

Minutes of a Meeting of All Saints' Chilton PCC
Held on Tuesday 6th October 2015 at 7.30 pm at St Matthew's Harwell

1. Opening Prayer and Combined Discussion

Rev Dr Jonathan Mobey opened the meeting by reading Psalm 121.

A few minutes of contemplation followed, and Jonathan then led the meeting in prayer.

(i) Proposed 2016 PCC meeting and Annual Meeting Dates.

The list of proposed dates had been circulated. After some discussion, it was agreed to hold separate meetings in January, to allow for St Matthew's finances to be drawn up, and to avoid clashes with both churches Ladies' Groups. All Saints' would meet on 5th January, and St Matthew's on the 12th. (After dividing, All Saints' agreed to also meet on 19th January, to discuss the possible changes to service pattern at All Saints')

The finalised list is attached.

(ii) Sunday 27th December.

It was agreed to cancel the 8.00 am Holy Communion Service at All Saints', and the evening Service at St Matthew's on 27th December, this Sunday being so soon after Christmas Day, which will fall on a Friday.

(iii) Ideas to Prompt Increased Giving.

Currently, St Matthew's giving has taken a down-turn, as members of the congregation have died, moved away, or experienced changed circumstances. All Saints' giving had a dip a few years ago, but is now starting to show an increase, with the influx of new church members.

Recent sermons have been on the subject of using gifts and talents, and Jonathan felt the New Year would be a good time to expand this to using finances. February would be halfway through Peter's term of office, so this would also be a good time to promote further funding for the CFW. Jean Barton spoke about TRIO (The Responsibility Is Ours) which encourages people to budget for incremental rises in their giving each year, it being easier to achieve small increases regularly than large ones every few years. Hazel Connolly suggested we produce Gift Cards, as in charity catalogues, where Gifts of, say, £5 to sponsor lighting the church can be given, in a similar manner to charities sponsoring animal welfare. Stuart Gibson said these ideas could be considered by the stewardship committee.

Action: Stewardship Committee

(iv) Harvest

Jonathan gave a summing-up of the recent Harvest events.

Harwell School had come to St Matthew's on the Friday.

There had been a wedding in St Matthew's, and a golden wedding in All Saints' on the Saturday.

Sunday had seen Chilton School years 1 and 2 choir in All Saints', with a very full church, and Harwell Young Singers and Scouts parading in St Matthew's. Cubs and Beavers had gone out to Kid's Church, bringing numbers to 44 there. Rev Jan Radford had preached, and her talk had been appreciated, with a plaudit from one non-churchgoer.

4 people had joined Alex Reich on the afternoon ramble in Chilton, and perishable produce had been sold at the Rose and Crown at 5.00 pm.

40 meals had been consumed at the Monday Lunch in Harwell, with £322 raised

Chilton's plated collection had been £181, (with subsequent donations raising this to £291.)

All cash raised had gone to Tearfund's Refugee Crisis Appeal, and all non-perishable food offerings had gone to Didcot Foodbank.

Special thanks were to go to the Burbages for transporting food back and forth between the villages on the Sunday.

Discussion followed. The Harwell Lunch was a good social event, but this needed to be reconsidered for next year. There is a lack of personnel to run the lunch, and also fewer potential diners, with businesses moving away.

Alex Reich had been thinking of organising a Barn Dance in Chilton next Harvest-time. If this was a benefice event, with a local band (£275 to £400, plus Village Hall hire) and optional hot food, e.g.

fish and chips from a local supplier, perhaps ordered in, a decision would need to be made at the November CPCC.

Action: Harvest to go on Nov CPCC and Jan PCC Agendas.

