

**These minutes are published on the basis that such matters (if there be any) which the PCC has resolved shall remain confidential have not been included**

**Minutes of the PCC meeting held on Monday 6th November 2017 at 7.15pm in the Reid Room**

17 Members were present at the meeting.

**1. Worship**

We read Psalm 97 together. Erik stated that the psalm speaks of the great assurance that we have in God. He sorts things out and works hard for all those who are oppressed. It is our God who shapes and crafts us into the likeness of the living God.

We are to worship and obey Him and through this he will craft and shape us.

The PCC spent time in prayer and sung worship.

**2. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Richard Jones.

**3. Minutes of the meetings of 4<sup>rd</sup> September 2017 and 1st October 2017**

There were no amendments.

Erik proposed that the minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting of 4<sup>th</sup> September 2017, seconded by Ewan Steele, 14 in favour and 1 abstention.

Alistair proposed that the minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting of 1<sup>st</sup> October 2017, seconded by Kate Morris, 14 were in favour and 2 abstentions.

**4. Matters arising**

**a) Community Garden.** Alistair informed the meeting that we are waiting for a letter of confirmation from Middlesbrough Borough Council to say that planning permission is not required. Once that is confirmed the plans can go ahead for development of the garden.

Mel Downs raised the question to Sam Tyndall whether this was now the right time to go ahead with the project in view of the increased role that he and Tessa will be playing after Erik's retirement. Sam agreed that he would consider the timing of it again when he meets with the project working party. Kate expressed her concern that there needed to be a person to lead the project after Sam had moved on in order for the garden not to become neglected and in disarray.

**ACTION: Sam Tyndall**

**b) The Hub** – this item was deferred to item 9

**c) Fr Terry's coffee van** – Erik confirmed that £400 had been sent to support this venture. Sam reported that he had had discussions with Fr Terry about being present in the car park during Craft Aid on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2017. Fr Terry had stated that he would give all his proceeds to Craft Aid. Sam will discuss this further with him after the event.

**d) Preparation for the new incumbent-** see agenda item 8

### **5. Correspondence**

i) A letter from the Practice Manager at Linthorpe Surgery had been received requesting us to consider leasing out some car park spaces for their use.

After discussion Erik proposed that the PCC agree to this request subject to the detail between the FMG and the surgery representatives. This was seconded by Allison Ward and 14 were in favour with 1 abstention.

**ACTION: Alistair Bolton and the FMG**

ii) Ruth Ritchie wrote to inform the PCC that the Riding Lights Theatre Company would not be performing a show at Christmas because they had not been able to raise the funds to make it viable.

### **6. Vicar's remarks**

Erik reminded the PCC of how society has changed over the years that he has served as vicar and how some PCC members will have seen even greater change from before that time. We have a responsibility to be discerning about the new incumbent. We must be open to change otherwise the church will not grow. We should be praying for someone who will listen to God, be fervent in prayer and focus on the Lord. We will only be discerning of God's will if we pray. He suggested that we considered having a half night of prayer to involve the whole church to focus on this important matter.

Doreen stated that we can overcome fear of change by prayer.

**ACTION: All PCC members.**

## **MEMBERS**

### **7. Facilities Management Group (FMG) report (circulated)**

Alistair presented the report.

### **8. Preparations for appointment of new incumbent – formation of working party.**

Alistair proposed that the PCC agreed to the working party to consist of the two church wardens, Barbara Edwards, Ann Watson, Naomi Smith, Jonathan Shippey, Ewan Steele and Anya Heywood.

This was seconded by Sam Tyndall. 14 were in favour with 1 abstention.

Alistair would convene a meeting in the near future to begin the discussions around the Parish Profile.

**ACTION: Alistair.**

### **10. Financial report.**

Phil Edwards- treasurer joined the meeting at 20.20hrs

Phil reported that the church's income for this year was running slightly behind where we wanted to be when compared to last year. Discussion arose about how best to communicate this matter to the congregation and whether Gift Aid could be explained any easier to those who pay tax.

Phil informed the PCC that a donor had offered a gift toward church staffing. Phil will discuss this further with the donor to ascertain the degree of flexibility there might be in its use. For example, would they be happy for the money to be used toward funding the SLA with Big Kids? Following that discussion consideration will be given as to whether or not a restricted fund will have to be set up.

On behalf of the PCC Erik expressed thanks to Phil for the work that he does as treasurer.

### **9. Light Party report**

Discussion was led after Becky Selmer presented the report on the Light Party. Church families are likely to make up the majority of the attendance because the event is in competition with secular Halloween events. The First Friday events will be promoted in schools for non-church families. A budget will need to be set for the resources that BiG KIDS require for their future events.

Ewan read out some feedback from a Mum from the Toddler group who had attended. This was very encouraging and supportive of the effort that had been put in by the team and BiG KIDS.

Nigel Fletcher clarified that the Light Party was not a First Friday event. He explained that First Friday events will be promoted into schools and to baptism families. PCC members have been asked to read the Service Level Agreement for BiG KIDS and feedback to Nigel any comments. This will be an agenda item for the December PCC meeting. **ACTION: Erik**

The First Friday working party will be meeting with Allison Ward to discuss safeguarding matters around the future events.

### **11. AOB**

There was no notified business

### **15. Prayer and the saying of the Grace.**

The meeting ended at 9.10pm