

St Luke's Parish Church - Holmes Chapel

Matters concerning the vacancy in the parish in relation to the Patronage (Benefices) Measure 1986

Minutes of a special Parochial Church Council meeting held on Monday 11th February 2019

7.30pm, Massey Room, Church Hall

	Actions
<p>Present: Alastair Cragg (Vice-Chairman), Peter Cotton, Rachel Copley, Val Cragg, Alison Dale, Ray Davies, Tim Fryer, Stephen Haigh, William Hall (Treasurer), Wendy Macdonald, John Oram, Bill Paton, Fiona Pullé, Alan Rickards, Steve Smith (Secretary), Jane Thomson and Jayne Weaver.</p> <p>Apologies: Trevor Jenkins, Barbara Smith, Anne Smith.</p>	
<p>1 Welcome – Alastair as Vice-chairman welcomed everyone to this special meeting of the Church Council and opened with an abridged reading from Luke 5, v1-11, followed by prayer.</p>	
<p>2 Introduction – Alastair explained that the purpose of the special meeting was to finalise preparation of the Parish Profile (“<i>the statement describing conditions, needs and traditions of the parish</i>”) required under Section 11 (1a) of the Patronage (Benefices) Measure 1986. The Profile sets out what St Luke’s is looking for in its new vicar, gives the context of the parish and local community and will be the basis for identifying the right person for us. Thus, it is important that the Profile is owned by the Church Council on behalf of the parish as a whole. Once agreed by the Council, it has to be sent to the Diocese with other papers so that the vacancy can be advertised and the recruitment process started.</p>	
<p>3 Draft Parish Profile: preparation - At the special meeting on 8th Jan 2019, Council members had been asked to submit their thoughts and suggestions to the Secretary by Monday 21st Jan, particularly focusing on: “Opportunity and challenges” and “Our needs – vision for the future”. There had been a good level of response and consistency of comments from the Council and also from several other Church members. The broad common theme was:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">that we need someone who can help us engage with younger people and the expanding Holmes Chapel community, bringing new approaches and ideas to build on what we have achieved and support our existing Church members.</p> <p>As agreed by the Council, Alastair and Jayne had worked with the Secretary to prepare a draft Profile using the collated comments and the general headings agreed at the meeting on 8th Jan. In preparing the draft, they had reviewed the last Profile prepared for St Luke’s 16 years ago and also over 20 more recent online Profiles from parishes all over England. They had decided to adopt a similar format and concise presentation for viewing on screen rather than in printed form.</p> <p>A copy of the new draft Profile had been emailed to the Council before the meeting and a printed copy was given to all those attending the meeting.</p>	
<p>4 Draft Parish Profile: consideration - Alastair invited preliminary comments on the draft Profile.</p> <p>There was broad support for the overall format and presentation which reflected the parish and the place in an attractive light. Some concern was expressed that although the needs and expectations were clearly stated, no specific priorities were suggested. Others felt that the final section 8 - “our expectations – what kind of vicar do we want” – was overly complex and repetitive and could be shortened and more direct.</p> <p>There was general accord that, sections 1-7 of the draft were fine with some corrections and minor rewording. This was formally agreed unanimously on a proposal by Alastair, seconded by Peter Cotton and the Secretary would make the necessary amendments.</p> <p>Regarding section 8, Alastair proposed that the Secretary should redraft this with Jayne and himself in the light of the comments and then recirculate it to the Council for final comment/agreement asap by email¹. Peter seconded the proposal which was agreed with one vote against. Alastair requested that any comments on the revised section 8 or any major</p>	<p>Secretary</p> <p>Secretary</p> <p>Council members</p>

¹ Note: the revised Section 8 was sent by email to Council members on Tues 12th Feb, 2019

		Actions
	problems with the Profile as a whole should be notified to the Secretary asap so that the Standing Committee meeting on Sunday 16 th Feb could agree the final text on behalf of the Council.	Standing Committee
5	<p>AOB</p> <p>5.1 Formal Matter - Alastair pointed out that our incumbent would ordinarily be the Chairman of the Church Council. Jane Thomson proposed that Alastair should be appointed as Chairman of the Council for the period of the vacancy. This proposal was seconded by Alan Rickards and agreed unanimously. Alastair proposed that Jayne Weaver be similarly appointed as Vice-chairman. This proposal was seconded by Val Cragg and also agreed unanimously.</p> <p>5.2 Bishop Libby's Farewell Service at Chester Cathedral – 11 am Saturday 30th March – the Secretary reminded the Council that parishes have been invited to send up to 4 representatives to this service before Bishop Libby starts her ministry as the new Bishop of Derby. None of our churchwardens is able to attend. If anyone would like to attend from St Luke's, please let the Secretary know by 25th Feb so that he can obtain tickets from the Diocese.</p>	Council members
6	<p>Next Meetings:</p> <p>Council Meeting: Monday 4th March, 7.30pm in the Massey Room</p> <p>Annual Parish Meetings: Sunday 7th April, 9.30am in Church followed by Holy Communion</p>	
7	Close of meeting – there being no other business, Alastair closed the meeting at 8.50pm with the Grace.	