

Minutes of the PCC Meeting held in the Narthex, St Andrew's Church

7.30pm Tuesday 2nd October 2018

Present – Andrew Horn (Chairman), Jeanette Horn (acting Secretary), James Martineau (Treasurer), Jenny Batelen (churchwarden), Meg Martineau, Angela Randle, Robert Thornton, Chris Day, Louise Robinson, Stuart and Lynne Larnder, Liz Hooper

1. The meeting was opened at 7.30pm and Andrew Horn read the prayers, including thanks to our interim Rector Sheila Banyard for her ministry to the parish over the last 18 months and wishing her a very happy retirement.
2. **Apologies** – Sally Rees, Evelyn Ellis, Fiona Davies, Judy Bear.
3. The minutes of the last meeting, having previously been circulated by email, were agreed as being accurate and were signed by the Chairman.
4. **Matters Arising** –
 - a) **Fabrics and Fittings – Lighting**
James informed the PCC that the church light bulbs which has been in place for more than ten years, are in need of changing to LED lighting. This is expensive, but needs doing as soon as possible. A wiring inspection is overdue so Robert Thornton suggested that we combine an inspection with getting a quote to have this work done. Jenny and James to discuss.
 - b) **Boiler** – James reported that this had now been mended at a cost of £2,500 but now that it was done it was hoped that this would last for at least 5 years. An informal inspection of the boiler to assess its life span is still needed Mike Gould heating Engineer had been asked to assess and has agreed to look into this.
 - c) **Chancel ceiling** – the damp patches are currently being worked on, though when the old paint was being removed, some of the plaster was also dislodged and now needs re-plastering. A time of 2-3 weeks will be needed to complete the job.
 - d) **Church Music** – Andrew Horn commented that Louise Robinson should be congratulated on her work with the newly formed St Andrew's singers, and also for her help as occasional organist.
5. **Review of Harvest**
This years Harvest Service was slightly altered in so much as it took place entirely inside the church instead of beginning by procession from outside. Comments were favourable and showed that people enjoyed watching various harvest offerings being processed down the aisle during the service, so it is hoped to continue in this vein.
Harvest Supper – an excellent evening was had by all who attended, even though numbers were slightly reduced this year. The profit from the evening is to be given to Farm Africa. Liz thanked everyone for their help and announced that after 11 years of organising this event she felt she would like to stand down next year.
6. **Forthcoming Services** – (see attached sheet)
14th October – harvest breakfast to be held in the Narthex by Liz Hooper and Fiona Davies
All Souls – Andrew, Jenny and Canon Kerr who is to officiate, have formatted a service

Remembrance – Jenny Batelen, Jeanette Horn, & Tony and Iris Checketts have formatted this service which is to be a special one to commemorate the ending of WW1.

Thanksgiving Service November 25th at 11am – to thank all who participate in the life of the church. Refreshments will be available after the service in the Narthex.

Christmas Services – these are all noted on the attached sheet

Lucinda Kenny has had the idea of using her newly built garden garage as Father Christmas' Grotto with any monies given to St Andrew. – on Tuesday 18th December 5.30pm with Tony Checketts as Father Christmas.

Christingle – after a general discussion about this, it was decided to hold Christingle biannually.

3rd Sundays- Robert informed the PCC that he was short of Leaders and Speakers for this service. Both Angela Randle and Chris Day have offered to help out. Robert will get a rota out in the next few weeks.

7. **Forthcoming Events**

a) **AUTUMN SERENADE** – this concert will be held on Saturday October 6th and tickets were still available £10pp. Cheese and biscuits will be available as will a glass of wine and soft drinks. Concern was voiced over the presence of the plasterers scaffolding in the Chancel, but it had been decided that the choir will stand in the front pews and face the audience.

b) **TOWARDS 200** – James had proffered this idea some months ago and now it is to be launched in June 2019. In essence, it is hoped that fundraising will be centred on St Andrew's 200th birthday and will encourage more use of the church as a community building. James feels that to encourage this we should give the village community more say in how they would like St Andrew to go forward. Ideas offered were the upgrading of the windows, the W.C, and disabled access improvements. Other issues were what do we do with the Sandys pew, should we change the internal oak doors to the Narthex to glass or even offer the spire to British Telecom ?? A general discussion took place amongst the PCC and various ideas were put forward and Stuart pointed out that OSCA was designed to do much of this. Andrew suggested we needed a broader vision of what is to happen in St Andrew for the future and that a small combined OSCA/TOWARDS200 committee should be formed to facilitate this.

8. **FABRIC and FITTINGS** – James stated that the windows were currently going to cost in the region of £150,000 £25,000 is recoverable VAT.

We need to apply for another grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund(HLF) but had already been refused twice. James suggested that we alter our application to 'improve' our case. This could include the facts that we are considering improvements to the disabled access, and W.C. for example. Robert stated that if we can show an improved application to HLF then this should improve our chances of securing their grant. Stuart Larnder agreed stating that previous applications have been refused because they have been lacking in such detail. James also informed the PCC that HLF were changing their applications rules and that the changes would take place next year but until the end of 2018 they were the same as previously where we can apply for up to £100,000. Stuart suggested that we should apply now, before the end of 2018 just for the windows.

James informed the committee that OSCA currently has approximately £106,000 in its account and pointed out the figures in his balance sheet (appended). If we could get

Comment [JH1]: es

£100,000 from the HLF then we could raise the extra £45,000. Stuart thought that this was do-able. A general discussion took place and it was suggested that Mr R Richardson and his Charitable Trust could be approached for help and/or the Conservation Trust. Stuart suggested that we apply for a preliminary application, so we could get an idea of what is required and assess our chances of succeeding. Robert stated that HLF monies will probably be unlikely to be more generous in the new year and an interim application would be better. Conclusion – James said that a prelim application is favourable and that we need a small working party to sort this out asap.

Kneelers - Jenny Batelen informed the PCC that the Altar kneeler needs recovering and as long as there were no objections she would remove it and replace with some of the pew kneelers until it can be repaired.

9. **Interregnum** – a decision on whether the applicant for the job of the new Rector is still in abeyance.
10. **Finances** – Charitable Giving – the present system has now been going for 4 years and £9,000 has been given to various charities during that time. Looking forward to 2019 suggestions were need for a new (local) charity to benefit. After discussion it was decided to support DEAF DIRECT in Worcester.
11. **Health and Safety** – An inspection of the Tower was carried out (appended to minutes).
12. **Safeguarding** – nothing to report
13. **Set Dates for PCC Meetings and Standing Committee Meetings** –
January 15th Standing Committee January 4th 2019
April (AGM) 23rd Standing Committee April 12th *
July 16th Standing Committee July 5th.
October 15th Standing Committee October 4th

*please note that Jenny Batelen has decided to stand down as Church warden at the AGM 2019

AOB – Robert stated that the church website needed to be overhauled in the near future

The Evening Collect was said and the meeting closed at 9.15pm

.....Signed

.....Date

