



## St Michael and All Angels, Ledbury

### Minutes of Standing Committee - 7 March 2022

**Present:** Keith Hilton-Turvey (Rector)  
David Houghton (Churchwarden)  
Andrew Beech  
Catherine Beech

**507.** The meeting opened with Psalms 13 and 105 and prayer.

### Minutes of the meetings on 10 and 13 January

**508.** These were agreed unanimously.

### Worship

**509.** For the time being the current Covid restrictions remain in place. It would be unwise to lift them until diocesan advice to that effect had been received. Once it is received, it is proposed that Communion in both kinds will be offered at the high altar, and intinction at Trinity. A sidesperson will be needed to direct people around the screen until the drop-down screen can be installed. Keith Hilton-Turvey will be reviewing the chalice assistants and sacristans/servers, some of whom may not wish to resume their former roles. It was noted that any new sidespeople will need to be agreed at the APCM.

### *Action: Keith Hilton-Turvey*

**510.** The response to Keith's Prayer for 2022 had been generally positive. Keith proposes to use it a couple more times, and then to distribute it printed on a bookmark.

### APCM

**511.** The Annual Report for 2021 is ready for printing. The accounts are still with the independent examiner, so it may be necessary to print the two documents separately, as last year. There will be two churchwarden vacancies, as every year, and four lay representative vacancies, necessitated by Cath Beech, Peter Scull and Abby and Will Wake reaching the end of their terms. All but Cath are eligible to stand again should they so wish.

### Strategic vision

**512.** It was agreed that there should be a PCC awayday to condense the PCC's thinking into a document that could subsequently be used as the basis for discussion at a church awayday. It was suggested that The Poplars in Bromsberrow Heath could be used. Keith will speak to the venue to see whether they could provide an independent facilitator to generate a paper for the PCC discussion.

**Action: Keith Hilton-Turvey**

### **Website**

**513.** It was felt that the website needs refreshing. Keith will take this forward.

**Action: Keith Hilton-Turvey**

### **Small groups co-ordinator**

**514.** No-one had yet been found to take on this role. Keith Hilton-Turvey will organise a meeting of small group leaders to try to find a replacement co-ordinator.

**Action: Keith Hilton-Turvey**

### **Reviews**

**515.** The youth and young people's work review had met once. John Masefield School had apparently been trying to contact the group, but computer problems appear to have delayed matters. Keith Hilton-Turvey agreed to make contact with the school and to meet the person responsible over coffee. Owen Wake will continue as a member of the review team until he goes to university this autumn.

**Action: Keith Hilton-Turvey**

**516.** The primary focus of the communications review at present is the oversight of the magazine. The PCC had remitted their paper on the subject back to them. The revised paper was much better, but Keith Hilton-Turvey objects to one sentence, which continues to be the subject of controversy.

### **LMDG**

**517.** It is planned to invite nominations for membership of the LMDG after the APCM as many of the former members had retired from the group. Once the PCC had agreed a strategic vision, this would be passed to the reformed LMDG to be turned into a revised Mission Action Plan.

**Action: Keith Hilton-Turvey**

### **Liturgical plan**

**518.** Circulation of the liturgical plan of Hereford Cathedral by the PCC Secretary was felt to have been unhelpful. It was agreed that the plan for Ledbury should be much shorter (reflecting St Michaels' status as a parish church) and should describe simply what liturgical use is currently made of the building, any changes that might be felt desirable including

changes to increase use of the building by the community. This would be used to inform the physical development and maintenance of the building. The plan should be forward looking, and ideally confined to one side of paper. Keith Hilton-Turvey volunteered to produce a first draft.

**Action: Keith Hilton-Turvey**

## **Parking**

**519.** Andrew Beech pointed out that the yew tree outside Anne and David Tombs' house was in poor condition, and felt that compaction of the soil around it by parked cars might be the cause. He had spoken to Ed Huxley, who agreed. It was hoped that the town council might be persuaded to rope off the triangle of grass concerned, and to aerate it.

**Action: Andrew Beech**

## **Finance**

**520.** A finance report will be available for the PCC. Cath Beech noted that the increased budget provision for the year's supply of gas would be used up in just three months. She will encourage more giving to the church and, in particular, address those who had transferred their giving to the Friends, as the Friends will not support routine operations of the church, such as heating costs.

**Action: Cath Beech**

**521.** No-one had volunteered to stand as treasurer after Cath steps down at the APCM.

## **St Katherine's**

**522.** David Houghton had written to the Dean requesting a meeting. Cath Beech had received a response about personal liability from Sam Bratley at the diocese, but felt that it failed to address the specific issues. She will get back to him.

**Action: Cath Beech**

## **Community Day**

**523.** It was felt that St Michael's should be represented in its own right at the Community Day, as well as under the LEAF banner. The U3A Recorder Consort will play in the nave.

**524.** Midsummer Malvern had asked whether St Michael's could be a stop on their cycle rides during the event, which will take place between 24 June and 4 July. This was agreed; the church will provide refreshments.

**Action: David Houghton**

## **Fabric**

**525.** The Quinquennial Report had at last been received and was being considered by the Fabric Sub-Committee, which will report to the PCC, probably in May. The report was very positive about the state of the building. Only three major areas of expenditure had been

identified to be tackled over the next five years - (a) the internal gutters along the north and south arcades (where the leadwork will need replacing), (b) repointing of the spire and (c) refurbishment and repair of the two upper rooms.

**526.** Andrew Beech pointed out that the faculty for the drop-down screen had been applied for; that for the Chapter House lights will follow shortly. It was noted that the faculty rules have been revised, the revisions to come into effect in June.

**Action: Andrew Beech**

**527.** Whilst the church might not fly the flag of overseas countries, it had been suggested that the spire might be lit in the colours of the Ukrainian flag. Keith Hilton-Turvey will contact the Archdeacon seeking his agreement. If permission is granted, Andrew Beech will write to PCC Members seeking their support.

**Action: Keith Hilton-Turvey/Andrew Beech**

### **Safeguarding**

**528.** Nothing to report.

### **Graveyard**

**529.** Nothing has been received from the town council.

### **Other business**

**530.** It was noted that William Hopkinson is preparing a document on vestments for discussion at the PCC meeting.

### **Next meeting**

**531.** The next Standing Committee meeting will be held on 9 May at 7.30pm at The Croft, Woodleigh Road.

The meeting ended at 9.45 p.m.