

St Luke's Parish Church - Holmes Chapel

Minutes of the Parochial Church Council meeting held on Monday 30th April 2018

7.30pm, Massey Room, Church Hall

	Actions
<p>Present: Revd Paul Mason (Chairman), Rachel Copley, Alastair Cragg, Val Cragg, Ray Davies, Tim Fryer, Stephen Haigh, William Hall, Trevor Jenkins, Wendy Macdonald, Bill Paton, Fiona Pullé, Barbara Smith, Anne Smith, Steve Smith, Jane Thomson and Jayne Weaver.</p>	
<p>1 Welcome and Opening – the Chairman welcomed the new Council, especially Rachel Copley as a new Council member, and congratulated all those who had been re-elected at the Annual Meetings on Sunday 22nd April. The Churchwardens and men and women Sidesmen would be admitted to office at the Archdeacon's Visitation at 7.30pm on 21st May at St Mary's Astbury. He then opened the meeting by reading the parable of the Good Samaritan from Luke 10:25–37 followed by prayer.</p>	
<p>2 Apologies for absence – Peter Cotton, Alison Dale, Sandra Mulford, John Oram and Alan Rickards</p>	
<p>3 Church Council Appointments following the APCM on 22nd April 2018 – the Chairman indicated that the following individuals had been nominated as Council Officers, to be appointed for the coming year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Vice-Chairman: Alastair Cragg b) Secretary: Steve Smith c) Treasurer: William Hall d) Electoral Roll Officer: Wendy Bond e) Safeguarding Officer: Anne Smith f) Parish Giving Officer: Jayne Weaver g) Data Protection Officer: Jayne Weaver 	
<p>All those nominated were willing to serve, and no other nominations were forthcoming. Tim Fryer proposed, and Val Cragg seconded, that all those nominated be duly appointed, which was agreed unanimously. The Chairman added his personal thanks for the continuing support provided by all these individuals.</p>	
<p>4 Standing Committee – the Chairman explained that the Church Council is required by the Church Representation Rules to have a Standing Committee authorised to conduct business between Council meetings. The core membership of the Standing Committee would be himself as incumbent, the Churchwardens, Secretary and Treasurer, supplemented by the Reader and Assistant Churchwardens as required by the agenda.</p> <p>In practice, Standing Committee meetings would replace the current Wardens' Group meetings. Jane Thomson proposed that the Standing Committee be established as indicated by the Chairman. This motion was seconded by Bill Paton and approved unanimously by the Council.</p>	
<p>5 Minutes of previous meeting held on Monday 5th March 2018 – the Secretary read out a proposed amended version of the final sentence of item 4.1 in the proposed minutes:</p> <p>“Those providing Fairtrade locally include Jan Raynor, Anne Jack and Gareth (St Luke's), Revd Pat Percival (Methodist Church) and Angela Gilmore (St Luke's Goostrey).”</p> <p>which more accurately described local provision of Fairtrade than the original sentence. With this amendment, the minutes were approved unanimously following a proposal from Barbara Smith, seconded by Jayne Weaver, and were then signed as a true record by the Chairman.</p>	
<p>6 Matters arising from previous meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Item 4.4: Data Protection – Jayne Weaver reported that work to ensure compliance with the new requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation coming into force on 25th May is well advanced. A new consent form has been developed with the Treasurer and Secretary to enable us to hold and process personal data for Church purposes. This will be used first with the letters sent out later in May to parishioners in the run-up to Thanksgiving Sunday on 17th June. There will be an article in the June Parish Magazine. A new Privacy Notice explaining how we hold and use personal data will be published on the Church website and porch notice-board. 	

