



Parochial Church Council Meeting
Monday 29th January 2024
Meeting at 7.30pm in the Conservatory

2023/24 PCC Members: David Bennett, Peter Breckwoltd (Chair), Steve Cornick (Treasurer), Nigel Day (Warden), Nick Elbourne, John Fleming, Alan Fryer, Stuart Hull (Warden), Mike Jones, Paula Jones, Matt Lee (Associate Minister), Keith Loveless, David Morgan, Mary Morris, Phil Murray, James Sharman, Janine Thomas, Paul Wareham. Co-opted: Jenny Harris, Gillian Mannouch. Andrew Morris and Pat Loveless attended to present the Safeguarding Report, Item 3.

PCC Secretary: Kathy Zeal

MINUTES

1. Welcome, Bible reading and opening prayers PB/ML

Peter welcomed everybody and asked Matt to lead us with a word from the Bible. Matt shared a few thoughts from Mark Ch10 v 32 They were on their way up to Jerusalem with Jesus leading the way, and the disciples were astonished, while those who followed were afraid. Maybe the disciples were less afraid but doubted God's wisdom as Jesus led the way to a dangerous place. Think of the things that make us afraid in 2024 – Jesus is leading the way.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from David Bennett, Nick Elbourne and Jenny Harris.

3. Safeguarding Andrew Morris and Pat Loveless

a) Annual Report Pat and Andrew commended their Annual Report to the PCC.

b) The Annual Report includes information on the establishment of a Parish Safeguarding Action Plan (Level 1) which takes the form of a traffic light assessment. There were three areas requiring further action: -

1 Safeguarding Action Plan (amber) it is a requirement for the PCC to receive and approve annually a Safeguarding Action Plan. The Parish Safeguarding Dashboard enables us to produce and monitor a summary Action Plan. We respectfully request PCC members to note and approve the accompanying Action Plan, which will turn this indicator "Green."

2 Training for Key Roles: PCC Members (Amber) Churchwardens and PCC Members are required to undertake a training module on "Raising Awareness of Domestic Abuse." Church of England training course. The Churchwardens have completed the training but all PCC members are required to do so to turn the indicator "Green."

3 Reports to the PCC (Red) it is a requirement that the PCC receives safeguarding reports at least every six months. We will liaise with the Incumbent and the Church Administrator to ensure this frequency of reporting is met/exceeded.

The PCC approved the above three actions included in the Plan.

c) Policy Statement – review for 2024

The date on the Policy presented was amended to 29th January 2024

The PCC approved the Policy Statement for the Safeguarding of Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults.

Peter thanked Pat and Andrew, who left the meeting.

4. Approval of Minutes of Meeting held on 27th November 2023 **PB**

The minutes of the PCC meeting held on 27th November 2023 were proposed by David Morgan and seconded by John Fleming noting that CAF No 3 account is a restricted funds account, no longer a Major Works account. All were in approval.

5. Matters Arising (not elsewhere on agenda):

a) LLF – Ephesian Paper (*with Resolution*)

In response to the House of Bishops' move away from historical biblical understanding of sex and marriage, St. John's church Wimborne seeks to consider its giving as a PCC/Church to our bishops/diocese. Up until December 2023 St John's paid its full share directly to Salisbury Diocese by monthly standing order.

The Ephesian Fund has been established by the CEEC in response to this concern, provides an alternative method of paying our parish share to the Diocese and gives the PCC a way to ensure that funds are used in support of similar churches that hold to biblical and apostolic doctrine.

The PCC spent some time discussing the paper. It was felt at this time we should accept and work with the figure identified by the Diocese as our contribution. Churches (or the church leader) applying to the Ephesian Fund for support would have to affirm the CEEC doctrinal basis to benefit.

The PCC voted on the following Resolution: -

This PCC proposes that from January 2024 payments for our parish share are made directly to the Ephesian Fund, following the Standing and Finance Committee's recommendation to cease making share payments directly to Salisbury Diocese.

The PCC will direct the Ephesian Fund to allocate £67,400 to the diocese and for the balance of £47,627.06 to be allocated to further gospel ministry in churches supporting the CEEC basis of faith.

(The amount of parish share identified by the Diocese for the year is £115,027.06. The Standing and Finance Committee have identified that £67,400 of this covers the costs of the Vicar's post and additional supports provided by the Diocese.)

This was proposed by Stuart Hull and seconded by Nigel Day. Everyone voted in favour.

b) Thank-you received from CEEC for donation

St John's has received a thank you for the donation of £500 to the CEEC.

6. Finance **SC** to report

a) Accounts to 29th January 2024

Steve presented the Treasurer's Report to the 29th January 2024. Nigel Bailey is still completing the year end figures so the following figures may not be entirely accurate. £12,000 has been included for the estimated Gift Aid Tax refund for Sep-Dec.

