

Present – Revd Jackie Lock (JLk), Revd Gareth Morley (GM), Robyn Connelly (RC) (Children’s Minister), Lis Burns (LB) (Churchwarden and Chair), Jenny Cartledge (JC) (Churchwarden), David Knights (DK) (DSy and DioSy Rep), John Lord (Treasurer) (JLd), Barry Titchen (DSy Rep) (BT), Barbara Bowman (BB), Mark Johnson (MJ), Jean Johnson (JJ), Elizabeth Martin (TM), Lynda Titchen Moorcroft (LM), Dawn Segrue (DS), Philip Hynard (Secretary) (PH)

Welcome from Chairperson.

LB welcomed everyone and opened the meeting with a passage read from a speech given by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II to the United Nations in 2010, highlighting the importance of people working together to address and resolve challenges.

Evening Prayers were then led by JLk.

1. Apologies/Did not attend

Derek Lancaster LLM (DL), Edgar Samuel (Deputy Honorary Churchwarden) (ES), Sheila Doig (SD), Lauren Harvey (LH), Ray Levy (DSy Rep) (RL).

2. Co-option of Laurence Smy to the PCC

It was explained, following an initial expression of interest by Laurence to be co-opted to the PCC, he has reconsidered his position and will advise us in due course when he wishes to proceed.

3. Vacancy

LB made the following observations:

- The official date for commencement of the Vacancy will be 3rd October 2022.
- Some discussions have already taken place with Revd Canon Chris Bull (Associate Archdeacon – Buckingham) and Revd Dave Bull (Area Dean) and they have endorsed us all taking time to reflect before making any decisions on our next steps and overall approach.
- It was confirmed that LB and JC will be invited to attend any meetings of the team incumbents, where All Saints would otherwise lack a clergy voice at the table, the dates of which are yet to agreed.
- The feedback received from the congregation has generally proved to be most useful and informative.
- Preparatory work is continuing to be done on the profile.
- In response to a question from DK, the timing of the Deanery Review is awaited.

4. Deanery Synod Report

BT referred to the report, circulated in advance of the meeting; there were no questions or comments.

5. Minutes of PCC meeting 20th July 2022

These were approved without amendment and signed by LB.

6. Matters arising from the minutes (not covered elsewhere in the agenda)

With reference to Item 4 of the above minutes, it was noted Graeme Slocombe’s tenure (Deanery Synod Lay Chair) will end on 19th October 2022.

7. Team Reports:

7.1 Worship & Liturgy

LB referred to a report prepared by DL, published in advance of this meeting, on which there were no comments.

- In response to a question, JLk acknowledged that there is an apparent decline in interest and congregational numbers in the Led by the Spirit services, the next one of which will take place on 20th November

- Jlk went on to observe that this service had been particularly adversely affected by Covid. Reasons for the decline and possible remedies are under review.
- The recruitment and selection of Director of Music will be deferred until after the Vacancy, not least because Philip Wayne and Oliver Roberts are content to continue for the foreseeable future.
- The PCC offered their gratitude to Philip and Oliver for everything they are doing for music in the church.

LB, JC

7.2 Mission & Evangelism

GM made a verbal report in which he highlighted the following:

- Town centre relations are generally good, evidenced by the number of events that took place during the previous week (associated with the State Funeral) despite not having been well publicised, by the Council.
 - From a recent Town Centre Partnership meeting it has been reported there is an increase in begging, some of which is fraudulent. Designated 'giving points' will be introduced to counter this criminal activity.
 - There is a general increase in crime in the town centre which unfortunately coincides with a decline in the numbers of police officers.
 - The CCMR (Council for Christian Muslim Relations) met recently; All Saints is represented by Laurence Smy on this committee.
 - The Town Committee is likely to agree to meet 10% of the costs of the Churchyard Project which would allow us to continue discussion with Biffa and others to raise the balance of 90% (circa £230,000) to allow the work to progress. It was noted around £5,000 has been provided by the Council and others for the work that has been completed to date.
 - GM will write to the Town Committee, on behalf of the Church, to thank them for paying for the restoration and decoration of the wrought iron gates.
 - Sanctuary is to re-start from Freshers Fortnight (19th September to 1st October).
 - There is concern over a serious decline in business in the town centre with several venues suffering stress or closing (the Antelope).
 - Work associated with All Saint's involvement with Daws Hill has been put on temporary hold.
- DK observed All Saints was represented at Wycombe Pride on 20th August and hoped we could have greater involvement in future years.

GM

7.3 Pastoral Matters

- Jlk advised there were no significant issues to report.
- A meeting between Jlk and DS had taken place and moves are afoot to re-invigorate the formation of the Pastoral Team that had been initiated prior to covid.
- In response to a question from LM, Jlk responded some people who are unwell specifically request not to be identified in News as being remembered in the congregations' prayers.