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<p>b) Item 6.7: Civic Service – The Chairman reported that it has been agreed with the Parish Council that it should continue as a less formal Community Service to be held on Sunday 24th June.</p> <p>c) Item 10.1: Baptism Follow-up – The Chairman requested that discussion on this topic be deferred until he had been able to consult further with Anne Smith and Fiona Pullé.</p> <p>d) Item 10.2: Music Festival 28-29th April – Wendy Macdonald reported that she had just completed a review meeting with the team which had organised the Music Festival. Everyone agreed that it had been very successful. All the events and activities had been well attended with new participants and to a good standard. All three village schools had taken part. Ticket sales for the Saturday evening Festival concert raised £235 and for the Sunday “Afternoon tea at the Ritz” organised with Girlguiding, £250. The Council agreed to Girlguiding retaining the ticket sales from the afternoon tea. They also agreed to a donation of £50 to Scout funds for their help in providing the gazebo and refreshments after the Saturday morning Young Musicians concert. It was likely that after all expenses are paid the Festival will still achieve a small overall profit.</p> <p>The Chairman congratulated Wendy and the rest of the Festival organising team; he had attended all the events and enjoyed the infectious enthusiasm of the participants and the audience. He and the rest of the Council looked forward to another successful Music Festival in 2019. Wendy confirmed that a further event was planned, tentatively the weekend of 27-28th April. [Note: the projected date for the Annual Meetings will be brought forward to Sunday 7th April.]</p>	Wendy Secretary
<p>7 Finance – The Treasurer, William Hall, reported that at the end of April the current account was in surplus by over £3,300, following receipt of a second repayment of Gift Aid tax of £4,943. Gift Aid repayments so far received total £18,310 (£1,300 more than initially budgeted) due to the efforts of Jayne Weaver as Parish Giving Officer, for which he was very grateful. Further donations, some Gift Aided, have been received towards the cost of the wooden chairs in the chancel.</p> <p>Coming expenses include the quarterly instalment of £1,558 for gas and electricity at the vicarage and church and the annual insurance premium for the church of £2,300. Consequently, there will be a small current account deficit at the end of May.</p> <p>The Church Hall sub-committee has agreed to transfer £6,000 of the reserves held in its accounts to offset church fabric expenditure commitments this year. Expected extra costs in connection with operation of the Church Hall include replacement of the current plastic chairs with trolley stackable folding chairs similar to those used in the Leisure Centre and High School Theatre. Many of the current chairs date from the time when the hall was built and are no longer of an acceptable standard. Six further upholstered wooden chairs with arms are also being purchased bringing the total of this type to twelve.</p>	
<p>8 Churchwardens’ report – the Vice-Chairman, Alastair Cragg, reported for the Wardens’ Team:</p> <p>8.1 CCTV installation – this is now being commissioned and will become operational when faculty permission is received from the Diocese. The system will only be monitored by the Churchwardens following a suspicious incident. A suitable sign informing of the existence of CCTV will be placed in the entrance porch.</p> <p>8.2 Church Lighting – the faculty application is being progressed with updated detailed specification sheets.</p> <p>8.3 Tree Maintenance Complaint - the outcome of the Cheshire East Council investigation into the September 2017 complaint has still not yet been communicated.</p> <p>8.4 Knutsford Road Churchyard Extension Land – the January quotation from Mark Rebbeck Landscaping & Groundworks of Bramhall Drive, Holmes Chapel has been accepted, involving a hoggin finished permanent path and preparation of flagged foundation area ready for interment of ashes, as detailed in the minutes of the previous meeting and at a cost of about £8,040. The work is expected to take 2-3 weeks and be completed by mid-year.</p>	Vice- Chairman

	Actions
<p>8.5 Inspection by Archdeacon - the triennial formal inspection by Archdeacon Ian Bishop is now scheduled for early September. The required documentation and other matters will be carefully reviewed in advance of the inspection.</p>	<p>Wardens Secretary</p>
<p>8.6 Chancel reordering – the fabric elements of this project are now complete. The arrangement and number of new wooden chairs in use for regular services is still being trialled. Similarly, different reading heights for the new lectern are being trialled with temporary wooden blocks before a more elegant flexible arrangement is provided by the suppliers, Treske. A battery powered stick-type vacuum cleaner has been purchased for use in cleaning around the new chairs.</p>	
<p>8.7 West end redevelopment options – Bench Architects have been commissioned to produce options for possible projects to meet our desired requirements for redevelopment of the West end of the church. The initial 20% payment of the cost has been made.</p>	
<p>9 Deanery Synod Matters – Barbara Smith reported on the Synod which had met on 8th March; the minutes are attached in the Appendix. The Big Church Day Out (North) is being held at Capesthorpe Hall on 1-2 June.</p>	
<p>10 Any Other Business</p>	
<p>10.1 Ride & Stride Day – Sat 8th Sep – it was agreed to take part this year by having the church open and manned for refreshments between 10am and 4pm.</p>	<p>Wardens</p>
<p>10.2 DR Congo Appeal – the Secretary read a letter from our Diocesan Bishops drawing attention to the renewed violence in the Dioceses of Aru and Boga in the Democratic Republic of Congo and the urgent appeal for prayer and material help by the Congo Church Association. The letter will be circulated to the Council and an appeal made during services on Trinity Sunday (27th May).</p>	<p>Secretary Chairman</p>
<p>10.3 Thursday Morning Coffee – Val Cragg informed the Council that Mary Ford will be retiring shortly from organising this increasingly popular weekly event in the Church Hall. Anne Lane has kindly agreed to take over as coordinator. It was agreed to record the Council’s thanks for Mary’s long service with flowers and a letter from the Chairman to be presented to her at a coming coffee morning.</p>	<p>Chairman</p>
<p>11 Dates of meetings: 2nd Jul, 3rd Sep, 5th Nov, 7th Jan 2019, 4th Mar 2019 Annual Church Meetings: Sunday 7th April 2019¹</p>	
<p>12 Close of Meeting – there being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting with the Grace at 8.40 pm.</p>	

