

Minutes of a Meeting of All Saints' Chilton PCC

Held on Tuesday 6th March 2018 at 7.30pm at St Matthew's Harwell

1. Opening Prayer and Combined Discussion

Revd Dr Jonathan Mobey opened the meeting by reading Revelations chapter 7, verses 9-17. In this passage we hear about an astonishing scene that John has had revealed to him. In the previous chapter, a series of calamities were described. But this chapter is much more encouraging. We hear how God's people are safe, they're diverse, they're united, and God is providing for them. The relevance here is that the church is about making worshippers of God, and we are called to grow that group of worshippers.

Jonathan then led the meeting in prayer.

• **Holiday Club**

Venue and dates

The venue is confirmed as Harwell School. The dates are 20-24 August.

Admissions Policy

(The proposed admissions policy had been circulated.)

Jonathan Mobey introduced the matter. He reminded the meeting that the need for a clear Admissions Policy for Holiday Club had been discussed at the Combined PCC meeting in February. At that meeting, Becca Lewis had argued that in future a child whose family attends Harwell/Chilton Church but who lives outside our Parishes should have some priority when allocating places at Holiday Club. Jonathan had then invited PCC members to send him and the Children & Families Workers their views on how places at Holiday Club should be allocated.

Jonathan Mobey said that various PCC members had submitted their opinions on this matter, and that these opinions had been divergent. Jonathan said that he and the Children & Families Workers had taken this range of views into account when drafting the proposed Policy, seeing the Holiday Club primarily as an outreach activity.

Jonathan Mobey then opened the matter up to discussion and questions.

In the discussion, Becca Lewis noted that the proposed Policy still gives no particular priority to a child whose family attends Harwell/Chilton Church but who lives outside our Parishes. Becca Lewis argued strongly that a child in this category should be given a greater level of priority than currently. Becca's rationale for this was threefold:

- The proposed Policy gives the impression to Becca that we don't value people from outside Harwell/Chilton who attend our churches.
- The proposed Policy overlooks the fact that children with a strong faith, not just adults, can be highly missional to other children.
- If children of church-going families do not yet have a strong faith, then they could really benefit from Holiday Club.

It was acknowledged that a relatively small number of families fall into the group in question.

A few other PCC members then expressed their views on this matter.

Pam Rolls suggested that a way forward might be to expand current priority category four in the Policy to include the group in question, and then to move this category up to priority category three.

There was then some discussion about the best way to define the group in question. The outcome of that discussion is reflected in the wording of the first resolution below.

Resolution	To modify the proposed Holiday Club Admissions Policy as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add the following to the end of current priority category four: <i>“and/or have attended a church children’s Sunday group in the last calendar year”</i>. • Move current priority category four up to priority category three 				
Proposed	Chair	Seconded	-	Passed	Unanimously

Resolution	To approve the Holiday Club Admissions Policy, as modified above				
Proposed	Chair	Seconded	-	Passed	Unanimously

It was also agreed that the Policy should be reviewed before next year’s Holiday Club.

- **Community**

Jonathan Mobey reported that plans are in hand to hold a Songs of Praise in the Harwell Feast marquee on Sunday 27 May.

Jonathan Mobey reported that the Children and Families Workers are in discussion with Carina Lobley about running a Family Science Club-style stall at Harwell Feast on 28 May and at Chilton Fun Day on 9 June.

The two PCCs then separated, for their individual meetings.

2. All Saints’ PCC

Present:

Rev Dr Jonathan Mobey (Chair until item 6)	Rev Pam Rolls
Dr Phil Corbishley	Mrs Yvonne Sanderson
Mrs Hazel Benton	Mr Stuart Gibson (from item 5)
Mr John Pigott	Mr Alex Reich (from 5(ii) b)
Mrs Liz Morris (Chair for item 6 to end)	Mrs Carol Pigott (Secretary)

Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Dr Carina Lobley, Mr Steve Hale, Revd Jan Radford and Mrs Helen Brook (no longer a member of PCC).

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were amended slightly:

Item 5 (i) c) Missions Giving...to read

All missions giving has been paid other than for Christine Perkins, whom Stuart is **to contact**.

