**MINUTES OF A PCC MEETING HELD IN THE ASHTON ROOM ON WEDNESDAY MAY 23rd 2018**

**Present:** The Rector in the Chair

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| John Ankers | Diana Hampson | Kath Pollard |  |
| Hilary Ankers | David Hartley | Nigel Rushworth |  |
| Ken Bowden | Janice Harvey | Keith Sedman |  |
| Steve Clark | Chris Hughes | Keith Smith |  |
| David Fowler | Richard Moore | Dawn Wight |  |
| Rev Rhiannon | Jeremy Peach |  |  |

**Apologies** were received from Mike Davis, Pat Uden, Lawrence Yarwood, Eric Duckworth, Pat Webber and Rev. Rhiannon

**Defibrillators** The meeting started earlier than usual to accommodate a talk by Dawn Taylor, a Rossendale based first responder, about defibrillators. She demonstrated two types of machine and gave us details of costing etc. Further details are included with these minutes and together with leaflets Dawn provided will be the base for future discussion.

**The minutes** of the meeting held on March 6th had been previously circulated and were accepted as a true and correct record.

**Matters arising:** none that would not arise later in the meeting

**Correspondence:** We have received a bequest from the estate of the Rev Francis Bruce, a much loved former curate at BPC

**Treasurer’s report** Nigel presented the latest figures and reported that when the Finance committee had analysed the figures line by line they were looking a little worrying. However many have caught up and some are even better than this time last year. Gas expenditure is up. Is this due to the long hard winter or a problem with the boiler??

The Rector said that we need to look at ways to bring more money into the church.

**Safeguarding** Dawn reported that PCC members need a DBS check and asked that members complete the form once it has been forwarded. Julian highlighted the need to remember we have a duty of care not only to the young but also vulnerable adults. He also suggested that Dawn might run a training course for DBS holders to which Dawn agreed.

**ACTION JH AND DW**

**Committee reports**

**Fabric**

Diana told the meeting that although the committee hadn’t met recently things have moved on with the purchase of the car park. She has been in contact with a very helpful man at the planning department which has resulted in us obtaining a certificate of established use. Our solicitors have now been instructed to move the purchase forward. Together with the Finance committee we are working towards leasing arrangements. Ideas as to how the car park will operate were discussed and will be taken into consideration. Julian suggested we need to “monetise” the space at the weekends and again this will be discussed in full further along the line.

We have been less successful with the church grounds – the Council are very sympathetic to our needs but do not have the funds.

**Finance**

In Pat’s absence Chris spoke to the two sets of minutes which had been circulated and highlighted

1. The damaged window is now back in place and looks wonderful
2. There has been a conversation re Elin’s flat in Knowsley St. This is the responsibility of the Rector and the wardens who are the trustees.
3. Payments chairs of committees have been reminded that they have a set limit on spending. Anything under that a receipt is needed and payment will be made.

**Publicity**

Keith said there had been no meeting but he could report that the concerts were still being well attended. Julian asked that the committee to have a conversation around social media as a means of promoting church activities. Richard M suggested that there could be a weekly plan put in place to highlight / advertise. **ACTION K Sm**

**Social**

No report as Pat was unable to attend the meeting at the last minute

**Worship**

Kath spoke to the minutes and reported the following:

1. Intercessions Sheila will need to pass on the organisation of the rota once she is ordained – volunteer required
2. Keith Sedman has been very kindly repairing damaged hymn books – should we consider buying the new version of Hymns Ancient and Modern which will appeal to the younger members of the congregation?
3. The committee feel there is a problem with Sunday School teachers not coming over to church
4. We have a new Communion setting which the congregation are becoming more familiar with
5. The question of Anniversary intercessions has been put to one side for the moment
6. We need to look at home visits to ensure the right people are being contacted ( people who have stopped attending?)
7. Involvement of uniformed organisations- it would appear that the Guiding section are in a different place to the Scouting section re willingness to be involved – Julian to have a conversation with the leaders. We need to make a bit of an effort to offer something that touches their hearts. This is not easy and will take time

**ACTION J H ( and Worship?)**

1. The prayer stations used in the period of Thy Kingdom Come have now been dismantled
2. Weekday Festivals – Julian asked if it was alright for him to talk to other clergy about the possibility of joining together to celebrate these occasions. PCC agreed.
3. Could we publicise our Evensong services more?

Julian then brought up the subject of the readings at the 8:00 Sunday and the 11:00 Wednesday services and asked if PCC would consider using the Cornerstone readings in place of the BCP readings. He explained that this would give the congregations access to more readings from the Bible over a year and introduce some readings which are familiar to us but are not in the readings we currently use: eg The Prodigal Son. It was agreed that this should be put in place for two months at which point Julian would ask for feedback. Diana said that she felt it would help if explanations were given about changes however small and giving people a chance for feedback was a good idea. An opportunity to talk things through would perhaps help people who are having problems with change.

Kath P said as a PCC we see need for change more clearly than do members of the congregation. Perhaps because we have more opportunity to talk things through.

Julian also asked for the agreement of the PCC to move the altar forward in the South Chapel in order to bring clergy and congregation closer together particularly at the 11:00 service. This would be for a trial period initially. Agreed.

**Deanery Synod**

Minutes had been circulated and were taken as read. Kath just highlighted the section re Open Book.

**MAP**  there is an opportunity to be involved in the planning at an Away Day at St John’s Birtle on the morning of June 16th followed by an opportunity for lunch at the Church Inn. Further details soon.

**Things the Rector is doing** Julian‘s report had been circulated and was taken as read. He highlighted two motions he wished to put to the meeting:

1. That the PCC agree to host an exhibition during the period of the Festival of Ageing (2 -15 July) in liaison with Bury Art Gallery and for us to seek in future to increase the footfall into BPC through working with local groups in order to enable BPC to become a place where the human condition is explored through the Arts. Passed unanimously.
2. That the PCC agree to apply for a faculty and Planning Permission for a new external board free standing Noticeboard on the South Side of Church , replacing the one presently there. Passed unanimously after agreement on the style.

**Wardens’ report**

Julian thanked Owen, in his absence, for his report (circulated) and said how grateful he was for the help he had received from Owen and Ray in settling in at BPC.

Owen mentioned a Fire Report from Stuart W. It was agreed that this should be passed to Fabric committee. **ACTION FABRIC COMMITTEE**

**A O B**

1. An accident last Sunday has caused considerable damage to the Rectory wall. Julian has been in touch with the Diocese and they have said it is the responsibility of the Church not the Diocese to pursue the claim.
2. Electoral roll forms need to be completed
3. Steve C said if anyone was considering standing for Diocesan Synod please speak to him
4. We have had enquiries re the cost of hiring the church. After much discussion it was agreed on the following;
5. Commercial venture £250
6. “charities” £40 per hour

This does not include concerts such as the brass bands which are in the process of negotiation

1. Richard Moore asked if we could look at the possibility of a subsidy for young people who wish to go on the Away Weekend but can’t afford the payment **ACTION FINANCE** **COMMITTEE**

**There being no further business the meeting closed with Compline at 9:10**