7.4 Children, Youth & Families

RC referred to the Children, Youth & Families report, circulated in advance of the meeting; there were no questions or comments.

- RC outlined plans for Christingle, which it is intended to combine with events surrounding switching on the Christmas lights 17th November.
- In response to a question RC advised currently there is no progress with involving Children with Environmental initiatives that had previously been discussed.

7.5 Stewardship & Finance:

Jld referred to the Stewardship & Finance PCC Update and minutes of the recent Stewardship and Finance meeting and highlighted the following:

- Planned giving is around £5,000 below budget. The budget was set with a deficit of over £9,000 and this is now likely to increase to a deficit of between £10,000 and £15,000 by the year unless measures can be taken to reverse the trend.
- There is also some expenditure that has not yet been incurred, particularly associated with fabric.

- There is a concern an increasing demand from the wider community owing to the cost of living increases, which may restrict future planned and other giving.
- It was suggested the giving point should be moved permanently into a more prominent position, which was completed by the end of the meeting and LB undertook to ask Steve Linger to report if attempts were made to move it again.
- In response, requests for fundraising events and to all members of the PCC and wider congregation to increase planned giving and donations, DS is arranging an informal quiz night at 19:30 on 21st October in church.
- In response to DS' requests for assistance with the above event:
 - DK agreed to act as Quizmaster
 - BB agreed to organize the Raffle
- All other members of the PCC were asked to attend, publicize via word of mouth and support the event as far as they can.

All

7.6 Buildings & Fabric

The minutes of the Fabric Committee meeting of 31st August had not been issued; JC highlighted key issues from these during the meeting as well as requesting PH to issue the minutes, which has now been done.

PH

- JC observed Rodell's (Steeplejacks) had inspected the infestation to the steps in the tower and confirmed it appears to be a combination of Death-watch Beetle and woodworm, which will need to be treated before the steps are replaced. Further information is awaited.
- JC also confirmed funds have been drawn down from our deposit account and we are now confident that they will be available on or before 29th September before being required by the solicitor to complete the acquisition of the property known as Plot 124 Pinnacle, 46 Great Ground Aylesbury HP18 0FE.

7.7 Communications

There were no questions on the report circulated in advance of the meeting but LB made the following additional remarks:

- All Saints Weekend will take place on 30th October when Bishop Alan will officiate and preach.
- LB is working to secure some additional photographs for the website and other publications (some semi-professional and some via mobile phone).
- Harvest Festival will be celebrated on the 2nd October.
- Stewardship campaign commences at Harvest Festival and the details need to be agreed for inclusion in News; a meeting for this is to be arranged.

JLk, JLd,
TM

8. Churchwardens' Report

There were no additional matters to report beyond those covered elsewhere in the agenda and no questions were raised.

9. Oakley Hall Report

TM referred to the minutes of the recent Oakley Hall Management Committee Meeting of 14th September and accompanying financial update, which had been published in advance of the meeting.

TM confirmed the asbestos removal works had been completed on Friday 9th September 2022.

10. Safeguarding

A revised Safeguarding Policy, circulated in advance of the meeting, was approved unanimously and signed after the meeting. Arrangements will be made for it to be displayed in Church, Oakley Hall and on the All Saints website.

LB, TM,
PH

It was reported all members of the PCC have now completed the necessary Safeguarding training and provided evidence to the office. It was noted TM's certificate had recently expired she is arranging for a new course and replacement.

TM

Following discussion at the July meeting it has been established PCC members almost certainly do not require DBS, although there may be a need for some, if not all, to enter into a Parish Volunteer Agreement.

Jo Norman is currently reviewing these requirements and will report back at the Safeguarding Meeting scheduled for the 29th September 2022

11. Appointment / Confirmation of Additional Holy Communion Assistants

An updated list of Holy Communion Assistants adding Jo Norman, circulated in advance of the meeting, was proposed by PH, seconded by MJ, was approved unanimously and signed after the meeting. Arrangements will be made for it to be displayed in Church, with a copy to Alison and David Adamson.

PH, TM

12. AOUB

- BB reported an incident had occurred during the period of mourning for Her Majesty, involving a member of the congregation, which BB felt had not been handled with the sensitivity that it deserved. LB and JC were unaware and will investigate.
- LB requested PH to prepare a schedule of proposed meeting dates for 2023 as part of the agenda for the next meeting.

LB, JC

PH

13. Meeting Ends

GM closed the meeting by leading everyone in the Grace.

The meeting ended at approximately **21.05**

Future meeting dates:

- ~~Additional PCC Meeting - Wednesday 5th October 2022 CANCELLED~~
- SLT Standing Committee - Wednesday 9th November 2022
- PCC - Wednesday 23rd November 2022 **MAY BE AN EXTENDED MEETING**

All commencing at 19:30 in church.

 23/11/2022