

**ST MATTHEW'S PCC  
MINUTES**

**Meeting held at The Brackens on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2016 at 7.00pm**

<b>PRESENT:</b>	<b>APOLOGIES:</b>	<b>IN ATTENDANCE:</b>
Julia Britten	John Stone	Tracey Kirkby (minutes)
David J Cooper	Rev'd Alice Wood (chair)	
Brenda James	Sorrel Wood	
Helen Payne		

<b>1 WELCOME AND PRAYERS</b>	<b><u>ACTION</u></b>
The meeting opened at 7.05pm with a prayer and Psalm 73.	
<b>2 Apologies</b>	
Apologies were received and accepted from Dom, Sue and David Wood.	
<b>4 Minutes of the PCC meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> July</b>	
The minutes were proposed by Julia, seconded by Sorrel, and agreed as a true record of the meeting	
<b>5 Matters arising from the minutes</b>	
Arrange voice projection workshop with Robin (from PCC meeting on 2 <sup>nd</sup> February). Alice will email Robin and confirm dates. <i>(Now arranged for 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> October)</i>	Completed
Gavin is happy to make a presentation about the house group at a Sunday Service and a date will be arranged (from PCC meeting on 2 <sup>nd</sup> February)	<b>Julia</b>
(From 9c) A new rota of Sunday morning welcomers has been made	Completed
A meeting needs to be arranged to organise dates and events for Christmas. (from PCC meeting on 2 <sup>nd</sup> February)	<b>To do</b>
A large speaker placed at the back of the church has helped the sound quality and made it easier to hear what is said.	
It was agreed at the July PCC meeting that a new red altar frontal and matching chasuble be made in time for the first anniversary of Christine's death (Feb 2017). Christine had discussed a design with Helen, and Mayfield Jays (Wendy's company) will be asked to produce them.	To do
The Quinquennial report is still to be arranged	To do
(8e from 7.6.16) The builders have looked at the hole in the new church roof, and David Wood is awaiting the results.	
<b>6 Correspondence</b>	
None	

## **7 Items for discussion**

### **7a Viability Focus Meeting**

The Viability Focus Meeting is scheduled for 17<sup>th</sup> October, where Dom and Alan will meet with Claire from the Diocese.

Some paperwork relating to the VFM has been received, and this will be looked at after the initial meeting. Questions were asked as to what Parish Share we have paid. At Deanery Synod they said we had not paid any share for 2016, but it was thought that this is not the case. Tracey will ask Alan to confirm.

Completed

### **7b Giving for Life**

Resources from Portsmouth Diocese have been received about 'Giving for Life', the Church of England's national stewardship campaign. Paperwork was circulated to those present, and will be emailed to others.

This item will be deferred until the next PCC meeting.

**Discuss at next meeting**

### **7c Creating space in church.**

A suggestion has been put forward about re-arranging the back 3 rows of pews into a horseshoe shape, or perhaps 2 pews into a right-angle. The back of the church is already much clearer now the purple sofa/chairs have been removed, and the tables and chairs put out at the end of services are popular.

Alice, with Wendy and Jilly from the fabric committee will be going to look at other churches and Alice offered to put together some ideas and photos.

Alice

### **7d Greatham Update.**

Messy Church re-launched last week. This is a joint venture between St Matthews and St Johns (but Hope Church are no longer involved). It is aimed at children who do not usually go to church and advertised at local schools. This will continue once a month.

The bible study course held at Greatham and at Jilly's has now come to an end.

### **7e School report.**

The headteacher has now moved on, and there have not been any suitable applications.

## **8 Reports from sub-committees**

### **8a Worship Committee meeting 5<sup>th</sup> September**

The PCC are happy to experiment with the new suggested plan for Sunday services, and to review this in the new year. Sunday school will take place on the first Sunday of the month. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays in each month there will be Communion in church and Sunday Connect in the school, so parents will have a choice about going to church or Connect, with the added possibility of dropping children at Connect and going to church themselves. This will stretch our clergy further, and others may be needed to cover if Dom or Alice are away. Volunteers must also have appropriate DBS checks. Connect will stop for the school holidays as it does now.

