

DRAFT PCC MINUTES FOR THE PARISH OF ST MICHAEL'S PLAS NEWTON, CHESTER

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 28th July 2023 at the Kings Way Café, at 8pm.

Present	Pete Rugen (Chair)		Anne de Reybekill
	Phil Roberts		Andrew Evans
	Peter Caldwell		Derek Taylor
	Ali Gibbons		Alison Friery (Secretary)
	Alan Gray		
	Rebekah Benson		
	Steve McKew	Apologies	Martin Smith
	Ruth McKew		Steve Powell
	Andy Thorne		Chris Jones
	Peter Webster		Anne Stockdale
	David Blackmore		John Stockdale

Ref	Item	Notes	Action (req'd)	Who and by when
	Welcome & Prayer	Pete welcomed everybody, opened the meeting with a prayer, and reminded members that they should let the chair know before speaking, and that love should be the key thing that binds us together.		
	Minutes from May and June PCC Meetings	The minutes were approved by members of the PCC. The May minutes were proposed by Peter Webster and seconded by Anne de R. The June minutes were proposed by Ali Gibbons and seconded by Alan Gray.		
	Matters Arising	Peter Webster reported back on the issue of fire escape routes from the church building. One solution would be to put push bar doors either side of the lounge. A handrail could be put in place, because of the step leading out into the car park.		
2332	Finance update	We referred to Phil Roberts' report, which was circulated prior to the meeting, including how the café could be more effectively used for evangelism. This is to be discussed further at the next meeting in September and members were asked to come along with ideas then. The climate and culture of society has changed since the café was established 20 years ago. It serves the community well and is a great place for vulnerable people. The café is subsidised by the church as a method of outreach. Approval was given to Phil R to agree a financially beneficial new deal with an energy supplier. Phil highlighted that there is still a £15,000 deficit in the accounts, with no youth or children's workers employed. It would be good if giving were to be increased.		
2333	Staffing update	Pete commented that CYSG have been very busy. In the absence of paid church youth and		

		<p>children’s workers, the youth work is not only stable but has developed and grown. There may already be people within the church whose gifts and talents can be developed into a paid role. Ali said that there has been a national rethinking of the professionalisation of youth work. The group has looked at narrowing the work to smaller roles, to give people part time work in what they are good at. They are talking to a church member about taking on a role with the younger children and families, linking with the community and schools, and organising volunteers, for 12 hours a week. There is also the possibility of a community outreach worker, to connect the church with some of the fringe elements in the life of St Michael’s, (for example, a homework club in the café), linking in to youth work and the ministry of the church. An experienced youth worker is being accessed via Link Up for Sunday nights, and this could in time be a part time paid position. CSCW are having input into our situation, and we are not the only church with this issue. It is exciting to look at it in a different way.</p> <p>It has also been suggested that there is a need for someone to co-ordinate the staff, including the café, in a support and mentoring role, and Pete has agreed to do this after leaving his position as Vicar, operating from home.</p>		
2334	Vacancy matters	<p>Pete, Steve McKew and Phil R are busy completing the Parish Factsheet, which will be needed as soon as Pete retires, so that a new incumbent can be found as soon as possible. Pete explained that, although there is dual patronage, the Simeon Trust will defer to the Diocese and allow them to run the operation. Ruth is looking at the Parish Profile and will be pleased to have assistance, possibly involving some young people.</p> <p>A Parish Representative will need to be elected.</p> <p>House/stream groups are to be discussed further in September.</p> <p>A leaving “do” is being planned by the church for Pete and Cath, the date is likely to be 15th or 22nd October.</p> <p>Hennie Johnson, as Rural Dean will officially be Priest-in-Charge, only needed if there is a difficulty, and will have to sign off the APCN. Chris Jones & Ken Owen can officiate over communion, and Les Austin is also willing to do so occasionally.</p>	<p>Progress</p> <p>Progress</p> <p>Agenda</p>	<p>S McK, PR, PLR</p> <p>R McK</p> <p>AF</p> <p>R McK</p>
2335	Vicar	<p>There will be a service on 1st October to include confirmations and baptisms, including</p>		

		renewal of baptism vows. A baptistry will be borrowed from another church, to facilitate full immersion. On 10 th or 17 th September, the older youth are organising a service for the rest of the church at 6.30pm.		
2336	Safeguarding Report	Anne Stockdale's report was seen by all members before the meeting, and there are no outstanding issues, except to reiterate that if PCC members have any training still to complete, please do so.		
2337	Comms group	Becc and Anne de R have met together since the June PCC meeting. Sas has agreed to join them. Ken Owen is keen to help operate ChurchSuite with the assistance of a small team. Jenny Davies has been invited to the next meeting. Mobile screens – Becc reported that re-covering these with acoustic fire-retardant foam has been quoted for as £2,359. There are two screens awaiting our decision. Other options discussed included re-covering in the cheapest black fabric, covering only the corners, keeping all the old screens until they break but also buying some new ones now, only replacing the wheels, not having acoustic foam, and the questions of how we see the screens being used in the future, and how they look to someone calling in to the building. The toddler group will be asked for their views.	Speak to Toddler leaders	Ali G
2338	Mission Committee Update	Ella Cutting, who has been on training and outreach with YWAM, is returning to YWAM in Melbourne, and it is proposed that £1,500 be allocated from the Mission budget for each of the next 2 financial years, £1,500 having already been given this year. Any contributions from church members would be appreciated, and an appeal has been started. Phil R is looking to raise support to cover Ella's monthly expenses. Ella has nominated people for her support group. Phil R has suggested financial support for Word Alive, and this can be discussed again in October or November. Francis Orishaba, a friend of the church and known to many, has asked for help with a one-off gift towards the rent for an education project in Uganda, in which he is involved. It was discussed whether individuals could be invited by the church to contribute, but decided that we needed to know about the governance and safeguarding processes, and carry out due diligence. He is to be asked for more information before we decide how to	Agenda	AF

		proceed. There have been many appeals recently to the congregation, and the circumstances do not fit the criteria for funding from the Mission budget.	Further info	Anne de R
2339	AOB	None		
		The meeting concluded with the sharing of the Grace.		
	Next Meeting	Tuesday 26 th September 2023, 8pm, at the Kings Way Cafe.		