

Minutes of PCC Meeting 16 May 2023

Present: Vee Druitt, John Reed, Liz reed, Sharon Sarson, Helen Sims, Lyn Al Sad, Paul Brebner

Apologies: Gabby Watson, Phillip Young

In Attendance (part): Prof. Douglas Bourn and Sara Marshall.

1. The meeting began with a short presentation from Prof. Douglas Bourn on his plan for a sustainable Dedham. (this had been circulated prior to the meeting) He outlined the areas of concern and action needed to address. He is working with the parish council and is trying to involve as many stake holders as possible and feels the church has an important part to play being in the centre of the village. He said the aim is to improve the quality of life and well being: PW stated that this was the ethos of the church and our Christian faith to tell people of the better way of life that Jesus offers.

It was agreed that we would support the plans and play an active part

Proposed VD and seconded HS

Note to Phillip: Could we develop a special service along this theme?

2. Sara 's plan for the church had been circulated and was agreed with the exception of the LED lights; these are on our to do list but will need some time and money to implement. Proposed VD and Seconded LR
3. Finance: JR reported that Income was pleasing during Q1 and was up against our budget largely due to two regular anonymous donors who have been contributing since October 2022. Our costs were as expected higher than 2022 mainly due to people and energy costs. WE are still trying to establish our true energy costs going forward as there have been some small issues in controlling the new boiler and we are still waiting to know the level of government support. We are planning to insulate the boiler room which should help (action needed!)
HS asked if we could put some information at the rear of the church explaining how much it costs to run the church on a weekly/ monthly basis. JR was asked if he could prepare some information.

The organ fund has now raised £246K and after paying some initial and ongoing costs the balance now stands at £216K

4. Mission Giving: We discussed whether we should make a commitment to support from the church general fund and it was Agreed we would commit a minimum of £1000 this year (Proposed VD and seconded PB). We would also continue to support via our sales stall run by Lynne and Ruth. It was agreed that this year we will support the group in Guatemala
It was agreed we should discuss with Phillip if it would be appropriate to have a Mission Sunday when any money collected would be for our chosen mission
5. Safeguarding: there were no issues to report but we are still seeking a safeguarding officer and data protection officer.
6. Second Missioner: the meeting was told that there is now an applicant and interviews are planned for 15 June; the format is still to be established

7. Fabric: We have received one quote for the windows but it is proving difficult to get quotes for the masonry work—we continue to enquire
8. Rota: There are still concerns about this but we agreed we now have to give the current rota an opportunity to be tested. As we move forward it was suggested that a preferred arrangement would have Matins on the same Sunday as Revive @5 even if this meant changing the day for revive which could be done after September. For further consideration and discussion.
9. Communion: It was agreed that we should from next month move to offering both Bread and wine and tincturing. Church wardens to discuss with Phillip how best to organise this logistically; Some people may want only the vicar to offer this. There was some surprise that we are only going to serve non alcoholic wine and was this right. It was stated we should make our intention known.
10. Children and family worker: PCC is strongly in favour of this but understand current constraints and this will continue as an agenda item.
11. Still some confusion as to choir processing down the aisle at the beginning of the service. Proposed that the minister announce the first hymn from the rear of the church and invite the congregation to stand for the first hymn
12. Magazine: the PCC unanimously agree that any article /statement should have references included as appropriate
13. Cleaning rota needed to cover Andrews holiday period-see email from VD
14. Date of next meeting: 18 July