



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**  
held on **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2019** at 7.30pm in St Mary's Hall

**Present:** The Revd Sean Semple (Chairman), Christine Cattanach (Intergenerational Missioner), Anne Morris, Anne Remmington, Bryan Jones, Freda Davies (Licensed Reader), Janet Cooper (Churchwarden), Joanna Kelly, John Setchfield (Churchwarden), Keith Richards, Mark Sanderson (Deanery Synod), Paul Eward (Deanery Synod), Peter Raddenbury (Treasurer), Peter Reynolds, Rachel Lewis (Secretary), Tim Waters and Cllr Rob Taylor

**1. Opening prayers**

The Rector opened by welcoming Councillor Rob Taylor to his first meeting.  
The Rector read from Psalm 46 and we prayed for the victims of 9/11; remembered those who lost their lives; for peace both worldwide and within our own country.

**2. Apologies - to receive and accept apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Karen Vitale and Fiona Barnaby.

**3. Closed Churchyard**

to receive a verbal report and ask any questions of the Town Council  
Councillor Rob Taylor introduced himself as new to the Town Council and was waiting to find out how we interact. He told members that the Amenities Committee will be deciding on the resurfacing of the paths and the alteration of the levels by the north door at its meeting next week, as requested by the PCC to accommodate the new entrance.

John Setchfield clarified that the PCC needs written confirmation that the Town Council consents to the plans for the Faculty application.  
John also asked Cllr Taylor to thank the Town Council's contractor for its excellent care of the churchyard.

Councillor Taylor left the meeting.

**4. Chairman's welcome**

The Chairman welcomed members to his first PCC meeting, confirming that PCC meetings are about decision making rather than workshopping.

**5. Minutes of the last meeting** (circulated prior to the meeting)

to approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2019.

Proposed: Bryan Jones

Seconded: Peter Raddenbury

Unanimous

**It was resolved** that the minutes of a meeting held on 10 July 2019 be accepted as an accurate record.

The Chairman signed the minutes.

**6. Matters arising from the minutes**

- i. It was noted that the PCC has entered into a contract with British Gas for the gas supply in the church for three years.
- ii. It was noted that the secretary had spoken to the editor of the Ross Gazette who is happy with the current system of providing services information. The administrator would need to confirm any additional information (e.g. services at Brampton Abbots) with the Gazette.

**7. Mission**

- i. to receive a report from the Rector  
The Rector read the following report.

St Mary's enjoys an enviable engagement with the community in terms of the activities we provide. To name just some - Bell ringing, The Prayer Chain, The Bereavement Café; the Job Club; Thinking Film, Toast & Toddle, Leaf, Flicks in the Sticks, The Supper Club, Piecemakers, Alpha. We do a lot and should celebrate the fact that there we have enthusiastic and motivated people in the parish to lead these initiatives.

Many of these activities are not religious but promote the common good and add value to the community; and some activities like the Prayer Chain and Alpha are innately religious. I would like to suggest that we view mission as a broad spectrum where those activities that promote the common good and loving our neighbour exist on one end of the spectrum; and activities that deepen the Christian faith and make disciples are on the other end of the spectrum. Viewed in this way, it is clear that one side of the spectrum is not as active as the other: we do a lot in terms of the common good and social justice, but less in terms of promoting our own faith and making disciples.

Going forward I would like to promote the following at St Mary's:

1. More communication and joined up thinking between those involved across the mission spectrum (e.g. activities supporting or signposting for one another)
2. A vision for the parish which will among other things focus and direct mission activities. I hope to convene a parish vision day early next year to begin for us to discern the direction in which God is leading us.
3. More activities directed at deepening the Christian faith of people at St Mary's.

The Rector asked for any questions - on communication, Peter Reynolds commented that this could be better beyond the church community as well as within it.

- ii. to receive the Intergenerational Missioner's Report  
Christine Cattanach's report had been circulated prior to the meeting. She added that it has been a good time but drew attention to the last paragraph – additional hours for

her are unsustainable. She reminded members that she has a contract for five years and after this time, initiatives should be running without any help from her. We are entering new phase which needs consolidation and new leaders and we need to take on roles and strategies for succession planning and leadership. Sean suggested that Christine may wish to start to develop such a strategy.

