

ST MARY'S CHURCH, HADLOW

PCC STANDING COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD MONDAY 25 FEBRUARY 2018

at 8pm at the Vicarage

1. Opening prayer

2. Members present

Rev. Paul White (PW), Rev. Nicky Harvey (NH), David Gater (DG), Nicola Canham (NC), Barbara Smith (BS), Kelly Parsons (KP), Martin Massy (MM, Secretary)

Apologies for absence: None

3. Matters arising from last PCC meeting, 21 January 2019

Nothing not otherwise on the agenda.

4. Treasurer's report

DG reported that the final, definitive financial report for 2018 was not yet available. However, the deficit for 2018 is now estimated at £9,400, partly due to an input error after moving to the new software system accounting for ~£4,300. During 2018 we also lost three big donors who, between them had contributed £570/month.

The deficit in the unrestricted funds was met by cash drawings transferred to the Current account (General Church Fund) of £1490 from the YOU bank account (YOU Fund) plus £3400 from the Capital Reserve bank account (Church Repair Fund amount held in Cap Reserve). DG to discuss with the Independent Examiner the technical question as to whether these cash transfers could be considered as legitimate 2018 credits which would reduce the amount of the General Fund deficit.

Owing to the deficit, the meeting agreed that we should postpone sending the last £2,500 instalment for 2018 to the diocese. DG to email the diocesan Finance Director to explain, but also to say that we would pay if the money became available during 2019.

Current reserves are ~£12,300 in the Church Repair Fund and £250 in the Young People's Fund.

NH felt that visual (graphical) presentation of the Statement of Financial Accounts (SOFA) would be helpful for the APCM and would send DG an example from another parish.

Indicative Offer (Parish Pledge)

Responses to the consultation on the proposed formula for the Indicative Offer are due by 8 March. The proposed formula is made up as follows (draft figures for St.Mary's based on 2017's unrestricted income of £103,956):

Cost of Ministry	+	Cost of Diocesan parish support	+	Wider Diocesan Mission
£41,008		£9,597		£10,396
Clergy costs		Training, safeguarding, legal, DAC, finance...		Includes Children & Young People, Community Engagement, support for deprived or struggling parishes

The formula is seen to be fair and transparent for all parishes, but the total for St.Mary's of £61,001 is higher than the £55,000 that we feel we can afford. The sum for Wider Diocesan Mission is calculated as 10% of a parish's gross income. It was noted that parishes already carry out mission both locally (e.g., Messy Church) and more widely (e.g., Kibakwe). Contributions to the diocesan mission risk reducing the resources for local mission. PW to write to the Finance Director requesting a breakdown of the costs for parish support and the wider diocesan mission.

Whilst it is desirable to meet the indicative offer in full, we can only give what we can afford.

5. The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)

Electoral Roll

Notices in St.Mary's and Golden Green Mission Hall regarding preparation of the new Electoral Roll would remain until 11 March; the Roll is to be completed by 24 March for display on or before 31 March. 59 application forms had been received to date.

Congregation to be reminded at Sunday services about the Electoral Roll, APCM and election of PCC members and churchwardens.

APCM

Target is to complete the APCM booklet and the Annual Report & Financial Statements by 8 March, for approval at the 18 March meeting of the full PCC.

There will be five vacancies on the PCC. Members to endeavour to recruit potential candidates.

The APCM agenda to include:

- a. Curate's reflections
- b. Safeguarding and data protection – PW

6. PCC Sub-Committees

Education:

Cheryl Trice is to help revamp the St.Mary's offering for young people in consultation with them and improve communication with parents.

Village newsletter

The question was raised as to whether the submission date for items for the newsletter could be a week later in months with five Sundays to make it more up to date. Errors need to be picked up more rigorously. The Parish Administrator to be asked to circulate to NH, KP, PW to proofread.

The April newsletter to include an item on the food bank. PW to send to the newsletter editor.

World Mission

Jim May would join the WM committee. The 2019 Lent Appeal would raise funds for Kibakwe and the Delhi Brotherhood.

7. Safeguarding

Six people are signed up for CO training. 18-20 people left, who include drivers for the hospital car service and church watchers.

The Parish Safeguarding Audit is to be completed by 1 May – PW + BS.

8. Agenda for March PCC

Add discussion of having church open all day. Church watchers would be encouraged to still come in and welcome visitors. Security and safety issues, e.g. access areas, equipment and materials, etc to be discussed.

Add discussion of proposal for downstairs kitchen.

9. AOB

Stair lift

The meeting approved renewal of the service contract with Higher Elevation for the stair lift for another year starting 2 March at a cost of £170 + VAT = £204. MM to sign and return contract.

Services in Golden Green

Only one communicant last time, who had already attended the 8 o'clock service in St. Mary's that morning. Would a service be better held mid-week, e.g. with coffee, avoiding Sundays when people might be more likely to have family commitments? PW and NH to discuss with people in Golden Green (N.B. Need to book the hall).

10. Confidentiality

No issues.

Signature



Date:

18/3/19

Date of next full PCC meeting: 18 March 2019