7 Future dates (i) The venue for the February meeting was changed to All Saints’, after the January meeting had taken place.

8 Induction To read:

There should be some induction for the new employees. (PCC deleted from sentence)

The amended minutes were then accepted unanimously, and duly signed.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes

5. Committee reports

- (i) Finance Report and Revenue Account. These had been circulated.

Now that the children's work was showing growth in numbers on a Sunday morning, the Village hall was once again being used regularly on a Sunday. Those present estimated this increased cost at something under £500 pa, if the hall was booked for Pebbles, for an hour most weeks.

(Stuart Gibson arrived at this point)

One family had signed up to the new Parish Giving Scheme so far. This needed further promotion, and Stuart would repeat the explanation on a Sunday morning. He would also approach people directly.

The Annual Revenue Accounts for 2017 had been examined. The Annual Finance Report and Accounts were approved.

Proposed Liz Morris; Seconded John Pigott; Carried unanimously.

- (ii) Fabric. Once again, Andrew Hayes had produced his Annual Fabric and Ornaments Report; together with his Indices of "One-off jobs required", "Repeating maintenance jobs" and most useful "Snapshot" of the state of the Fabric.

Everyone present agreed with the Rector, when he said how fortunate All Saints' is, to have Andrew and his team looking after the church and churchyard.

- a) Rail at Chancel Step. The rail has been erected, and is in use. It is to have the top fitted shortly. PCC were very grateful to the donors. There was some discussion on the possibility of having a similar rail fitted on the pulpit side of the Chancel step. (A member of the congregation, with left side problems, is unable to use the rail when returning from the Communion Rail. Others may be similarly disadvantaged). It was felt that a sidesman should still be present at the step, for the time being, and that we should maintain a "watching brief".

(Alex Reich arrived at this point)

- b) Humfrey Stevenson Gate. PCC held a lively discussion on the pros and cons of having a gate, or leaving an opening. An un-gated entrance would be welcoming to passersby, but the new path surface could be tempting to cyclists/skate-boarders, etc. The strongest case for retaining a gate was, that this would ensure the Church path did not become a public Right-of-Way. PCC therefore made the decision to ask Andrew and the Fabric Committee to implement the option to undertake a temporary repair to the gate, to make it safe, and to talk to friends of Humfrey to see if any contributions might be forthcoming. If insufficient contributions materialize, for the cost to be included in the 2019 Fabric Budget requests.

It was also agreed that the small gate could be kept in an open position, providing the churchyard continued to be respected, and/or a welcoming notice could be placed on or near the gate, such as is on the main door of the church.

West Wall. Pam has finally been able to conclude all the research possible on ownership of the wall. Following the last PCC meeting Pam had visited the Records

Office in Reading to look at Churchwardens' and Parish Records which had been archived there. She discovered two surveys, dated 1934 and 1940, conducted by the Ecclesiastical Surveyor for the Diocese of Oxford under the Ecclesiastical Dilapidations Measures. The surveys were conducted on the property which was deemed to be the 'liability of the Incumbent' and extended to 'the Rectory, the Stabling and the Boundary Walls and Fences'. This indicated that the boundary wall belonged to the house and it is not clear why the wall was not clearly conveyed along with the Rectory and Stabling when it was sold by the Church Commissioners in 1950. Pam had drafted a letter for Jonathan, Alex and Yvonne to sign and this letter had been delivered to the owners of West House. We now await a response from them, which would be chased if it was not forthcoming soon. It was hoped that the home owners would examine their deeds and meet with the Rector and Churchwardens as a matter of urgency. The consultation would be extended to the owners of Middle and East Houses in due course but the urgent matter was to deal with the wall between West House and the end of the Garden of Remembrance.

Pam agreed to inform Andrew personally of the current state of affairs. PCC are indebted to Pam, for all the effort and hard work she has put into resolving this issue.

(The Rector left the meeting at this point, and Liz Morris took the chair)

It was also noted that the Parish Council own the boundary fencing between the Churchyard and recreation Field.

6. Preparations for Mothering Sunday and Easter

Liz would prepare the posies for Mothering Sunday, with other volunteers, in the church kitchen on **Saturday 10th March** at 10.00 am.