- iii. to receive an update on the forthcoming Alpha Course  
19 names have been received to date although on Sunday there were only six!  
Sean congratulated Christine on what she has put into it.  
Peter Raddenbury added that he is applying to the Educational Foundation to help fund the Alpha course.

## 8. Financial report

The Treasurer had circulated his report prior to the meeting which was noted.

Proposed: Peter Raddenbury

Seconded: Freda Davies

Unanimous

**It was resolved** to provide funding for a gardener to maintain the area around the Benefice Office at the front of the Rectory a cost of £20 per week (Annual cost £1,040) to be apportioned between the benefice parishes in accordance with the agreed formula (85%). NB Walford has already agreed to pay its share (13%):

Peter Raddenbury requested all proposals and estimated cost figures for 2020 to be submitted to him by Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October in order to produce a realistic budget for approval at the next meeting.

It was noted that a successful application for a card reader, sponsored by VISA, had been made on behalf of the PCC by Mark Sanderson. Peter thanked Mark for sorting this out.

Sean thanked Peter and told the meeting that we appreciate his hard work.

## 9. St Mary's Church building works

- i. Proposed: John Setchfield

Seconded: Bryan Jones

Unanimous

**It was resolved** that this PCC fully endorses the plans drawn up by Richard Lamb of Hook Mason architects for phase 3 reordering works at St Marys church, including modifications to the north porch and chancel entrances, new glass entrance doors, an air curtain and new welcome furniture.

It is hoped to start work in January.

- ii. A proposal that the PCC develop a strategy to apply pressure on Regiani to repair or replace the faulty fittings by the end of September after which point the PCC would begin to report the issue in social media and after that begin legal action against Regiani was defeated.

A second proposal was made.

Proposed: Freda Davies

Seconded: Tim Waters

Unanimous

**It was resolved** that the PCC authorises Mark Sanderson to request advice from Andrew Morris on the best way to develop a strategy to apply pressure on Hudson's to repair or replace the faulty fittings and report back as soon as possible to the Standing Committee.

The PCC accepted that fees might be payable to Mr Morris for his professional advice.

**10. St Mary's Hall**

A report had been circulated and was noted which outlined recommendations from the Hall Committee for spending from the unrestricted funds.

The ramp is a priority as it is getting dangerous. The committee will be obtaining estimates before proceeding any further (there are cost implications to get a spec and estimate for a single ramp would be £18,000 or to include a walkway linking the two exits would be £24,000).

In addition, the committee would like to renew toilets, the main floor and new loft ladder.

Mark Sanderson asked that the windows be repainted outside – it was agreed that this too was a priority. There was also a problem with guttering affecting Wyenet.

Sean asked for a schedule of work with costs to be drawn up of both urgent and inexpensive items. This would need to be available for the Standing Committee for its next meeting at the beginning of November.

Janet Cooper made a plea for someone to chair the Hall Committee.

**11. Fund raising report - to note the attached report**

A report, highlighting the forthcoming Christmas Tree Festival from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> November 2019 and circulated prior to the meeting was noted.

**12. Report from the Friends of St Mary - to note the attached report**

A report circulated prior to the meeting from the Friends of St Mary's was noted.

**13. Safeguarding**

i. It was noted that a benefice Safeguarding Officer needs to be approved by all three PCCs of the benefice. NB Walford has already endorsed Judith Wiggins.

ii. Proposed: Sean Semple

Seconded: Joanna Kelly

Unanimous

**It was resolved** approve the appointment of Judith Wiggins to the role of Safeguarding Officer, subject to her receiving the necessary Diocesan Safeguarding training.

In the interim, Sean is the safeguarding officer.

**14. Health and Safety**

to appoint a PCC Health and Safety Officer

Proposed: Sean Semple

Seconded: Paul Eward

Unanimous

**It was resolved** to approve the appointment of Bryan Jones to the role of PCC Health and Safety Officer.

The meeting closed with the Grace at 8.50pm.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at 7.30pm in St Mary's Hall

