

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 5th November 2018, 7.15pm in the Reid Room**

14 PCC members were present at the meeting.

1. Worship

The PCC read Psalm 92 together. Graeme Malyon spoke about being thankful to God and how thanksgiving can change our attitudes and our lives. The Psalmist proclaims the greatness of God's works. As the Archdeacon had reminded us the previous day, heaven will be full of praise and we will worship God forever.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Becky Selmer, Neill Burgess, Jonathan Shippey and Sam Tyndall.

3. Minutes of the meeting of 8th October 2018

There were no amendments and it was proposed by Graeme Malyon and seconded by Kate Morris that the minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting of 8th October 2018, all in favour.

4. Matters arising

a) North Aisle Roof Repairs

A sample of the slate has been received. The 28 day consultation period for the faculty ends on 21st November. While work could start at the end of November, there is a concern that it would not be finished before Christmas, so it is planned to start in January.

b) Vacancy

As Alistair had announced on 4th November, an offer has been made to one of the candidates. Discussions with the Archdeacon and Bishop are ongoing.

5. Correspondence

Thanks have been received from Ann Watson for the gifts to Angel Tree and the prison chaplaincy. A vote of thanks to St Barnabas has been received from the Diocesan Synod of the Diocese of Kumasi.

6. Chair's Remarks

Tony Hutchings repeated his encouragement to the PCC to remain in prayer for the vacancy and for other aspects of church life and reminded the PCC of the two church prayer meetings.

Sheila Durant has agreed to take on the role of Ministry Leader for Fellowship on an interim basis. The role of Ministry Leader for Evangelism is still to be filled.

7. Facilities Management Group

The Facilities Management Group report was circulated and is included with the minutes in the PCC file. A drawing of a possible scheme for a toilet block in the northwest corner of the church, which had been drawn up in 2015, was presented to the PCC. After a short discussion it was proposed that **the PCC asks the Diocesan Architect to draw up a scheme for a new toilet block in the northwest corner of the church in more detail to determine a realistic cost and then report back to the PCC for further instruction, the work to cost no more than £3000 and to be funded as part of the budget of works for FMC in 2019**, proposed by Alistair Bolton, seconded by Sue Bell, all in favour.

8. Safeguarding

Allison Ward reported that she had met with Archdeacon Sam about safeguarding in the Deanery. It was hoped that the safeguarding representatives in the Deanery would meet shortly. An earlier meeting had been postponed due to a lack of response.

9. Deanery Synod Report

Barbara Edwards reported on the recent Deanery Synod meeting. It had been suggested that the Deanery should ask the churches in the Deanery for a contribution to be used as a fund for mission. It was proposed by Barbara that **the PCC gives a contribution of £50 per elected synod member to the Deanery**, seconded by Kate Morris, all in favour.

10. Ministry Leader Update

Peter Rushton, Ministry Leader for Discipleship joined the meeting to update the PCC on children and young people's work in the church. Peter thanked the PCC for inviting him. He plans to visit each of the Sunday groups and so far has been to two of them.

Strengths

We should celebrate the fact that we have about 40 children attending regularly on a Sunday and more than 50 on the registers

Leaders are well-established and dedicated, with a sense of calling. Many worship at 9.30 before serving in the Sunday School at 11.15

Extras are good – Pathfinder and Cyfa weekends

Resources and Scripture Union materials are good

Premises give flexibility for lots of groups

Weaknesses

Numbers are falling, particularly the younger ages

Children attending regularly, but generally not every week (similar to adult congregation)

Children's work is only run at 11.15, so families who might want to go to 9.30 may not be able to and what will this mean for the future of the 9.30 service?

There are different expectations now for childcare provision – parents want to stay with their children in the creche, rather than having them looked after

Lack of new leaders and many leaders have done it for a long time. There are enough leaders apart from in Cyfa.

Our premises give us plenty of space, they are a bit dated and the teenagers, in particular would like a more cosy 'chill-out' room. The upper narthex has been suggested.

How child friendly are our services?

Threats

Falling numbers – We need to be aware of this.

New leaders – How to encourage them?

Opportunities

To increase numbers we need to reach new young families. The Diocesan 20-40s strategy may help here. We are already seeking to reach new young families through First Fridays, but we need to be aware that we may need new ways of reaching new people.

We need to be proactive in encouraging new leaders to come forward.

Are there new resources that we could make use of?

In the discussion it was suggested that activities like Pathfinder club night might be opened to young people from other churches. Parade Services continue to need looking at, though this will probably have to wait for the new incumbent. The importance of involving young people in service, such as music group, welcoming, Sunday School, creche, was emphasized.

Tony thanked Peter for his report.

11. Big Kids SLA

The SLA had been updated after the discussion at the October PCC and circulated and a copy is attached to the minutes. It was proposed by Alistair Bolton and seconded by Ann Watson that **the SLA for Big Kids as issued to the PCC should be accepted**, all in favour.

12. Internships

It was agreed that requests for support for internships or other short-term work should be passed to the mission sub-committee for consideration in the first instance. If the committee thought it necessary, a request could be referred back to the PCC.

13. Any other notified business

Paul Stephenson has requested permission to catalogue the church archives, which the PCC were happy to approve.

14. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be on Monday 3rd December.

15. Prayer

The meeting ended with prayer.

Chairman.....

Date.....