At 8.30 pm the PCCs divided into their own meetings, and All Saints' Minutes continue:

Present:

Rev Dr Jonathan Mobey (Chair until 9.50 pm)	Mrs Helen Brook
Mrs Liz Morris (Chair 9.50 pm onwards)	Rev Pam Rolls
Mr Alex Reich	Mrs Naomi Gibson
Mrs Hazel King	Mr Stuart Gibson
Mrs Sylvie Thompson	Mrs Carol Pigott (Secretary)

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Dr Carina Lobley, Rev Jan Radford, Mr James Hellem and Mr John Pigott.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting and Meeting of Standing Committee

The wording of the Resolution, passed by the standing Committee, was amended to read "with a minimum depth of 18 mm for the resin-bound surface" (not 16 mm).

Both sets of minutes were then accepted unanimously, and duly signed.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

- (i) Harvest. This had been dealt with during the combined part of the meeting.
- (ii) Removal of Pews from Upper Room. There were conflicting views on the necessity to keep these. However, they are useful as additional upstairs seating for Carol Services, etc. It was agreed to move them against the opposite wall, and see if this would help with space saving. The upper room, and kitchen, both need tidying. (Sunday School items have been stored in church since the Hall was being extended.)

Action: Naomi Gibson

7. Children's Provision during Sermon

(It was appropriate to discuss this item together with item 4 (ii).)

Peter Shields had been planning to have the younger children (pre-schoolers and key Stage 1) taken out of the service during the sermon. Older children were to stay in church, with worksheets, linked in with the adult teaching. Melanie Shields, Judy Goodall, and hopefully others, would run the younger children's group.

Peter had asked to use the downstairs room (kitchen) for these activities. PCC were in agreement that this would not be possible, with hot drinks being prepared, and general lack of space. The upper room would be a better venue.

Action: Naomi to liaise with Peter over both the venue for this, and storage in both rooms.

It was noted that the new shed would be erected after the path had been completed, and storage problems would hopefully be eased then.

The view was expressed that a problem now that Kid's Church is up and running at St Matthew's, is that Peter was not being seen in Chilton on a Sunday. Liz suggested a report in the Broadsheet every month or so, to advertise the weekday activities that Peter undertakes.

Action: Vicky Johnston

5. Committee Reports

- (i) Finance. Stuart had circulated the revenue account prior to the meeting. Gift Aid had come in, with no more to be expected. Finances were reasonably stable, with an excess of income over expenditure currently, but more was to be paid out on Parish Share and Joint Share. More funding was needed for the path, and some for the shed.
- (ii) Fabric.

- a) Path. Stuart was project-managing the work on the path, which had started. Most had been scraped out, before today's rain. It was hoped to be at tarmac level towards the end of the week, with the resin work next week, and hopefully completed by the middle of the week. The faculty for the path had been received, but the wording for the moving of the two headstones had to be amended, and the notice re-posted. The 28 days for that would be completed before they needed to be moved.

(It was appropriate to take item 9 at this point)

9. Official Opening of Path

This would take place at 3.00 pm on Sunday 1st November, All Saints' Day. There would be a short ceremony, probably at the Humfrey Stevenson Gate, followed by a short service in church, with tea and cake, similar to the Generation Gold service.

There should be publicity in the Broadsheet, Press, and Chronicle, with posters and bunting. Jonathan would invite the ribbon-cutter to attend.

Action: Jonathan, CWs, Vicky.

(Sylvie Thompson left the meeting at this point)

5. (Continuing)

(ii) Fabric

- b) Heating. Jonathan had requested this item be kept on the agenda, as a watching brief, noting that at the previous PCC meeting it was decided we should postpone this project until the path has been finished, and that the completion of the path project was now a real prospect. We had expended a considerable sum on this project, and it might be that the information acquired could be used in the future, if it later became necessary to re-visit it, but that there was currently no hurry to do so.
- c) Other items of Fabric. Alex reported that he had met with Andrew Hayes, Judith Russell and Jeff Stopps at the end of August. The shed will be erected after the path has been completed. (The slabs are ready for the base). The offer of a handrail at the chancel step had kindly been re-iterated, and PCC wished to gratefully accept this repeated offer.

