in the safe is working.

#7 Fabric- Church notice board. Have not heard anything- TH to chase.

6. New matters

6a. Proposal for special issue of magazine (Rodney Stoke PCC)

The proposal from Rodney Stoke PCC had been circulated. A special issue of the magazine is to be distributed free of charge to one or both villages, to publicise church activities, invite new magazine subscriptions and boost giving to the churches. Would need about 600 copies to cover both villages (200 is the normal run). The PCC was supportive but thought that the fundraising message might need to be different for the two villages- could this specific part be done through an insert, that could be varied for Draycott and Rodney Stoke?

NB. The experience of Cheddar has been very positive with fundraising events, partly due to targeted invitations to all on the electoral roll and others- 'friends'. Could Draycott create a register of friends? Something we might start of with the magazine special issue.

ACTION: CG to communicate our support to Rodney Stoke and feed back on next actions.

6b. Invitation to Christmas joint PCCs extraordinary meeting on 13th December

The PCCs of all three parishes in the benefice are invited to an extraordinary PCC meeting on 13th December. *Venue-* St Peter's; *Time-* 8 pm; *Duration-* 1 hour; *Format-* Hymn, one item of business (to be announced), finish with Compline. Will be accompanied by mulled wine and mince pies.

6c. Outreach and the #GodwithUs campaign from the Church of England

An initiative using social media to publish devotional material for the season of Advent. Alternative media available- printed booklet. Backed by Justin Welby. TO suggested we could use coffee and cake event on 2nd December to distribute some booklets.

ACTION: TO will order some booklets; will also add link to our Facebook page.

6d. Music in church- review place of anthem; piano vs. organ

Is the current place of the anthem appropriate? Some think it disrupts the flow of worship in the part of the service where it is currently placed. Also should we try singing in a different part of church? It seemed to work to have the choir facing the congregation on the nave side of the screen for the service with baptism. *ACTION:* from next Sunday until Advent, we shall sing the anthem after communion (and not have a communion hymn).

We also touched on Organ vs. Piano accompaniments. The latter was more 'intimate'.

6e. Support for Sisters of the Church

CG thought we should confirm as a PCC whether this support should continue- NB. we have recently given funds and food from collections at Harvest, and were launching a Christmas appeal on their behalf. Some of the history of our involvement with the CSC was discussed and a leaflet on the 'loaves and fishes' project circulated.

ACTION: The PCC agreed to continue to support the CSC. CG to communicate the Christmas appeal.

7. Continuous matters

7a. Worship

- i. Feedback from Ministry Team
 - Hilary Thomas will be speaking on Sat 7 (the Christian organisation broadcasting to the Middle East) in December, at Cheddar.
 - Study group- we hope to resume in the New Year. NB. Richard reminded us that there is a house group still doing bible study, following on from Lent groups earlier this year.
- ii. Worship
 - Remembrance Service was good- attendance about 70. Stuart thanked those involved. There had been some confusion over arrangements on the part of the British Legion but it had been resolved. We might revise the order of service for next year.
 - The baptism in Draycott had gone well and the family had expressed their appreciation of the welcome (as well as the anthem we sung). With some organisation the service was kept to less than one hour, in spite of combining the baptism with family communion.
- iii. Patronal festival (new item)- can we have a united benefice service for St Peter's Day- to be celebrated on the 1st July? Stuart will try to fit this into the next rota.

7b. Synod feedback

- i. Held at Holy Cross church in Mark.
- ii. Alan Rayfield has stood down as lay chair of Axbridge deanery.
- iii. Stuart and Philip are leading the deanery mission and pastoral group.
- iv. The new archdeacon spoke. Items of importance- the licence rules for church concerts are strict and will apply to churches that have more than six in a year. There are get-outs we should be aware of (worship services are exempt; those for which no entrance fee are charged may be too).
- v. There has been progress on the Deanery Website (Jonathan Philpot is Webmaster)
- vi. Synod plus- bishop touring the deanery; all invited to special meetings (called Synod +). Special subject is mission. The next is on Saturday 3rd February at Bagley Baptist church.

7c. Finance

- i. Balance. General fund: £16,666; fabric £8,776.
- ii. We have paid for the new boiler and electrics.
- iii. Parish share next year will be £10,889, a 13% increase for us. This is a combination of 7% from increase in diocesan costs, and 5% because our membership has increased (NB. a 3 years' rolling membership is calculated).
- iv. We have not paid our parish share up front this year as we did not have enough in hand.
- v. We should get a rebate for being a one priest benefice (for clerical assistance).
- vi. The parish share is £908 per month- £10 per week per person for Draycott.
- vii. Amounts have changed for the self assessment classification, with the least affluent paying less, and the most affluent, more. Our category remains D.

- viii. We may care to look at the report on the budget setting decisions of the diocese- DC will send a link.

7d. Fabric

- i. The new boiler has been working well- the church has been noticeably warmer. Stuart thanked David for his persistence in overcoming the hurdles in the way to renewing it- this had proved a lot more complex than we had thought. NB. The ceiling still had to be made good, and there was some paintwork still to do.
- ii. Steeplejacks were due to inspect the rainwater goods this November, but owing to a misunderstanding they have not done so. DC suggested we could leave it for this year, but he has booked them for next year.

7e. School

- i. The Harvest service was good.
- ii. Wednesday mornings continue to be shared mostly between Stuart and Nikki.
- iii. There will be a statutory SIAMS inspection on 6th December- Stuart expects the school to come out well.
- iv. Stuart has joined the "Foundation Committee" (a subcommittee to the governing body). Will join Tim Hawkings.
- v. The school play will be on Monday 18th December at 2pm and the carol service on Thursday 21st December at 1 pm. All are welcome.

7f. Supporters of St Peter's

- i. Previous period- Curry night, Michaelmas Fayre.
- ii. Forthcoming- Christmas Tree Fair, soup lunch- Sun 3rd. We need cakes to sell.

8. Dates

PCC- 16th Jan. Richard Dingley kindly invited us to Kundasan

The meeting closed with the Grace, which we said together.