

Minutes of Meeting of PCC of Mirfield Team Parish

Wednesday 7th May 08, 7:30 pm at St Paul's

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Present

Revd Canon Peter Craig-Wild (Chair), Revd Gill Johnson, Revd Ann Pollard, Revd Wendy Dalrymple, Revd Helen Butler, Michael Hampshire Katharine Crossley, Valerie Warner, David Brooke, Anne Heeley, Jacqueline Turner, , Susan Auckland, Rachel Copley, Dianne Ferreira, Ruth Edwards, Carol Wilkinson, Chris Hargrave, Stephen Butler, Sue Pope, - Guest Revd Jane Leigh.

1. Apologies

Chris Breare, Carole Sykes, Barry Hambling, Mark Pollard, Jane Jaggar, Sue Young

2. Election of Officers

2.1. Secretary

The chair nominated Michael Hampshire as Secretary; there being no other nominations, Michael Hampshire was duly elected as Secretary.

2.2. Vice-Chair

Jim Law was nominated as Vice Chair by Val, seconded by Chris H; there being no other nominations, Jim Law was duly elected.

2.3. Treasurer

David Brooke was nominated as Treasurer by Rachel, seconded by Jacqueline; there being no other nominations, David Brooke was duly elected.

2.4. Stewardship Recorder

Subject to their agreement to serve, the PCC expressed a wish that those previously in post should continue. Those in post currently are, Sheila Harford (St John's), Katie Graham (St Mary's), Val Warner (St Paul's).

2.5. Child Protection Officers

Subject to their agreement to serve, the PCC expressed a wish that those previously in post should continue. Those in post currently are, Garnet Rotchell (St Mary's) as the Child Protection Officer, assisted by Gill Hawksworth (St John's), and Barbara Keivers (St Paul's).

2.6. Health and Safety Officer

Stephen Butler was nominated as Health and Safety Officer by Sue P, seconded by Val; there being no other nominations, Stephen Butler was duly elected.

2.7. Electoral Roll Officer

Michael Hampshire was nominated as Electoral Roll Officer by Chris H, seconded by Sue P; there being no other nominations, Michael Hampshire was duly elected.

2.8. Co-options

The PCC agreed to co-opt, the Child Protection Officer, Garnet Rotchell, and the Health and Safety Officer, Stephen Butler (already an elected member) as ex-officio members of the PCC.

3. Appointment to Sub-Committees

3.1. Standing Committee

The PCC agreed to continue with the current composition of the Standing Committee, which currently comprises 5 Clergy; all 7 Wardens; the Treasurer; the Secretary and the Lay Chair. In total 15 members.

3.2. Teams - Finance Assets and Buildings (FAB); Development & Ministry and Mission

The PCC agreed to continue with the current composition of all the Teams.

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Carol W proposed and Jacqueline seconded a motion approving the Minutes of the previous meeting, given the following changes to the minutes circulated.

- The following change to Item 14, Electoral Roll Changes, were made. "*Gertrude Wilcock, Mrs. Kathleen Lee and Mr David Sykes (all deceased) and Mr. Francis Whiting, were removed*". This change reflects the fact that Francis Whiting was removed from the Roll because he has moved and did not die as indicated in the circulated minute. Also David Sykes and Gertrude Wilcock had been removed from the Roll but this fact was omitted from the circulated minute.

- To clarify the changes in the Roll of the three churches as we moved to one parish, the following amendment has been made. *After removing 5 duplicate entries from individual church Rolls, this increased the combined Roll from 321 in Mar 2007 to 332 on 8th April 2008.*
- The following was added to item 6, Organ Refurbishment following the resolution to spend £350 for a water supply to the organ. *“Note the actual cost of the water supply was £400”.*

This was carried with no one against.

5. Matters Arising

Mara – Gill pointed out this year is the 20th Anniversary of the formation of Mara and they would be bringing a Tableau to the UK. It had been suggested that St Paul’s could be one of the resting places for the Tableau, when there would be a special service. The anticipated date for this event was sometime in June. The PCC approved this plan.

Matrix- Wendy reported the recent meeting of Matrix when 30 people were present drawn from the 8 Churches in Mirfield. Only Wendy and Peter were present from MTP.

Wraparound – Ann reported that refurbishment had started for the first Phase. Pied Piper was supportive and had agreed to help with obtaining Ofsted approval. Currently a Business plan was being put together to bid for support from the Kirklees Surestart Fund. The Scheme would be called the “St Paul’s Wraparound”.

Signage – Peter has met with Scott and the Designer but the artwork was not yet in a suitable state to put to the PCC at present. Stephen asked that the Fair Trade logo be incorporated into the signs erected at each of the three Churches.

St Mary’s Church Wall – Stephen gave an update on progress, indicating that our Insurers would not consider a claim as they deemed the fall was “wear and tear”. However, English Heritage had been approached and a meeting set up in the near future. This item was to be referred to the St Mary’s Business Team.

6. Financial Report

David tabled a report indicating the balances of the various Restricted Funds held by MTP and the amounts recently spent on the Flat, Parish Hall and Wraparound project.

Whilst the PCC was responsible for the St Paul’s Wraparound project, this would need its own bank account established in the near future. **David proposed and Wendy seconded a motion to establish an account for St Paul’s**

Wraparound. This motion was carried with no one against.

7. Introductory Discussion on Children taking Holy Communion before Confirmation

Revd Jane Leigh, from the Hartshead/Roberttown/Heckmondwike Team, made a presentation of her experiences having implemented a scheme some years ago to allow children to take the sacrament as low as 5 years of age after preparation classes. Suitable children in regular church attendance needed the consent of parents and needed to show that they, themselves, wished to take the sacrament. The PCC expressed its thanks to Jane for giving her time and sharing her experiences. Wendy had some experience in this area and also gave her thoughts on the issue. The meeting split into 5 groups for discussion. Some points to note are:-

- Non-confirmed adults not allowed to take communion, whilst children were, might create alienation.
- There was considerable support for a completely “open table” policy whereby anyone wishing to take communion was allowed to do so. This policy would make the church inclusive and welcoming, rather than the current exclusive policy.
- Any child permitted to take communion in their own parish is allowed to take communion in another parish irrespective of the policy of that parish.
- A policy of giving children formal courses before permission seemed just another hurdle to replace confirmation classes, with the only difference being the absence of the Confirmation itself. If this is the policy, is there any point in it?
- A number of confirmed adults might be resentful that the barrier to taking communion was removed.

The resolution was made from the Chair to take the issue forward for wider consultation with the Congregations. This was carried with just one vote against.

The procedure would now be as follows:-

- Wider parish discussion at an open meeting
- Consultation with parents
- Further PCC discussion and if the PCC resolved to proceed, Permission would then be sought from the Bishop.

8. Dates of Next Meetings of Standing and PCC

The next Standing Committee would be Monday 9th June and the next PCC on Monday the 23rd June at a venue to be announced.