

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

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 25th October 2023, at the Kings Way Café, at 8pm.

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

Ref	Item	Notes	Action (req'd)	Who and by when
	Welcome & Prayer	Pete welcomed everybody, and opened the meeting with a prayer.		
	Minutes from September PCC Meeting	The minutes were approved by members of the PCC. Approval was proposed by Peter Caldwell and seconded by Andrew Evans		
	Matters Arising	<p>Café: Pete has met with Ruth (manager). A member of staff has been off sick, and the café is only open for light refreshments on a Saturday, this is likely to be the case until after Christmas. Ruth is overstretched, and we need to look at employing another part time worker. Looking at what would be the equivalent of one full time worker, (having previously employed Rob K and Sas McC as 2 full time posts) we have now taken on 3 people on temporary contracts totalling 27 hours, which would leave 10 hours free, with a possible split of 4 hours for comms and 6 for the café. This would bring in additional money to the café, and develop the work.</p> <p>Proposed by Andy T and seconded by Alan G, to employ a café worker for 6 hours.</p> <p>A report on managing the café is available from some years ago, but a new one is needed, preferably from a Christian involved with catering. Churches at Heswall and Weaverham, which have cafes, may be worth approaching.</p>		

2347	Finance update	The finance update from Phil Roberts was circulated to members in advance of the meeting, and was discussed. The proposals for a new energy contract and for insurance renewal were approved by all, and all were happy with the report overall.		
2348	Buildings update	Steve P will speak with the Diocesan Surveyor soon. There is a leak in the back window, involving the sills, which will cost £600 to re-repair. This expenditure was approved. Members referred to Chris Jones' report which had already been circulated, and it was resolved that progress should now be made on implementing the staging proposals.	Purchase staging	CJ
2349	CYSG	This group has again been very busy, and Ken and Michelle Owen have agreed to take over from Pete and Cath, leading the Sunday night youth meetings. They are already very involved and skilled with the youth. Fiona Wynn-Evans, the Children and Families Worker, has Little Tykes up and running, and Lynn Hollins is now appointed as the Children's Co-ordinator. They are working together, and a Light Party is planned for 31 st October. One exciting development recently has been that eight young people were baptised or confirmed, at a service attended by Bishop Mark, who said how much he had enjoyed being there. He is returning for a service on Christmas Eve, and for a Sunday night youth session.		
2350	Safeguarding Report	Anne Stockdale's report was circulated before the meeting. A training course is scheduled for 20th January 2024. Invitees from St Michael's will be occasional preachers, paid children and youth workers, housegroup leaders, and church wardens. Our curate and readers either have leadership safeguarding training, or will have done so before our training.		
2351	Comms Group Update	Bec Benson's report was circulated before the meeting, and was discussed. It is recommended that the church employ someone for 4 hours per week to cover this area. It was discussed whether 8 hours would be better. A specific job description is needed. Jenny already		

		<p>covers some of the internal communications, and there would need to be integration with her role. Pete will speak to Bec and ask the group to report back to the Standing Committee. There are no plans to produce the Church Directory in the future. ChurchSuite will be recommended, with support (and printouts) provided for those who need them.</p>	Pete/Bec	
2352	Vacancy Matters	<p>Pete left the meeting and was thanked for his service to St Michaels. It was acknowledged that the incumbency, at this particular period of time, has not been easy, but that God wanted Pete and Cath here, and he has not been afraid to tackle difficult issues. As a PCC, we expressed gratitude for the great blessing that he and Cath have been to us. Pete responded that this PCC have been a delight to work with, and that love trumps everything, thanking us for our patience and support. A short time of prayer followed for Pete and the PCC. Ali is to lead the PCC in future, as she is Vice Chair (already appointed) and Steve McKew agreed to be her deputy, which was approved by members.</p>		
2353	AOB	<p>Andrew explained his proposals (summarised in a report circulated before the meeting) for the services to be held over Christmas and in early January. The possibility of a postcard to be distributed locally, showing Christmas service times was discussed. The proposals are that we follow the lectionary readings for Advent, and to explore the Church's identity in the new sermon series starting in January. A church weekend away is planned for 2024. The numbers now attending evening services are low, and these are proposed to be only held on special occasions in the interregnum. Acceptance of these plans was proposed by Ali Gibbons and seconded by Steve McKew. Andrew has spoken to most of those who regularly preach, and they cannot take on any more. Therefore he has invited some guest speakers from the Diocese, and is looking for suggestions from PCC members to widen this to speakers from other churches.</p>		

		<p>Fiona W-E will keep in touch with the Scouts and ensure that they are invited to “Meet and Eat” etc.</p> <p>Pete met with Archdeacon Mike Gilbertson for his exit interview. Mike is responsible for the vacancy. He will attend a PCC meeting, before Christmas, and will also interview the Parish Representatives. An email has already been received regarding this, but the suggested date is unsuitable, so an alternative date is being requested. The list of names put forward by PCC members for potential Parish Representatives was discussed.</p>	Email Simeon Trustees/Diocese	AMF
		The meeting concluded with the sharing of the Grace.		
	Next Meeting	Wednesday 15 th November 2023, 7.30pm, at the Church.		