

Minutes of a Meeting of the Bishop Burton Parochial Church Council held on Thursday 24th September 2015 at All Saints Church.

Present: Rev R Young – Chairperson
Mr D Oxtoby
Miss H Swann
Mr D Beynon
Mr N Penton
Mr T Thomas
Mrs S Thomas
Mrs A Danforth – Secretary

In Attendance: Mrs J Dean from All Hallows, Walkington

The meeting began at 7.35pm with a Reading and Prayer by Rev Young.

Apologies for absence were received from Prof S. Ersser, Mrs A Cherry, Mrs J McDonald, Mr L Byass, Mrs M Wray and Rev R Newton.

1. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes from the previous meeting held on the 22nd June 2015 and Extraordinary meetings held on the 2nd and 30th August 2015 were circulated to all PCC members before this meeting commenced. One amendment was requested by Mr Penton on the minutes from 22nd June which related to a balance date recorded. Once this amendment was made the by Secretary, all three meeting minutes were accepted as a true record, and Rev Young signed them all accordingly.

2. Leading your Church into Growth

Rev Young and Jackie Dean gave feedback on their attendance at this course run by the Diocese of York. The Diocese hopes it will help everyone to learn skills and strategies to spread the Gospel amongst our communities by sharing our faith in many different ways, and so grow the Church. We are encouraged to use LyCiG Local, which is a training course to bring these ideas to the people in our Church. It is anticipated that this will take approximately one year, and will be a mix of Together Days and discussions at PCC and other meetings across the Benefice. Rev Young then outlined her proposal for running LyCiG Local throughout the year in our joint Benefice. Jackie Dean will be the point of contact for Walkington and Bishop Burton, and Peter Campion will act as contact for Rowley and Skidby. They will be attending the meetings where LyCiG is discussed, and liaise with Rev Young.

To help us to focus our prayer on Church growth, short prayer meetings will be held on the 2nd and 4th Sunday evenings at 6.30pm at each Church in turn. For All Saints, these will be on 22nd November, 14th February, 24th April and 2nd July.

Our benefice partner to compare notes and encourage each other along the journey of the course will be St Nicholas Church in Beverley.

Mrs Dean was thanked on behalf of the Committee by Rev Young for her report and attendance, and she left the meeting at approximately 8.05pm.

3. Discussion and Election of a Standing Committee

Rev Young explained that it was common practice for all PCC's to have an elected Standing Committee to do the work of the Committee in between full PCC meetings in order to make decisions on time critical or urgent matters. A Standing Committee must have not less than 5 members elected from the PCC, and usually includes a Church Warden, Treasurer, Secretary and Clergy.

Mr Penton advised that a Standing Committee was in place at Walkington, and that a cap on the amount which could be spent by them had been agreed by the PCC in advance – if further funds are needed, a full PCC meeting must be called.

Miss Swann proposed that a Standing Committee should be elected and this was seconded by Mr Thomas and unanimously agreed to by all present. It was further agreed that this would consist of Mr Oxtoby, Miss Swann, Mr Penton, Mrs Danforth and Rev Young.

The Standing Committee will only be used to discuss time critical or urgent matters, and all members of the PCC will receive details of any meetings and decisions made as soon as is practicable after being held. A cap on the spending power of the Standing Committee is to be addressed and decided upon at the next PCC meeting.

4. Matters Arising from the previous Meeting Minutes

Benefice Quarterly Meeting

The Secretary confirmed that copies of the last Benefice quarterly meeting minutes had been distributed to all PCC members. Rev Young advised that there are 2 Benefice Services scheduled to take place – one in November and one in January – these happen on the 5th Sunday.

Fun Day Fund Raising Event

Apologies were given to Mrs Cherry and Mrs McDonald on behalf of the PCC for not being able to progress their fun day fund raising event this year.

5. Planning / Events

Feedback from the Annual Church Sunday Lunch at Burton Raikes Farm

Mr Oxtoby thanked everyone who helped with this event and everyone who attended. A total of £806.50 was raised in aid of Church funds, and Mr and Mrs Oxtoby were thanked on behalf of the PCC for their hospitality on the day.

Harvest Festival Planning

The Harvest Festival Evensong will be held on Friday 7th October with refreshments to follow. Rev Young apologised that this date did not make it into the Village Magazine, but publicity posters of this event have been put up around the Village.

Friends of All Saints Church – Open Meeting on the 28th October 2015

The Secretary confirmed that the publicity for this event had been done and leaflets were due to be distributed around the Village beginning Saturday 26th September.

Remembrance Service

Rev Young advised that this will be held on Sunday 8th November, commencing at 10:15am.

Action: Mr Oxtoby to organise the Poppy Wreath, and contact Humberside Police to see if it would be possible to stop traffic from going past the Memorial during the 2 minute silence at 11am.

Action: Miss Swann to contact Mr Alf Stevenson to see if he will be available to play his trumpet at the Service.

Christmas Planning

The Christmas Crib Service will be held on Sunday 20th December 2015 at 3pm. The Carol Service will be held on Monday 21st December at 7.30pm.

6. Finance

General Finance Report

Mr Penton reported that we are still running at a deficit which is at a similar level to last year. The giving scheme has generated 10% more from last year, but our fundraising has not been as successful, and we have spent more on maintenance costs. This has led to an overall loss of £2,000. Our investments were £3,000 up on last October's figures, but with the fluctuation in the stock market which has recently occurred, Mr Penton expected this figure to drop.

