



St Michael and All Angels, Ledbury

Minutes of Parochial Church Council - 18 May 2022

Present: Keith Hilton-Turvey (Chair)
David Houghton (Churchwarden)
Cath Beech (Churchwarden)
Andrew Beech
Maria Dineen
Benjamin Hilton-Turvey
William Hopkinson
Tim Keyes
Christabel Panter
Anne Scull
Peter Scull
James Smith
Diana Veasey
Peter Veasey
Will Wake

Apologies: Sue Cooper, Ian James, Lisa-Jayne Lewis

953. Keith Hilton-Turvey opened with Psalm 99 and prayer. He welcomed the newly elected and re-elected members to the PCC.

Minutes of previous meetings

954. The minutes of the meetings held on 16 March and 6 April were agreed unanimously. The minutes of the Standing Committee held on 10 May were noted.

Safeguarding

955. Keith Hilton-Turvey proposed, seconded by Maria Dineen, that the Diocesan National Safeguarding Guidelines be adopted. This was agreed unanimously. Keith reported that someone was considering becoming Safeguarding Officer in place of Jenny Bury, who wishes to retire. All members of the PCC were reminded that they need to complete C1 training. Andrew Beech will circulate a link to the training for members to complete online.

Action: Andrew Beech

Worship

956. The last Covid seating restrictions had been removed, it was felt that any congregant who remained cautious could find sufficient space in either the north or south aisles. From Pentecost Sunday it was planned that the chalice would again be used at the High Altar to serve communion, with intinction being available in Trinity.

957. Keith proposed the list set out at Annex A to serve as assistants. He will seek the Bishop's approval for them¹.

958. Andrew Beech reported that over 200 leaflets have been posted into the new houses and that they are also being taken to the Sales Offices on site. Bill Mackenzie is going from door to door to invite people to church. Local estate agents are putting leaflets into the brochures of homes both for sale and to let.

Baptism

959. It was agreed after discussion that the PCC needed a more thorough consideration of the issues than time was available for at this meeting. Maria Dineen proposed, seconded by Andrew Beech, that an additional PCC meeting be held to discuss these issues. For this purpose the Baptism Support Group were invited to prepare a paper for discussion by the PCC setting out the heads of terms, and to present this paper to the PCC at the meeting. Andrew Beech will discuss with Diana Veasey the timing of the meeting.

Action: Andrew Beech

Communications

960. A paper on implementation of the decisions taken by the PCC revealed that none had been fully implemented, and some not implemented at all. Some of this was down to the clunkiness of the website. Some felt that the website needed replacement, or at least redesign, to enable it to be brought up to date and more user friendly. Keith Hilton-Turvey and others are working on this. Other technical problems have thus far prevented the establishment of generic email addresses for the church treasurer, PCC secretary etc. It was noted that moving to a more secure website would increase costs, perhaps significantly.

961. James Smith proposed the establishment of a church directory. It was agreed that any such directory would need to be available in paper form, for the benefit of those without computers. It was recognised that not everyone would want their details published in this way. Will Wake agreed to research the GDPR implications, and to report back to the next meeting.

Action: Will Wake

962. It was agreed that the Communications Study Group would benefit from an additional (younger) member more *au fait* with social media. The church needed a more active social media presence, which should also be monitored because of safeguarding issues. William Simmonds having left the group it was felt that a replacement member should be appointed (in addition to the one researching social media). It was agreed that William

¹ Granted on 22 May

Hopkinson would sound out Maria Dineen. It was further suggested that other churches be consulted to see how they handled communications issues.

Action: William Hopkinson

Pastoral care

963. It was agreed, with one abstention, that Cath Beech would take on co-ordination of this review until the final report could be issued. Cath Beech proposed, seconded by David Houghton, that the Pastoral Care Group would take forward the agreed recommendations that a care plan be established and that a skills audit should be carried out, and would also look at how to make the church more dementia friendly. Keith Hilton-Turvey would issue a notice about the prayer chain. It was agreed that two people should be asked to propose parameters for operation of the prayer chain, and to set it up. There was some support for greater involvement of the house groups in this.

Finance

964. Stephen Cheetham had agreed to become treasurer. He is not at present on the electoral roll, and would need to be so before he could be co-opted onto the PCC. The PCC would need to agree (a) to co-opt him onto the PCC, (b) appoint him treasurer, and (c) appoint him to the Standing Committee. It was agreed that Keith Hilton-Turvey and Cath Beech would hold further discussions with Stephen and report back.

Action: Keith Hilton-Turvey/Cath Beech

965. Cath Beech presented the finance report for January to April, income and expenditure, other than on energy costs, were broadly in line with the previous year. However the church was paying approximately four times the cost of electricity compared to the previous year, and five times the cost of gas. The annual energy budget has already been spent. This is likely to result in a significant deficit in the church's finances, of approximately £11,800. Will Wake felt that the church needed to increase its income by at least 15%. Ways of achieving this were being looked at, including the introduction of giving by text message, increasing the amount collected from donors by the card machine and increasing income from community use of the building.

966. A decision needed to be taken on the level of parish offer for 2023 in the light of the poor financial position. Keith Hilton-Turvey felt that the two churches in the benefice, together, should offer to meet at least the cost of ministry (£63,000). He thought it unlikely that Eastnor would be able to give even £4,000. Will Wake proposed, seconded by Christabel Panter, that the parish share should be maintained at last year's level, £60,400. This was rejected by six votes in favour and seven against. Peter Scull proposed, seconded by James Smith, a small reduction to £60,000. This was agreed with nine votes in favour and three abstentions. It was agreed that the amount to be given should be reviewed in November.

Reordering

967. Discussion was postponed to the additional meeting to be held to discuss baptism.

Strategic vision

968. It was agreed that a paper would be produced summarising the discussion so far by Keith Hilton-Turvey and Lisa-Jayne Lewis. This would be considered by the PCC at an awayday to be held, probably in August. The PCC in turn would produce a document to be discussed at a church awayday.

969. The next meeting will be to discuss baptism and reordering (date to be confirmed). The next scheduled meeting will be at 7.15pm on 20 July in St Katherine's Hall.

The meeting closed with prayer at 20.45.

List of Communion Assistants

8:00 am

Brenda Hill
Margaret Neal

10.00 am

Ayo Adewale *reserve*
Andrew Beech
Cath Beech
Nick Bickham
Sue Cooper
Nicola Hill
Benjamin Hilton-Turvey
David Houghton
Val Houghton
Julian I'Anson
Helen I'Anson
MaryAnne Keyes
Tim Keyes
Heather Lucas
Christabel Panter
Ann Scull
Sue Simpson
James Smith
June Smith
Peter Tattersall
Will Wake *reserve*

S. Katherine's Chapel

Gillian Smith