scs 8 may 18

¹ 2019 Annual Meetings date brought forward to avoid overlap with next Music Festival weekend – see item 6(d) above.

APPENDIX

CONGLETON DEANERY SYNOD

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 8TH MARCH 2018 AT ALSAGER CHRIST CHURCH HALL.

The Rural Dean thanked the parishioners of Alsager Christ Church for hosting this meeting and providing refreshments.

1 OPENING PRAYERS were led by the Rural Dean and were based on a reflection on the Lord's Prayer.

2 MINUTES of the meeting held on 11th October 2017 were approved and signed.

3 MATTERS ARISING – there were no Matters Arising.

4 TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer reported that Deanery finances were in a healthy situation. We have a balance of £3840.55 in the bank at the end of 2017. The decision was made to not raise the Parish Levy in 2018. The accounts for 2017 were proposed by Anthony Rigby and seconded by Linda Webber and accepted unanimously. Albert Crew, the Treasurer, was thanked for his work and for presenting the accounts with such clarity.

5 SYNODICAL REPORTS

DOCESAN REPORT was presented by Margaret Cruxton and a copy is circulated with these minutes.

GENERAL SYNOD REPORT was circulated at the meeting.

6 GOOD TRADESMEN REGISTER

This was introduced by Bill Ball, the Lay Chairman, and is in preparation for the talk to be given by Emily Allen, Church Building Development Officer for the Diocese of Chester, at our next Deanery meeting in June. The aim is for each Parish to fill in a form recommending tradesmen who have been particularly good in their work to be shared with other parishes in the Deanery. Bill Ball will act as co-ordinator of this information and its dissemination. More information will be available after Emily Allen's June presentation.

7 RURAL DEAN'S BUSINESS

The Induction of Revd Heather Buckley to St Luke's, Goostrey is on 12th March 2017. There is no further news on the situation at Brereton. Wheelock and Sandbach Heath are in the progress of re-organisation. A new Parish of Sandbach Heath and Hassall Green is proposed – the Bishop has visited, and the proposal is still under discussion. Revd Jayne Shepherd is to retire from Alsager St Mary Magdalen's at Easter and the Church will enter into an interregnum. The Rural Dean thanked Revd Shepherd for her contribution to the Deanery and thanked her for acting as his Chapter Clerk. Swettenham has transferred to the Marton Group and a curate will be joining them in June. The Visitation of the Archdeacon is on 21st May at Astbury at 7.30pm. Bishop Peter is retiring in June 2019.

There is to be a re-run of 'Thy Kingdom Come' Project and resources are now available for the Deanery. At this point the meeting split up into groups to examine and discuss these resources. After a short discussion period the groups shared their ideas. This is an opportunity to celebrate Pentecost with new ideas. The Rural Dean said that there will be a Prayer Walk led by Bishop Libby Lane on 6th May starting at 2pm. The actual route is yet to be finalised. The Rural Dean announced that he intended to pray with a different person on each of the ten days of Pentecost and encouraged others to do likewise.

8 PARISH NEWS

The Rural Dean informed the meeting that the Data Protection Act is changing and that each Parish will need a Data Protection Officer.

St James, Congleton – Bishop Libby Lane is to preach on 20th May.

Barthomley reported on how long it is taking to get a Faculty for the restoration of paintings.

Brereton has its annual festival of gardens on 19th May and the Church will be open for refreshments.

Church Lawton – July 15th – Noah's Ark Project. Siddington - corn dollies.

The 'Big Church Day Out' at Capesthorpe will be at the beginning of June.

9 AOB – none

10 DATE OF NEXT DEANERY SYNOD MEETING IS MONDAY 11TH JUNE 2018 AT ALL SAINTS CHURCH, CHURCH LAWTON.

NEXT STANDING AND PASTORAL COMMITTEE MEETING 19TH APRIL – venue to be confirmed depending on how Joice progresses.

11 CLOSING PRAYERS – led by Rural Dean. Prayers requested for Joice Nixon.