

PARISH CHURCH OF ST MARY'S ALLITHWAITE
MINUTES OF PCC MEETING HELD ON
Tuesday January 19th 2021 at 7.30pm via Zoom

Opening Prayer: Steve Bell opened the meeting reading from Psalm 100, reminding us of God's faithfulness and care for us in times of difficulties.

1. **Present:** S Bell (Chair), M Jackson, S Wymer, A Sherwin, J Bell, John Tindale , Janice Tindale(JaT), E Arthurs, E Baldry, M Fieldhouse, John Lanham, Julie Lanham(JuL), A Robinson, J Arthurs (PCC Secretary). In attendance: A Osmaston, J Bruce.
2. **Apologies:** None
3. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting held on November 12th were unanimously approved as a true record and subsequently signed by the chairman.
4. **Matters Arising:**
Graveyard extension: MF reported that the footpath gate would remain locked whilst building work was in progress.
School House Trust: this issue, including finances is being investigated and a report will be made to the PCC. **Action: MJ**
5. **Current Suspension of Services:**
At the beginning of January a small group of worship leaders had taken the decision to not hold services in the church building during the current lockdown: the meeting unanimously supported this decision.
The meeting also expressed their thanks to the Service leaders, to JL, and others involved in the recording of services.
6. **Finance Update:**
2020 Final Accounts: JT reported that there had been a small surplus over the year *due to using the Contingency Fund* and expressed his thanks to all who had continued to contribute via bank transfers during a difficult period.
In 2020 the Community Food Hub account had a credit balance partly due to donations being received late in the year. Most of this will be used in 2021, £300 has already been donated to the local Foodbank. Any further "surplus" would be used to fund Community lunches and other community projects when we are able to hold them.
There is now £12K in the deposit account towards funding for the planned Community and Youth Leader post.
A question was raised regarding the high level of expenditure on Gas. Control of the central heating system would be investigated. **Action: Wardens**

2021 Budget: JT tabled a budget for January to March, noting the difficulties in preparing it due to the expected departure from the area of a number of regular contributors.
It is not expected that we would need any additional licences for recording and hosting services in the present format on the church web-site.

The meeting agreed that JB should, for a limited period have access to the church accounts "in an emergency situation". The PCC should consider appointing a "deputy treasurer" and needs to find someone for that role. **Action: All**
7. **Parish Share:**
The meeting considered a proposal that *"we should withhold our Parish Share until the situation regarding our Team Vicar is resolved"*. This has been on-going for nearly 3 years.

A number of views were expressed, in particular, it was pointed out that the Diocese are being very supportive of our plans to employ a Community and Youth Leader and we wouldn't wish to jeopardise that support. It was also reported that many letters (including from Allithwaite and Flookburgh Schools) had been sent to various people in the Diocese regarding the situation, but no satisfactory reply had been given.

It was noted that at least one other church in the Team had reduced its Parish Share.

During the discussion, JBr stated that any possible re-organisation of the Team Ministry could only take place after the situation was resolved.

Following the discussion it was agreed that a letter would be sent to the Diocese strongly expressing the PCC's continuing frustration and anger regarding the non-resolution. We would pay our Parish Share for another 3 months and then review, in the light of any response. This letter would be copied to both Bishops, the Diocesan Treasurer and the Archdeacon.

Action: MJ

It was considered vital that we continue to pray for a breakthrough and a resolution. An appeal would be put in "In Touch" to encourage all members to pray.

Action: AS

8. School Issues:

A recent survey has reported that a yew tree in the old graveyard requires some attention. It is likely that any work on this will require a faculty and local authority permission.

The CCTV systems is not working and requires a number of replacement parts. The quoted cost is £1490, which would be equally shared by the Church, the School and the Mary Lambert Hall. The meeting approved spending money on this repair.

The school wish to erect a temporary building in the fenced space outside the headteacher's office in order to accommodate a facility for a special needs pupil. This is church land, and again would need a faculty. MJ would liaise with school and the Diocese on these issues.

Action: MJ

9. Any Other Business:

The meeting noted that the footpath between church and Vicarage Lane would be closed for 1 day, with notices placed in accordance with the regulations.

Action: MJ

JBr had recently circulated to Churchwardens, a discussion paper regarding options for the re-organisation of the Team. It was agreed that a small team (PCC Chair, Wardens, PCC Secretary) would meet initially to discuss this, before bringing it to a special PCC meeting on Tuesday February 9th.

The PCC granted permission for a small additional box to be placed next to the library box at the bottom of the church drive. The box to be "in keeping".

Action: MJ

Community and Youth Leader Post – update paper previously circulated. The target start date is September 2021. All recruitment documents are with the diocese for approval and discussions are being held with Chris Mason regarding using the space in the choir vestry. It was confirmed that this appointment would be for 3 years.

2021 APCM – we are awaiting advice from the Diocese regarding holding the meeting and making appointments, in view of the fact that the 2020 APCM was only held in October. In response to a question it was confirmed that Amanda Fogg is happy to continue as nominated Safeguarding Officer. Minutes to be updated accordingly.

Action: JA

Members to think about an additional nomination for local Churches Together group. **Action: All**
JL asked members to let him know of any additions or corrections to the web-site. **Action: All**

It was noted that Avril Chadwick was to take up a music role at Flookburgh church. The Secretary was asked to write to Avril thanking her for her contribution to our music ministry over many years.

Action: JA

10. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday February 9th at 7.30pm: a special meeting to discuss the Team re-organisation paper.
Next full PCC meeting: Wednesday March 17th at 7.30pm

11. Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday January 19th and Wednesday March 17th