Action: Alex.

6. Change in Service Pattern

Alex Reich and Helen Brook had chaired two discussion groups, on Sundays after church. A third was planned for 3.00 pm on Sunday 18th October. PCC felt the discussion should be opened up to the wider community. The broadsheet could ask for views of parishioners, and a table at the monthly Saturday morning market could be used to canvass opinion. It was observed that not all the congregation had responded to the original questionnaire, or been able to attend the discussions. They could be asked to suggest questions to put in a further questionnaire, with parishioners asked what they want the church to be doing in a wider context, not just about services. All present felt it was important to take time to get it right, and agreed to an extraordinary PCC meeting to be held on 19th January, solely to discuss this.

8. Optional Sidesmen's Fees for Weddings and Funerals

Rev Pam Rolls spoke on this. Although these had been discussed at previous CPCCs, and a resolution passed at the June meeting by the JPCC, there had been very few of All Saints' PCC and JPCC members present at the time. Subsequently, opposition at All Saints' had been voiced to the fees for Vergers (sidesmen). At All Saints' those who were approached to act as sidesmen at these services had never expected to receive a fee, and at a recent funeral the sidesman had felt affronted when presented with a cheque. Stuart added that the fees for bell-ringing were actually low.

(Jonathan left at this point in the discussion, to attend St Matthew's PCC, and Liz continued as Chair)

It was agreed to bring this topic back to CPCC for further discussion, with a proposal that, at All Saints', there should be no fees for Vergers at Weddings and Funerals, but there should be a fee of £105 for bell-

ringing. (This being £15 per rope, plus £15 to Bell Fund). Fees for organists, choirs, videotaping and flowers to remain as agreed at the June CPCC

Action: Pam and Secretary.

10. Christmas Preparations

Naomi has her list of Christmas Tasks, and will enlist help as necessary.

11. Future Dates

PCC agreed with the dates for meetings as set out in the table below.
Carol Services would be on Sunday 13th December.

12. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

12. Closing Prayer

Rev Pam Rolls closed the meeting with prayer at 10.00 pm.

Date of next meeting. Combined PCC Tuesday 3rd November 2015 in Chilton at 7.30 pm.

.....Chairman
Carol Pigott
(Secretary)

PCC and Annual Meeting dates 2016

Date	Time	Meeting of	Venue
Tues 5 Jan 2016	7.30pm	All Saints' Ind PCC	All Saints' Chilton
Tues 12 Jan 2016	7.30pm	St Matthew's Ind PCC	St Matthew's Harwell
Tues 19 Jan 2016	7.30pm	All Saints' Extraordinary PCC	All Saints', Chilton
Tues 2 Feb 2016	7. 30pm	Combined PCC	St Matthew's, Harwell
Tues 1 Mar 2016	7. 30pm	Individual PCCs	St Matthew's, Harwell
Sun 17 April 2016	10.20am	All Saints' APCM	All Saints', Chilton
Sun 24 April 2016	11.50am	St Matthew's APCM	St Matthew's, Harwell
Tues 3 May 2016	7. 30pm	All Saints' PCC	All Saints', Chilton
Tues 10 May 2016	7. 30pm	St Matthew's PCC	St Matthew's, Harwell
Tues 7 June 2016	7. 30pm	Combined PCC	All Saints', Chilton
Tues 5 July 2016	7. 30pm	Individual PCCs	All Saints', Chilton
AUG – NO MTG	-	-	-
Tues 6 Sept 2016	7. 30pm	Combined PCC	St Matthew's, Harwell
Tues 4 Oct 2016	7. 30pm	Individual PCCs	St Matthew's, Harwell
Tues 1 Nov 2016	7. 30pm	Combined PCC	All Saints', Chilton
DEC – NO MTG	-	-	-

Easter Sunday is 27 March 2016
School Easter hols are 28 March – 8 April
Annual Meeting needs to be before end April