29th March, Maundy Thursday service would be in Harwell.

30th March, Good Friday, there would be a procession of witness starting from the Chilton Field Community Room at 8.30 am, prior to Good Friday "At the Cross" service in church.

31st March, Easter Eve, Pam would be leading the Easter Vigil service at 8.00 pm

1st April Easter Sunday, Pam would lead the Family Communion Service at 9.30 am.

Yvonne would organise Easter Eggs

7. Revision of Electoral Roll

This was in hand, organised by Gordon Cowan. The notice of revision had been put up, and application forms to be entered on the roll had been placed in church.

8. Preparations for Annual Church Meeting and Annual Parochial Church Meeting

(i) Approval of Reports.

The **Annual Finance Report and Revenue Accounts** had been approved under 5(i), Finance

T The **Annual Report for 2017** was approved, subject to slight amendment

The **Fabric and Ornaments Report** and related papers had been circulated, and were approved.

Proposed Pam Rolls, seconded Alex Reich, and carried unanimously. Liz thanked Carol and Hazel for producing and checking the Annual Report.

(The Financial Report had been approved at the January PCC, and is included within the Annual Report, for printing. The Fabric reports are printed separately.)

(ii) Presentation of Logbook, Terrier and Inventory. These being in Chilton at this time, PCC agreed that Standing Committee, and any other members of PCC present at the time, should see and approve these at a later date, preferably the following Sunday. (See

below.) Liz thanked Alex and Yvonne, on behalf of PCC, for dealing with the inventory and logbook.

(iii) Preparation for Elections. We need to elect:

2 Churchwardens for 1 year

3 PCC members for 3 years, and 1 for 2 years

3 Deanery Synod Representatives for 3 years.

(We had 81 on the Electoral Roll as at the 2016 APCM, which entitles us to 3 Deanery reps)

Alex and Yvonne are prepared to stand for another year as Churchwardens.

Carina is prepared to stand for a further 3 years on PCC, but Steve is standing down for this year, and Carol is standing down.

Helen has already had to stand down, for family reasons, which accounts for us needing a PCC member to serve 2 years.

Nominations are therefore required for at least a further 3 PCC members, and up to 3 Deanery Reps.

Nomination forms would be available in church.

PCC members were asked to approach those they thought would be prepared to serve on PCC or Deanery.

Carol would be happy to assist whoever took on the role of secretary, with proof-reading, providing templates for minutes and agendas, etc.

9. Future Dates

(i) Mothering Sunday 11th March

(ii) Easter Sunday 1st April

(iii) 7th April Tidying up church, sorting for archiving 9am to 12 noon.

(iv) ACM and APCM Sunday 22nd April at 10.20 am and 10.25 am respectively

(v) All Saints' PCC at Chilton Tuesday 1st May

10. Correspondence and Any Other Business

(i) Security, Internal Door. There was general discussion of the options available for locking this, and also of the occasions when thefts had occurred previously. However, this door has been left open in order to aid ventilation, there being a marked predisposition to damp in the lower room. Therefore, it was decided to continue with this practice.

(ii) A large print bible had been requested for use on the lectern. PCC agreed it might also be useful to have a large print bible available for the congregation. Two large print bibles would be borrowed from St Matthew's, to determine their usefulness.

(iii) Oxford Homeless pathways PCC approved and supported this request, from young Gregory Wells, to collect items to be used for the homeless in Oxford. They would also be happy for Gregory to speak to the congregation one Sunday. Andy would be asked to draft something for the noticesheet, broadsheet and Chronicle.

11. Closing Prayer

Rev Pam Rolls closed the meeting with prayer at 9.55 pm.

Date of next meetings

Sunday 22nd April APM and APCM at 10.20 am and 10.25 am respectively in church.

Tuesday 1st May All Saints' Individual PCC at 7.30 pm at All Saints'.

Standing Committee

The Logbook, Terrier and Inventory were presented to the Standing Committee, and approved, on Sunday 11th March. (See 8(ii), above)

.....Chairman

Carol Pigott (Secretary)