

Minutes

8th May 2024

8.00pm in the Upper Room

Present:

John Martin	John Castle
Sue Campbell	Clare Hardy
Karen Allen	John Castle
Abby Coleman	Denise Yeomans
Nicky Thomas	James Mason
Jon Toohey (for item 4)	Alun Grafton
Steph Martin	Willie Hartley-Russell (In attendance for item4)

Apologies: Di Taylor , Emma Hodge, Brendan Watson ,

1. Opening Prayer

The Rector led the PCC on prayer and reflection James 2vv1-9

2. Minutes and Matters Arising

- a. Conflict of Interests:
Nicky Thomas on matters concerning Sandhurst Counselling Service
- b. Minutes (including part 2) of the Rector's Council of 28th February and the 27th March 2024 were received
- c. Minutes (Including part 2) of the PCC of the 13th March 2024
- d. Matters Arising:
 - i. The election of sides people;

The Rector had checked PCC regulations and discovered that Sides people should be elected by the PCC and not by the wider congregation at the APCM. To this end:

Proposal: That the PCC elects the people below as sides people from April 2024 to April 2025:

8am, 9.30am & Evensong:

Sue & John Campbell	Gill & Tim Robertson
Sam & Paul Carpenter	Ann & Chris Harris
Steph & John Martin	Diana Pidgeon
Val Travers	Brendan Watson
Julie Thomas	

Family Service:

Kate Lampitt	Katy Robson-Malone
Sara Kaufman	Abby Coleman
Seonaid Colville	Thea Parker
Andy Parker	Sheridan Cremer-Evans

Proposed : Karen Allen, Seconded Clare Hardy

Passed: Unanimously

3. Regulatory Requirements:

- a. Safeguarding (Paper Attached)
 - i. Review and Update of Safeguarding Policy

Jen Rose has completed the yearly review of our Safeguarding Policy and submitted it for PCC approval. The Rector has checked the policy and appendices. The PCC thanks Jen for her efforts on our behalf.

Proposal: That the PCC accepts the updated safeguarding policy.

Proposed: John Castle, Seconded: Karen Allen

Passed: unanimously

- b. Health and Safety
 - i. Changes to Covid Restriction -KA

Karen circulated the opinions she had received on whether St Michael's should return to using a common cup for communion. Covid restrictions had been lifted by the Church of England and many churches had returned to using the common cup. Opinion at St Michael's was divided, but the majority of the comments Karen had received favoured staying as we are using intincted wafers. Many doubted the research that the common cup was safe. Many also expressed that they did not want to return to kneeling communion. The PCC went onto discuss the issue, the main points of which were:

- That both options would be offered, with two lines for communion; one for intincted wafers and one for a wafer and the common cup.
- That it was not proposed to reinstate the altar rails at present.
- There was no plan at present to go back using bread, but will stay with wafers.
- That the choir would come down and take communion as they used to do.
- That the same approach would take place at both the 8.00pm and 9.30 service.

Proposal: That St Michael's adopts a dual system, where both common cup and intinction would be offered.

Proposed: John Castle Secoded: Karen Allen

Passed: unanimously

It was proposed that the new system would start on the 2nd of June and that the Rector would put an article to this effect in the newsletter and Karen would mention the changes in Sunday notices

c. GDPR

Nothing this time, but major revisions due in July

4. Finance -JT & Willie Hartley- Russell (By Zoom)

a. Investment Review

Jon Toohey introduced Willie Hartley- Russell from CCLA . This was Willie's third visit to St Michael's since we had invested with the fund. Our Finance policy requires us to look at how our investments have performed and whether they are still appropriate on a yearly basis. Willie went on to explain that it was good practise to keep money likely to be needed within three years as cash and any other funds be invested in a medium risk investment fund. CCLA was founded in 1958 and deals with Church and charity money. The details of how our funds have performed is in the attached paper which had been circulated to the PCC in advance of the meeting. However, our investments in the last year have made a profit of £63,000. 2024 has been a much better year for growth so far and CCLA will continue to invest in high quality companies.

Proposal: That we agree the policy with no changes

Proposed: Jon Toohey, Secoded James Mason

Passed: Unanimously

5. PCC Member Induction (PowerPoint attached) SFC

Sue shared a PowerPoint which explained to new members and reminded long-serving members how the PCC works and its purpose.

6. The Future of Youth Work – JC

The Rector explained that at present the Memorandum of Understanding, which is our working agreement with Sandhurst Youth, is suspended whilst we await the review, so it gives us the opportunity to think more widely. St Michael's has a responsibility to develop our own young people and for mission in Sandhurst. Over the next few months, we need to consider what options we want to explore, including working with other Parishes and organisations. The Rector asked the PCC to think and pray about the issues in advance of a strategic review in September.

7. Estates

a. Updating the Pastoral Centre. KA/SFC

Karen has been struggling to find space to decorate the kitchen. She still needs to identify a few days where a team could get in to do it. Sue has contacted a washroom contractor, but has yet to hear back.

b. Spire and Bells Update

Miranda has been trying to organise a Bat Survey so that we could potentially start work in November.

Unfortunately, if there are bats in the spire they would be hibernating then and therefore we would not be able to do the work. Miranda will re-contact the ecologist to organise the initial survey. The temporary platform which has recently been built under the bells will need to be checked by a structural engineer to obtain a faculty in retrospect.

1.Proposal: That the PCC authorises £400 for a structural engineer.

Proposer: John Castle, Secoder Steph Martin

Passed unanimously

2. Proposal: That the St Michael's PCC approves Nicholsons as the contractor for the repair of the bells.

Proposer: John Martin, Seconder: Clare Hardy

Passed unanimously

8. Reports

a. Deanery Synod Report SM

Was presented by Steph Martin and accepted by the PCC

b. Sandhurst Youth Report

Was circulated to the PCC.

9. Fundraising

a. Fundraising:

The Rector promoted the Tom Butler Evening and thanked Abby for her efforts. The fundraising Group will also take on the Burns Night as a fundraising event for the spire in January. The Rector will also be appealing to individuals for large, one-off donations.

b. Stewardship

Catherine and the Rector are organising a Stewardship Sunday on the 16th June and in preparation Catherine is reviewing the regular income.

10. Date of the next meeting: 12th June 2024 in Person

11. AOB:

a. Lone Working Policy

Emma had asked if we had a lone working policy. It was decided to delegate the task of looking into this to The Rector's Council.

b. The Hall Floor

It was pointed out that the floor is often left in a dirty state by the nursery for other users. Karen informed the PCC that she has written to the nursery owner re-stating her contractual obligations. She has yet to have a reply.

12. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer