

**Minutes of a Meeting of All Saints' Chilton PCC**  
**Held on Tuesday 5th July 2016 at 7.30 pm at All Saints' Chilton**

**Present:**

Rev Pam Rolls

Mr Steve Hale

Mr Stuart Gibson

Mrs Liz Morris

Mrs Sylvie Thompson

Mr James Hellem (Acting secretary)

Mrs Naomi Gibson

Dr Carina Lobley

Dr Phil Corbishley

**1. Opening Prayer and Discussion with St Matthew's PCC**

a) Revd Dr Jonathan Mobey opened the meeting by reading Ephesians 4 v.1-6 on the subject of unity. Jonathan then led the meeting in prayer.

b) Agreement of agenda for items of joint business (JM)  
It was agreed that the item of joint business that required a decision would be taken first, as per the order recorded in these minutes.

c) Items of joint business with All Saints' PCC (JM)

**(i) Ministry apprentice/intern**

Jonathan Mobey asked if anyone had any qualms about this apprentice/intern post, which was agreed in principle at the June Combined PCC meeting.

Hazel Connelly said that she felt uncomfortable after the June Combined PCC meeting because the PCCs were ostensibly being consulted about having an apprentice/intern post but it felt as though the decision had already been made. For instance, it appeared as though a PCC budget had already been allocated to part-fund the post, without reference to the PCC. Jonathan Mobey thanked Hazel for raising this concern, and apologised for creating this impression.

Jonathan Mobey reassured the meeting that there had been no intention to railroad the PCCs into a decision in principle to hire an apprentice/intern. Jonathan explained that the impression that this decision had effectively already been taken may have arisen from the pressurised timing involved, namely that:

- This post is mainly funded by the grant we have been awarded to run the Science & Faith project and we applied for this grant at very short notice;
- As part of the grant application, we had to state how we would fund project costs in excess of any grant award, and liaised with the PCC Treasurers about this;
- We were only notified about the success of our grant application just before the June Combined PCC meeting;
- We had to take a decision in principle about the post quickly to stand a chance of recruiting someone to start in September in order to deliver the promised Science & Faith events from autumn 2016.

Jonathan Mobey then clarified the following points in response to questions:

- We are keen to liaise with the Churn Benefice's Science Missioner, Jennifer Brown, so that the Science & Faith project dovetails with her work. (Gordon Gill also commented that Jennifer might be able to suggest candidates for the apprentice/intern post.)

- The grant associated with the Science & Faith project has provided the platform for us to recruit an apprentice/intern for 12 months. Approximately one third of that grant (£2,880) will go towards the cost of the apprentice/intern. The rest is for physical resources, venue hire, etc. We have also had the offer of a gift to boost that sum.
- The apprentice/intern post will be for 12 months. A key part of the role will be to run the Science & Faith project, but it will also involve other duties i.e. a broader church ministry.
- The post could be for less than 12 months if that suited the apprentice/intern better. The Science & Faith project work would be completed by July 2017 so it would not be a problem if the apprentice/intern wanted to leave then. The salary would then be paid pro rata. As per the draft contract, either side only has to give 4 weeks' notice after the probationary period.
- Jonathan Mobey has had offers of accommodation for the apprentice/intern from four people so far, covering the period September 2016 to February 2017. Jonathan commented that this is encouraging given that the person who will be awarded the role is as yet unknown. Jonathan is aware of others' experience that it is often easier to acquire an offer of accommodation once a specific person has been appointed and people know exactly who they would be accommodating.
- Jonathan Mobey suggested that we could say to the successful candidate that the appointment is subject to suitable accommodation coming forward.
- The accommodation is for one person only i.e. if someone has a spouse or children, only the person appointed will be able to live in the accommodation provided. Jonathan Mobey will make this clear in the job/contract details.

Jonathan Mobey had circulated to PCC members in recent days a draft job description, contract and advertisement for the apprentice/intern post. Jonathan reported that he has now also created an application form, based on the one for the Children & Families Worker post.

Jonathan Mobey ran through the various comments he had received from PCC members on these documents and pointed out where he had made amendments to take account of these.

The following proposals were then made:

- Jonathan Mobey proposed that the application deadline should be 31 July with shortlisting the following week and interviews in the week commencing 8th August. We should then hopefully have someone in post by around week commencing 22 August.
- Jonathan Mobey proposed an Appointment Committee consisting of himself, a churchwarden from each parish plus Carina Lobleby (as co-director of the Science & Faith project).
- Tony Hughes proposed an evaluation of some sort at the end of the contract, to inform whether such an apprentice/intern arrangement is successful.

Jonathan asked for a show of hands to indicate approval to proceed in accordance with the above three proposals. This was given unanimously.

**(ii) Science & Faith project**

This was covered by (i) above.

**(iii) Fresh expression of church**

A planning meeting took place on 1 July attended by eleven people. There is no specific proposal as yet.

There is another planning meeting on 12 July.

#### **(iv) Didcot CAP centre**

Jonathan Mobey reported that he had relayed back to the relevant local ministers that the Benefice has agreed in principle to support a CAP centre for the Dicot area, with the proviso that the PCCs are yet to agree a specific amount in their budgets or recruit the necessary volunteers.

