

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST MARY'S ALLITHWAITE

Minutes of the PCC Meeting held on Tuesday September 14th 2021 at 7.30pm in Church

Present: S Bell (chair), J Bell, E Baldry, A Sherwin, John Tindale, Janice Tindale, J Donnelly, A Hill, E Arthurs, S Wymer, Julie Lanham, John Lanham, M Jackson, L Spring, J Arthurs.

In attendance: Helen Hoyle (for item 3), A Osmaston.

- 1. Opening Prayer** – S Bell read the words of the song “I want to serve the purpose of God in my generation”, it being an appropriate prayer for our meeting and our work in the wider community.
- 2. Apologies** M Fieldhouse
- 3. Welcome to Helen Hoyle and discussion re: Community opportunities:**

The chair welcomed Helen to the meeting. Helen explained her role as Community and Youth Leader in conjunction with her work with the Cartmel Peninsula Youth Trust. In the first 2 weeks in her role she had met with various people in the church, schools and community. It was recognised that there were still some Covid restrictions on entering schools.

The meeting made the point that we had lost a lot of community contacts over the past 18 months and early opportunities to re-establish these were discussed including: community lunches, Harvest Festival on October 3rd and Allithwaite School Harvest service
- 4. Approval of Minutes:** The minutes, including the previously distributed suggested amendment to item 5, of the meeting held on July 13th were approved unanimously and subsequently signed by the chair.

The minutes of the extra meeting held on August 22nd were also approved and signed.
- 5. Matters Arising:**

The footpath into the churchyard from the new development is now open.

Carole Hull has arranged to meet with the Bishop on Monday October 11th. This will be an open meeting and will be publicised in St Mary's In Touch (SMIT). **Action: JA to liaise with Carole**

Regarding the Team Office and the Team funds, it was noted that Mike Hill, churchwarden at St Paul's is pursuing this. **Action: JoL to speak to M Hill**
- 6. Update on Appointments in the Cartmel Peninsula:**

The churchwardens reported that Jonathan Brewster has been appointed as interim minister for Grange and the Leven Valley parishes. He will also be “Mission Community Leader” although at the moment it is not clear what this role entails.

It is anticipated that an appointment of an interim half-time minister for Allithwaite and Flookburgh will be announced in the near future.
- 7. Parish Share:**

The following proposal had been circulated in advance of the meeting:

“On the understanding that an interim part time minister for Allithwaite and Flookburgh is to be appointed in the near future; from October we re-instate our monthly Parish Share contribution at 75% of its original level for the rest of the year. All the money withheld before this date to continue to be kept in a separate “pot”. This decision to be reviewed when considering next year's offering.”

A number of views were expressed in the subsequent discussion, the following notes are intended to illustrate this range of views:

We have a lot to be thankful for, we should be paying in full, God is answering our prayers, the Diocese are responding to our pleas and are supporting Helen's appointment (being the legally the employer).

But what other means do we have to express our frustration over three and a half years, we do need to keep bringing the issues to the attention of the Diocese.

Following the discussion, a vote was held and the proposal was passed by 10 votes to 5.

It was agreed that any correspondence exchanged with the Diocese would be circulated to all PCC members. **Action: JA, JoT**

8. Mission Committee:

MJ reported that the MC had met twice (minutes previously circulated) and brought forward a proposal for the distribution of its allocation of funds for the past 2 years, total: £4609 for year 2020 and £4572 for year 2021. The proposal is:

Church Missionary Society: £4000 (split equally between 2 projects – see below)

Churches Together Youth Trust: £2000

CRMI Uganda: £2000

St Mary's Mission pot: £1181 (e.g. to fund expenses etc. for CYL projects)

(CMS projects: Ultan working with persecuted Christians across the Middle East; and the Walsh family working in Brazil. More information available from MJ or JA.)

9. Update from various groups:

Written reports had been received from the Pastoral Group and Schools' work.

Verbal reports:

Food Hub: additional help is required; to be promoted at Sunday services. **Action: Service Leaders**

Wardens' Admin Group: will be meeting shortly, agenda will include provision of WiFi in Church and use of the choir vestry.

Worship Group: A plan for services through to Christmas has been developed, including the anticipated new minister. It was noted that Frances Hogan is happy to co-ordinate music contributions and a number of people are happy to help.

10. General Admin Requirements:

A number of areas need addressing "as we return to normal".

Notice Boards: C & M Hull to be asked if they are happy to co-ordinate. **Action: JA**

Web site. JoL will keep up to date and ask for specific content including calendar. **Action: All**

SMIT: agreed to be a valuable resource, to continue.

11. Accounts Update:

The August accounts had been previously circulated. JoT stated that income is yet to recover from the lockdown period and it was agreed that we should hold a stewardship campaign around Easter-time next year.

12. Weekend Away:

Only 14 people are currently signed up for the proposed weekend away at Rydal Hall in January next year. All PCC members are asked to consider signing up and encouraging others to do so.

Action: All

13. Harvest Appeal:

It was agreed that contributions at the Harvest Service and auction on October 5th would be donated to the "Julius and Doris Children's Centre" in Kenya, - to be promoted in SMIT. **Action: SB**

14. Mission Action Plan:

It was agreed that a re-visit of the Plan would be a focus at the next PCC meeting. All members are asked to familiarise themselves with the current Plan.

Action: All

15. Any Other Business;

It was noted that EA and SW were collaborating on a planned Crib Service, encouraging school and community involvement.

Bryan Williams will lead his last service at St Mary's on November 21st. As part of this celebration, Jenny Leahy to be asked to produce a card.

Action: JA

16. Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday November 3rd at 7.30pm