

PARISH CHURCH OF ST MARY'S ALLITHWAITE
MINUTES OF PCC MEETING HELD ON
Tuesday May 18th 2021 at 7.30pm via Zoom

Opening Prayer: Steve Bell welcomed new members to the PCC. His opening prayer referenced Proverbs chapter 3, asking that we show love and faithfulness in our discussions as we serve God and our community.

1. **Present:** S Bell (Chair), M Jackson, S Wymer, A Sherwin, J Bell, Janice Tindale, John Tindale, E Arthurs, J Donnelly, A Hill, L Spring, E Baldry, J Arthurs (PCC Secretary).
In attendance: J Bruce.
2. **Apologies:** Julie Lanham, John Lanham, M Fieldhouse, A Osmaston
3. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the PCC meeting held on March 23rd were approved and signed by the Chairman.
4. **Matters Arising:**

Payments to Team Admin Office: JA reported that this issue is part of the wider debate about the future of the Cartmel Peninsula Team. He would report back to a future meeting.

2020 Fees Income and Expenditure: JoT confirmed that the figures were correct as stated in the accounts, there being an excess of income over expenditure.

CCTV repair / replacement: MF reported that the costs would be shared with the school and possibly the Mary Lambert Hall Committee. Our share would likely be between £400 and £650, this will be confirmed.

Parish Share: There had been an exchange of letters between the PCC and the Diocese, copies previously circulated. It was noted that there has been no material change in the plans for provision of future ministry support across the team and that other PCC's were also reducing their Parish Offering – see also item 7 of these minutes. It was agreed that we withhold our payment for another 3 months and review the situation at the September meeting.
5. **Committee Appointments:**

It was noted that at the PCC meeting held in November 2020, appointments were made to carry through until the APCM in 2022. A small number of amendments were made and the full list is attached to these minutes.

JBr reported that the Archdeacon is wanting to dissolve the Team and therefore the Team Council; however it is a legally constituted Council and therefore must be legally dissolved. Currently, expenses and Team administration costs are paid by the Team (funds contributed by the individual parishes). The Team Council also requires a new Treasurer.
6. **Finance Update:**

The meeting received the April accounts which had been previously circulated.

JoT reported that there was extra money in the accounts due to the Parish Share being withheld, and awaiting funds for 2020 to be allocated by the Mission Committee.

MJ stated that the Mission Committee would meet to discuss the allocation of funds for 2020 and 2021, and bring a proposal to the PCC for approval. **Action: MJ**
7. **Update on Team Re-organisation:**

Two (unofficial) sets of notes from recent meetings regarding the current situation and proposals had been previously circulated in order to inform all PCC members of the up to date position. It was noted that the current proposal which would re-organise the Peninsula parishes into 3 Benefices were at an early stage as it requires agreement from all PCC's.

(Our understanding of the current proposal is: Allithwaite and Flookburgh, one minister; Grange, one minister; Leven Valley churches, half a minister; Cartmel, half a minister (Cartmel would pay for an additional half)). There is also scope for a House for Duty appointment.

There are also plans, again as yet unconfirmed, to provide interim ministerial support when JBr leaves his post in July.

With JBr leaving and all future proposals unconfirmed, it is increasingly difficult to make progress and plans for services etc., it was therefore agreed to write again to the Archdeacon seeking clarity on the way forward. The letter would be copied to the Rural Dean, John Dixon, who we understand would have a role to play in the provision of future support.

Action: JA to prepare initial draft of letter

8. Services and the way forward:

It was agreed to continue with the current pattern of Sunday services for the next 3 months:- 9.30am, except 2nd Sunday: 4pm; one joint service per month with Flookburgh; with an intention to provide a midweek BCP Communion service when possible. This idea would be welcomed by those people who previously attended the 8am service.

It was noted that office is producing a full monthly rota of all the services across the peninsula so that people are able to choose services that suit their requirements.

The meeting was asked to encourage other lay people to be part of the leadership team for informal services, for example the 4pm service on June 13th.

We have a baptism “pencilled in” for July 11th, a second Sunday. MJ is looking at the timing of this service with the family.

9. Graveyard Reservation Policy:

The wardens have received a request to reserve a burial plot in the new graveyard alongside that of a family member. This applicant having initially been informed that we have a policy of not allowing reservations, has also involved the local MP. At a PCC meeting held on 30th November 2015, following an earlier application, the PCC re-iterated this policy which is in line with Diocesan guidelines. There are currently no reserved plots in the graveyard and the meeting noted that to change this policy for one applicant could be deemed unfair to those who may have made a request since the policy was established.

The meeting agreed to maintain the current policy of not allowing graveyard plot reservations, and MJ would convey this decision to the applicant and Tim Farron.

Action: MJ

10. Any Other Business:

Noting that this would be Jim Bruce’s last PCC with us, SB, on behalf of the PCC and the church membership, thanked Jim for his wisdom, experience and friendship wishing him every blessing in a future role.

It was noted that shortlisting for the Youth and Outreach Worker post will take place on Friday 28th May.

11. Date of Future Meetings: Tuesday July 13th and Tuesday September 14th