

MINUTES OF ST MARY'S ARDLEIGH PCC Meeting on  
Thursday 18 May 2023 at 7.30 pm held at Highfield, Fox Street,  
Ardleigh CO7 7PN

1. Prayer

The Chair opened the meeting in prayer. Start time recorded as 19:30.

2. In attendance

Martin West (Chair) (MW), Rosemary Kleingeld (RK), Richard Culley (RC)

3. Apologies for absence – Revd Phillip Young (PY), Christina Volkmann (CV)

4. Conflict of interest – none declared.

5. Minutes of previous meeting 8 March 2023 were approved & signed by the Chair.

6. Matters arising: None

7. Safeguarding policy review. There are no current Safeguarding issues to report. RC has been through all three checks. MW one so far. Caroline Allen is recruited and confirmed as our PSO and has submitted a safeguarding lead training paper. She will report monthly to PCC, churchwarden and PY. Also report to Parishes Office in Dedham re: keeping records up to date and retained in a secure manner.

8. Post APCM we had a PCC meeting 23 April 2023. No vacancies filled apart from Chair (MW) and no standing committee as we are but 4. Current Roll numbers 32. RK will send out Electoral Roll letters for new Roll to be completely revised for 2024. We have devised a *Who does what?* flow chart to show reporting links to churchwarden and PCC and what we might call Heads of Departments for St Mary's Church PLC (!)

9. Living in Love and Faith. Any updates to be discussed when PY present and at PCC level, not general debate.

10. Parish share. We have had an update from Hilary Powell. Our percentage payment to date is 33% of target.

11. Resourcing ministry:

- a) Reach Out update. We had a successful coronation bank holiday weekend with a walk led by David Wright and a table top sale organized by Susan. Cyclists were able to use the card machine for the 'Cycle specials', sausage roll, cake and drink £5. 60 people attended the café inc 2 children).
- b) £250 raised from the walk and the table sale/café. We have gifted £100 to the Village Preschool.
- c) Services – planning. Susan is drafting a template for the format of the All Together service so it can be printed out each time. We felt the name needs to be expanded to encourage participants who don't quite know what to expect. We discussed the gap between ending of 8.00am BCP service and the 9.30 café church start. It is beginning to be 2 different congregations. For Sunday services generally, an appointment of 2<sup>nd</sup> missioner could help our problem with ministerial availability
- d) Covered earlier
- e) Ardleigh cell group. We are trying to keep this as an Ardleigh group as Dedham has their own. It is aimed at bible study/ discussion together. Susan, Gillian and RK are part of it so far. Caroline Allen is contact for this.

- f) Junior church council (Benefice)– see minutes of previous meeting 8 March item 14
- g) No deanery synod report from CV this time but minutes of last meeting have circulated.
- h) School. There is currently an IEB (Interim Executive Board) and two headteachers on temporary appointment. There is a plan for the school to join a named Multi-Academy trust. MATs will present in June. PCC will be told preferred choice and invited to discuss. This is necessary as it is still a C of E school; we have said we wish to be involved and to continue to build links with the Church. A document will be provided for our next PCC meeting to minute approval or otherwise.

We are supplying Bibles for year 6 leavers which we have paid for.

- i) Fabric  
SmartWater has been applied to the roof, which tested the alarm satisfactorily. RC reports some ridge tiles need replacing. Fire extinguishers had annual check on 18 May (report logged in Parishes office and RK noted for our records). The mortuary has been repaired and woodwork repainted and it looks smart now. Need quote for roof repairs. Susan/Caroline dealing with PC over yew trees' project. Curtains for lady chapel and entrance door, MW to discuss with Susan.
- j) Bells. David Culham – awaiting update on bats.
- k) The recent walk raised £171 for the Friends
- l) Hourly charges for use of church. Energy costs are still too fluid to settle this now.
- m) Locking rota begins again in June.
- n) No current H and S reports. First Aid training to be done (see handbook in vestry), also Fire risk assessment. Move the font?

12. Correspondence: None

13. AOB: MW will reprint more copies of the *Church Concise History* to be available near the door.

Date and time of next meeting:

**Thursday, 6 July 23 at at Highfield**

The meeting closed in prayer.

Meeting ended 20.35