



# St Michael and All Angels, Ledbury

## Minutes of Standing Committee - 1 May 2023

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

**680.** The meeting opened with Psalm 119:1-8 and prayer.

### Minutes of the meeting on 6 March

**681.** These were agreed unanimously.

### Vision

**682.** More than 35 responses had been received to the survey. Cath Beech and David Houghton will liaise as to how to summarise and collate these. Once done they will seek bilateral discussions with a number of church members to seek to validate the balance of the conclusions.

**683.** David Houghton is looking at the provision of training for PCC members, possibly using "PCC Tonight", which he thought rather basic, but which sets useful ground rules. It was reconfirmed that Andrew Beech would chair the May PCC meeting. Stephen Cheetham will take the minutes.

**684.** The church awayday will need a revised date, due to a clash of dates with LEAF. It will probably take place on 5 or 12 August.

### Small group co-ordinator

**685.** A response is awaited from Richard Nightingale about taking on this role.

### Magazine

**686.** Andrew Beech wondered whether some version of the website could not be distributed to those who required a paper document *in lieu* of a full magazine. But there would be problems with defining who the "magazine" was to serve, and frequency of updates, so it was decided not to pursue the idea. However, it was thought that church

news and events could be put out to a wider audience on *Voice of Ledbury*, if someone was willing to take this on.

### **Permanent Communications Group membership**

**687.** No progress had been made.

**Action: Keith Hilton-Turvey**

### **Website**

**688.** Stephen Cheetham will be the webmaster for the new site. Whilst, once closed, the old site will automatically transfer users to the new one, it was agreed that the new site needs to be publicised in *Ledbury Focus*, *Voice of Ledbury* and the pew sheet.

**Action: Stephen Cheetham**

**689.** It was agreed that two dedicated phone lines were required, one for the rector, the other for the churchwardens. Enquirers wanting Eastnor will be advised to contact the rector using the system. Some glitches had been identified with the Vonage system.

**Action: Stephen Cheetham**

### **Finance**

**690.** Stephen Cheetham reported that finances are broadly on track should Parish Share remain at the same level. The PCC needs to plan to increase the church's reserves over the next few years as they are almost exhausted.

**Action: PCC**

**691.** The Church Buildings Council had advised that, as a major church, St Michael's may be eligible for the Energy Discount Scheme. Stephen Cheetham will pursue this.

**Action: Stephen Cheetham**

### **Resource Centre**

**692.** David Houghton will liaise with Christine Walters to ensure that the database and calendar are well bedded in IKnowChurch. He, Christine and Cath Beech will consider who needs to be trained in the use of the system.

**Action: David Houghton/Cath Beech**

### **Broadband**

**693.** It was reported that the Broadband wasn't working. If need be the supplier (currently TalkTalk) will be changed.

**Action: Stephen Cheetham**

## **Fabric**

**694.** Charlie Peacock had declined to join the Fabric Sub-Committee, though would be happy to continue to offer help around the church.

**695.** Andrew Beech wanted to set up a meeting to discuss which pews needed to be removed, and which substituted, at the front of the church in order to create a larger area for concerts etc. He pointed out that the justification for removal needed to be strong to secure a faculty in the face of likely objections from the likes of the Victorian Society. He proposed members of the Fabric Sub-Committee, the Rector, Kate Cheetham and Peter Scull. Keith suggested that Lucy Potter should also be involved.

**Action: Andrew Beech**

**696.** More information about the history of the former Trinity altar was required if a faculty is to be obtained for its disposal to another church or church school. Andrew Beech will contact Peter Tattersall, Elaine Toyer and Christabel Panter to see whether they can shed any light on its history. If not it was suggested that Jenny Harrison be approached to go through the archives.

**Action: Andrew Beech**

**697.** The Fabric Sub-Committee will consider the possibility of introducing pew heating.

**Action: Fabric Sub-Committee**

## **Moveable objects**

**697.** There had been no progress on the inventory of silverware.

**Action: Andrew Beech/David Houghton**

**698.** The Friends had indicated that they were sympathetic to funding a new floor covering in the Chapter House. Jill Jupp considers that no new floor covering is needed in the children's area in the north aisle.

## **Review of sound within the church**

**699.** A proposal from a second company was awaited. Keith was reminded that he has agreed to write a paper for the PCC.

**Action: Keith Hilton-Turvey**

## **Safeguarding**

**700.** No issues to report.

## **Other business**

**701.** Stephen Cheetham pointed out that the choir had a shortage of sopranos. He and Kate proposed that the church introduce two bursaries (to be funded from the Heaton

Fund) of £450/chorister/year to cover teaching costs. The bursary would be subject to the condition that the choristers attend choir rehearsals and join the choir at services.

***Action: Andrew Beech (to turn the paper into one for the PCC)***

**Date of next meeting**

**702.** The next meeting will be at 7.30pm on 3 July at The Croft, Woodleigh Road.

The meeting closed at 21.14 with prayer.