This is an experimental change, and a continuation of the Vision action plan. Effects will be reviewed as we go along, and adjustments made in the new year if required. Sunday Connect meetings once a month were not often enough and it is hoped

that more regular meetings may help to create more of a community. Attendees will also be encouraged to come to family services and it is possible that informal Eucharist may be included periodically at Connect.

The church has bought a subscription to Roots magazine. This follows the Lectionary and gives ideas for songs, sermons, and children's activities. This will help our clergy now they have more services.

It was agreed that a better balance of worship songs at Church Alive is needed, as too many of the songs are totally unknown to most people. Some new music is acceptable, but people also like to sing songs they know. The service itself also seems to need more focus and does not satisfy everyone's spiritual needs. It would help if the sermon was on the same theme as the rest of the service. It also needs to be kept to the time limit as advertised.

It was confirmed that Greatham are happy for our choir to use the choir stalls at combined services.

#### **8b Pastoral Care Team (PCT)**

The PCT are continuing to make visits, mostly to those from within our congregation. They were thanked for the work they do.

Pat Searle's funeral will take place on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October at 11.30am.

#### **8c Fundraising committee**

The fundraising committee have not met

#### **8d Social committee**

The social committee met in August, and have another meeting planned for November. It is hopeful that better links with Blackmoor Village Hall are being made. The parish picnic was rained off.

The aims of the social committee are to bring people together outside of services, and to be inclusive to all church members. Events will be low-cost or free, intended to be affordable to families, and to reach out to the wider community.

The Friends of St Matthew's Church are also organising social and fundraising events.

#### **8e Fabric report**

David Wood has a quote regarding the steeple roof. To repair the hole would be £2,580, or to replace and repair all missing or damaged tiles over the whole spire would be £6,390. The next storm could bring down more tiles and the PCC thought it better to do all the work. The Tower have offered to contribute £2,000, and the Friends another £2,000. It was suggested the remaining £2,390 be taken from Christine Moss' bequest.

It was therefore proposed by David Cooper to go ahead and repair or replace all missing and damaged tiles on the spire. This was seconded by Brenda and agreed. It was further proposed by Alice that £2,390 be taken from the money left to the church by Miss Moss. This was also approved. Tracey will write to the Friends on behalf of the PCC.

Problems with the clock are ongoing. The clock makers are liaising with David Cooper and trying to find a permanent solution.

Completed

**8f Finance report**

A balance sheet was circulated. Alan was not present, so there were no questions. The house of Christine Moss has been sold and we are awaiting further information.

**8g Deanery Synod**

Alice and Helen attended a talk on Safeguarding and another on encouraging laity to take on church roles.

**9 Any other business**

**9a** The widow of Tom Metcalfe has requested a bench in the newer part of the churchyard in his memory. This was proposed by Alice, seconded by Sorrel, and agreed. A faculty would not be required, and the family will be responsible to provide and maintain the bench.

Another family have requested a magnolia tree be planted. It was suggested that this would not be in keeping with the churchyard and a native species may be more appropriate, and that care must be taken not to plant anything where future graves may be needed. The request was denied as the PCC would not want to set a precedent for this.

Dom will be asked to let both families know.

**Dom**

**9b** A quiet day is planned for 19<sup>th</sup> November at Alton Abbey. This was proposed by Julia, seconded by Sorrel, and agreed by the PCC.

On 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> May 2017 is a Christian retreat at Stanton House in Oxfordshire. The cost is £145 per person full board.

15<sup>th</sup> October was the planned PCC away day. Dom will be asked to confirm.

18<sup>th</sup> October is the combined PCC meeting at Greatham.

*(These 2 dates have been postponed. See email 27.9.16)*

**9c** Blackmoor Sports and Social Club have given us £100 towards a cycle stand. Julia will thank them. This should cover most of the cost, but a little more may be needed.

**Julia**

**10 Confirm dates and times of next PCC meetings:**

- ~~Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October~~ PCC away day
- ~~Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2016~~ Combined PCC meeting (TBC)
- Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2016 PCC meeting 7pm
- Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November PCC Quiet day
- Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2017 PCC meeting 7pm
- Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2017 PCC meeting 7pm

**11 MEETING CLOSURE**

The meeting closed at 8.58pm with the grace.

Minutes confirmed as being a true and accurate record.

Signed: .....Date: .....