

MINUTES OF THE ALL SAINTS' PCC MEETING

held at All Saints' Chilton on Tuesday 5 September 2023 at 7.30 pm.

St Matthew's, Harwell and All Saints', Chilton PCCs were present together for Items 1-3. For the other items, only All Saints' members were present.

1 Opening and Prayer

The Rector, Rev Jeremy Parsons, welcomed the PCCs to the joint part of the meeting and read from Colossians 3 verses 16-17 and opened the meeting in prayer.

2 Children and Families Worker Recruitment

Jeremy informed the PCCs that, following on from the decision at the June meeting to proceed with advertising the part time job share Children and Families Worker for the Benefice post, low key advertising has taken place and the first candidates would be hosted next week. Due to the shortage of likely candidates, there is no cut off date and suitable applicants will be seen when they apply to decide whether they will then be interviewed. He also mentioned that there were ongoing discussions with ECHO to look how we can work together.

3 Wallingford Deanery Synod Report July 2023

Paper A covering the recent Deanery Synod meeting was noted but not discussed.

All Saints' PCC only

Present:

Rev Pam Rolls

Judith Russell (Churchwarden)

Naomi Gibson (Secretary)

Debra Dewhurst

Liz Morris

Hazel Benton (Vice Chair)

Alex Reich (Churchwarden)

Stuart Gibson (Treasurer)

John Pigott

Rev Jeremy Parson (present for items 1-5)

1. Apologies for absence

Hazel chaired the meeting. Apologies were received from Steve Hale, Pat Moseley and Jan Radford.

2. Minutes of the meeting on 6th June 2023

Liz was thanked for producing the minutes in Naomi's absence. The minutes of the meeting on 6th June 2023 were unanimously accepted as a true record and signed.

3. Decisions requested of Standing Committee between meetings.

The Standing Committee has met to decide on items for the agenda for this meeting, but no decisions have been requested.

4. Matters Arising

- **Back to Church Sunday** (Paper C)

Alex emphasised that it was a season of invitation to church and could apply to other Sundays as well as Harvest Sunday which we are initially targeting. He highlighted that in one of the links attached to his paper that people should be encouraged and not be fearful of inviting people to church.

The printed invitations will be available by Sunday 17th. Pam has announced before the recent Sunday services the need for people to actively invite people to the Harvest service

and personally give out the invitations. The PCC unanimously agreed to support this initiative.

- **AV Upgrade (Paper D)**

Steve was thanked for producing the paper. It was agreed that a working party was needed to progress this. There were various suggestions that the group will need to investigate. It was hoped that the south aisle would have a monitor (even if a temporary solution) before Harvest Sunday. There followed a brief discussion about replacing microphones, laptops and sighting wall mounted monitors and it was decided to increase the budget to £5,000. Stuart and Judith agreed to be part of the working group with the hope of encouraging another member of the congregation with technology expertise to join them. Faculties may need to be applied for and Judith will investigate this.

The PCC unanimously agreed to the proposal of a working party, under the leadership of Steve Hale, is formed and they report recommendations to the November PCC meeting with a guideline budget of £5,000. **Action: Steve Hale**

5. Church Organisation and Decision Making (Paper E)

The paper suggested employing a work consultant Revd. Canon Geoff Maughan to explore ways of reengineering the process of making decisions in the committee structure of the benefice which is currently complicated. The work could take six months at a cost of £1,200 plus expenses. This cost would be split across the two parishes in the usual way and, if approved, start as soon as possible. This was unanimously agreed.

Hazel requested that the PCC be fully informed of the new way of working as, apart from the Standing Committee, other members were not aware of the Standing Committee meeting to decide on the items for the PCC meeting agenda. Jeremy agreed that he should have sent the paper explaining this to all members of the group.

6. Finance Report (Papers F & G)

The papers were noted and there were no questions.

Stuart mentioned that the Ministry Support expenses were covered until the end of the year, but we need to be mindful of raising money for the funding of this valuable work.

7. Fabric Committee Report (Paper H & I)

Judith was thanked for the report and all the works she is organising as well as the work of the fabric committee.

The repairs to the roof have not yet been carried out and a new start date is being organised.

The clock repairer is visiting on Wednesday 13th September to hopefully mend the church clock.

The PCC were impressed with the thorough churchyard tree assessment and agreed unanimously to accept the quote for the necessary work from Youngs Tree Services, as recommended by Judith.

Health & Safety

The PCC were encouraged to identify someone who could take on this very necessary role.

8. AOB – Becoming a net zero carbon church

This was circulated as Papers J & K

There followed discussions about the merit of becoming a net zero carbon church and the necessity of a working group to move this forward. Debra mentioned that in order to access the necessary energy audit checklist we have to decide to become a net zero church. Following on from this we can then access the energy audit etc from the Church of England.

It was proposed that we become a net zero church and a working party is set up.
Proposed: Alex Reich, Seconded: Debra Dewhurst. Unanimously agreed.
Alex, John and Naomi wished to join the working party.
Debra hoped to go to the meeting in Reading mentioned in Paper K.

Future Dates

These were noted.

Hazel Benton thanked everyone for attending and the meeting closed at 8.40 pm with the Grace.

Naomi Gibson

PCC Secretary