Jonathan Mobey reported that the other local ministers were also able to confirm support as follows:

- Ridgeway Church – committed to the project
- Kings Church – committed to the project
- Didcot Baptist Church – committed in principle, but like us, would need formal budget approval in the autumn

Now that other churches have also indicated their support, we will need to address formally the matter of budget at the next Combined PCC meeting in September or at the individual PCC meetings in October.

Jonathan Mobey reported that he had had some responses to his initial request for volunteers at the June Combined PCC meeting.

(The above section was minuted by Jane Woolley)

## **2. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies had been received from Alex Reich, Jan Radford, John Pigott, Helen Brook, Carol Pigott and Hazel King. Jonathan Mobey was chairing the meeting of St Matthew's PCC.

## **3. Minutes of the Last Meeting**

These were accepted as a true record and duly signed.

## **4. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

- (i) Garage Sale – Result. £100 had been raised for Church Path Fund. There was a vote of thanks for Carol.
- (ii) Bell-ringing policy – Carina summarised the policy. Following discussion several alterations were recommended. Carina will make the alterations and then the policy will be circulated. Given the alterations, all agreed to accept the policy.
- (iii) Seating for the less-mobile – All present agreed that the implementation of some comfortable seating for the less mobile is appropriate and that it is a good idea to proceed. Four seats had been donated, and Alex Reich will be applying for temporary permission to use these from the Archdeacon. These will then be trialled. It was agreed that the seats will be split over two rows with two of the seats next to each other. This will allow those that require the seats to be seated with relatives.

## **5. Committee Reports**

- (i) Finance – Stuart provided full accounts for the first 6 months of the year.
  - a. The PCC discussed the fact that the £3000 pledged by Harwell towards the Science and Faith project was 'in kind' and not actual money. It had been understood that Harwell PCC was going to provide £3k towards the Science and Faith project and a grant of £5k was requested and granted on that basis. It was

suggested that the £3k was now not on offer and the situation needed to be clarified.

- b. A question was asked to the treasurer about the contra fund. He explained that this is money which passes through the account.
- c. The question was asked about whether or not the legacy fund can be used for the Science and Faith group, the fund is for the sole use of repairing the building.
- d. The Quinquennial Inspection has moved to August from June, possibly at the request of Philip Waddy, our architect.
- e. Pledges and plated giving have gone up.
- f. The Children and Family's worker fund has a balance of £7k and should continue to grow. This is a result of pledges for the extension of the project. The suggestion of reducing Peter Shields' hours to 80 % FTE was rejected by the PCC.
- g. We are looking for more funding for the Church path fund. The Legacy fund is currently underwriting this.

(ii) Fabric – It was suggested that the PCC look at the West House wall.

- a. There was a proposal in the fabric report that suggested the PCC offered money towards the repair of the wall. The proposal was rejected. There is no evidence which suggests who owns the wall although it encompasses the old Rectory. It was not deemed to be a major Health and Safety concern by the PCC as children do not play in the area in question. The PCC agreed to take no action in regards to the wall but instead pass the issue onto the standing committee, who will be recommended to contact a solicitor.
- b. It was agreed that the issue of heating would be kept under review.
- c. Shea would like to refurbish the pub before the noticeboard is installed there. This is to be put on hold for the time being.

## **6. 9:30 am services**

- a. It was proposed at the Fresh Expression meeting that the Fresh Expression will take place on a weekly basis. This is still to be agreed.
- b. Peter Shields feels that the proposed monthly family services would not hit the mark. Most of the parents of the younger children in Chilton were in favour of taking them to Pebbles.
- c. It was agreed that there is nothing for young children after Pebbles and there was discussion in regards to what to do for older children.
- d. It was agreed that children should leave the 9:30 am service during the first hymn. It was also agreed that we should collectively pray for them as they leave. It was also agreed that we should make more of the use of the time that we all have together at the start of the service.
- e. It was agreed that we need to start the computer up a bit earlier when we are projecting. The possibility of asking those in the kitchen to do this was discussed. The issue of finding the file to be projected for the service was also discussed.

## **7. Harvest and Barn Dance Preparations**

- a. The hall and band have been booked. The posters are complete. Alex has put the posters up. Tickets are not selling yet. Tickets will be sold at the Rose and Crown, Harwell church, by Alex and by Sylvie.
- b. There is concern over what to do with fresh produce from the Harvest Festival. Ideas needed to be put to the next meeting regarding the disposal of the fresh food.
- c. The Harvest Festival is to appear as an Agenda item for the next meeting.

## **8. Future Dates**

- a. There is no August PCC meeting
- b. Liz sends her apologies for the September meeting

- c. Holiday club is in August

**9. Any Other Business**

- a. Discussed the Wi-Fi and putting the router by the organ. It could be temporarily fixed to the wall.
- b. Prayer spaces were discussed. All the comments from children were positive but the school had received negative comments from some parents and staff.

**10. Closing Prayer**

**Date of next meeting. Combined PCC Tuesday 6th September 2016 at 7.30 pm in Harwell**

.....Chairman