Paying retired stipendiary Clergy for Services

Rev Young advised that she would also be discussing this matter with other Churches in our united Benefice, as we currently do not have a policy with regards to paying fees to the retired Clergy who give their time to take Services for us. All present agreed that it was wholly appropriate that fees and expenses payments should be offered.

Payment of fees for Funeral Services

Rev Young explained that many Funeral Directors were confused regarding who to pay fees over to within the Church for Services etc. The Rector will discuss a united Benefice policy with all of the Treasurers, in order to make the process of fees easier to understand.

Cheque signatory update

Mr Penton confirmed that he was still going through this process with the Bank, but hoped to have all issues resolved shortly.

7. Fabric Matters

Report from the WC Facilities and Pew Relocation Sub-Committee, with an update on the Bells Inspection Report

Mr Beynon advised that the Bell Report had been received, and although some remedial work had been suggested, they were, on the whole, in reasonable condition given their age. The report suggests that the best way to ring the bells if a WC should be put into the Tower would be to relocate the Ellacombe ringing mechanism down to the Tower floor. This would allow the bells to be rung from ground level, instead of having to go to the first floor of the Tower. It would have the advantage of no longer requiring a 'hit and miss' type stair arrangement, as infrequent access to the first floor would therefore be required, and a ladder arrangement would suffice. Mr Beynon will work with Mr Oxtoby to obtain a quotation for the work which would be required, and Rev Young will add these changes into the statement of Need and Significance for the Faculty application.

Heating Time Clock

It was agreed that the new heating time clock would be installed at the same time as the lighting sensors were installed, as an electrician can do all of this work at the same time.

Action: Mr Oxtoby to advise Mr Beynon when the electrician is due to carry out this work so that the time clock for the heating system can be obtained.

Dampness to interior wall – area around the Piano

Mr Thomas agreed to speak to Mr Pittway (Decorator) in order to get this area repaired and redecorated.

Mr Oxtoby will speak to Mr Lythe to ask him to check the roof guttering again to ensure that rainwater is not running down the exterior wall outside.

Central Heating Boiler

Roger Glister, the Diocesan Heating Engineer has been to inspect our heating boiler system. He has agreed with the Gas Board that we do need more air flow to the system, which will require new air vents to be installed. He will write a formal report and send this to Mr Oxtoby and Rev Young. It is possible that an emergency Faculty will be required for this work to take place, but nothing further can be done until the official report has been received. Mr Oxtoby advised that a new Gas Meter is to be installed on the 9th November 2015.

Fencing to the area at the east corner of the Church where the ground drops away sharply from the gravel path

Although this area is lit, it was agreed that temporary fencing would be placed around this area where Services or other events would be taking place at night, to prevent anyone from straying off the path around the Church and potentially falling down the incline on this corner.

Update on Lectern and pew Bibles

Rev Young advised that we have received the new Lectern and pew Bibles – grateful thanks were again extended to the Methodist Chapel for donating the funds to purchase these. It was agreed that a dedication of thanks to the Methodist Chapel should be added to the front of the Lectern Bible to record this donation.

8. Reports and Updates

Website/e-mail progress

Rev Young reported that the website is progressing and will be on line within the next few weeks.

Vulnerable Adults Policy

This item was carried over to the next PCC meeting as an update was not available at this time.

9. Any other Business

Retained Parsonage Land for Sale – Response from the Diocese of York to our letter dated 30th July 2015

Rev Young advised that the Diocese had thanked us for our letter of 30th July 2015 in which we confirmed that we had no objections to raise with regard to the sale of this land. They also confirmed that the Church's the right of way through the Lych-gate was protected, should any development of the land occur as a result of this sale.

Purchase of a new Bench for the Ashes Internment area in the Churchyard

The Secretary indicated that Mr Byass had expressed an interest in supplying this bench, but as Mr Byass was unable to attend this meeting, this item will be carried over to the next PCC meeting.

Request for the return of the Bust of Francis Watt on loan from All Saints to the Bishop Burton Agricultural College by Mr John Dunning

The Secretary read out an e-mail received from Mr Dunning regarding the bust of Francis Watt, which was loaned some time ago to the College by the Church. Mr Dunning has asked if it would be possible to bring the bust back to be displayed in Church, given the historical connection of Mr Watt to the Church. All present agreed that it would be appropriate to approach the College with this request, and Mrs Danforth was asked to write to the Principal.

Joint PCC meeting with Skidby and Rowley with David Butterfield regarding Stewardship.

Rev Young confirmed that this meeting would be held on the 27th October but the time and location were not known as yet.

Licensing of Rev Ruth Newton

Rev Young advised that Bishop Alison will be conducting a Service at All Hallows, Walkington on the 27th December 2015 at 3pm, during which Rev Newton will be licensed as an Associate Priest.

10. Date of Next Meeting

This was scheduled for the 19th November 2015 at 7.30pm, and Mr Oxtoby agreed to host this at his home. Mr and Mrs Thomas gave their apologies as they will be unable to attend on this date.

As there was no further business to discuss, the meeting closed with a Prayer and the Grace at 9.15pm.