Income £335,942 Budget £312,152
Expenses £331,914 Budget £350,879
Net income less expenses: surplus of £4,028
Legacy/Capital Grant received £12,798
Building Capital works £35,580
Overall Net income less expenses: deficit of £18,754

b) Major expenditure >£1000

Signpost solutions	£2,160.00	17/11/23
St John's Preschool Employers NI refund	£1,224.19	14/12/23
Total Energies	£1,462.99	27/12/23

c) Fund Balances & Any matters requiring attention

Balances as of 29th January 2024

General Fund	£32,329
CAF No 2 Major Works	£160,918
CAF No3 Account	£7,399
Youth Account	£1,440
Children's Account	£1,080
GAT	£33,829

d) Any Matters requiring attention/approval

The PCC discussed three quotations and the scheduled work summary for 6 Bourne Court. The agreed items are listed below.

- Bourne Court Scheduled work summary
 1. General clauses, Prelims, check for asbestos, provide scaffold for the chimney & high-level work, CDM
 2. Chimney: repair or take down (it is no longer in use)
 3. Rainwater goods & surface water drain repair
 6. Emergency lighting repairs (added and approved at this meeting)
 7. Lead flashings repair & sundries, including fascia repair

Resolution: The PCC approves the essential works required at 6 Bourne Court numbers 1,2,4 & 7 as listed above, to be undertaken by Spetisbury or Randell Construction, whichever is cheapest, after necessary adjustments are made to the above quote.

Proposed by Keith Loveless and seconded by Gillian Mannouch. All voted in favour.

○ Curtains

A group of church members and active users of the Conservatory would like to propose the replacement of the blinds in the room with “wave” curtains. The organisers of the two groups putting forward this proposal, Coffee in the Conservatory and Compass Group, have offered to fully fund the cost of wave curtains. Compass Leaders consider that this project would also be a good use of the bequest from Lorna Bird to Compass of £350 for Seniors’ work. Current quote totals £1,430.15

Resolution: The PCC agrees to the replacement of the existing blinds in the Conservatory with “wave” curtains, to be paid with funds generated by Compass and “Coffee in the Conservatory” groups and £350 from an existing legacy.

Proposed by Mary Morris and seconded by Janine Thomas. All voted in favour.

e) Amended Budget for 2024 SH

Stuart presented the amended Annual Budget for St John’s for 2024 to include a budget for a Youth Worker and Office Administrator on appointment. The PCC acknowledged this and thanked Stuart. (*Addendum: Following the PCC’s decision to transfer funds to the GAT, a revised figure for our parish share and the anticipated reduction in gift aid given the amount received in 2023, the budget will be further revised and presented at the next S&F meeting.*)

7. Review of Christmas Services PB

The Christmas Services had been largely very well received. The balance of the structure of the Carol Services was good and Sarah Gieske had been very well received. There was talk of adding in a day time Carol Service for those who do not go out in the evenings. The possibility of including in the Thursday mid-week Communion service will be considered for this coming December. The DIY Nativity Service had been very good but moving indoors will be considered due to the cold weather and not being able to use firepits due to the Safety factor of also using straw bales.

8. Church Planting (Paper by ML)

The PCC discussed Matt’s Paper which was a general consideration rather than any specific plan or proposal. Points raised:

We have the resources which could be released to help a struggling church.

We don’t have to remain in Wimborne, we could move further into rural areas or to the west.

We could partner with other churches e.g. Broadstone Baptist who have a heart for Blandford St Mary.

We should be mindful of the children in our congregation, to not spread ourselves too thinly and risk losing another generation of children due to lack of numbers.

9. Sub-committees - reports

a) Standing and Finance Committee - 15/01/24 PJ

Most items had been covered during this meeting. Paula invited questions but there were no further issues.

b) Buildings Management Group – 09/01/24 KL

Keith commented that the main church lighting would be replaced as per Standing and Finance Committee approval recorded in the Minutes of Monday 15th January. It was noted that the emergency lights referred to in the S&F minutes were in fact in other areas. The emergency lights included in the tender/quote for the internal lighting in the church itself were given approval by the committee and will be included in the agreed works.

Tim Glenn and Paula were working on the details of the noticeboards.

The Gas Governor was also being progressed, hoping SGN would cover the costs.

The floor in the foyer and atrium is crumbling and needs to be replaced.

c) Global Action Team – 25/01/24 DM

The minutes were previously circulated.

David Morgan informed the church that we have 10 Global Action Partners including Tear Fund, for which there is an appeal each year and to which many give individually. This leaves 9 partners to share between £38 - £49K per year. Last year's November appeal only raised £10K to add to the reserves, due to the cost-of-living crisis, which was £3K short. The previous year's Appeal was also £3K short, leaving us £6-7K short to get to the same level of giving to our Partners as last year. Some discussion followed about whether we should act now and use some of our reserves to make up the shortfall or whether we should make a further appeal to the congregation. The PCC made the following decision.

Resolution: The PCC proposes a movement of funds to the value of £10,000 into the Global Action Account so that any shortfall in the budgets of our Global Action Partners can be met.

Proposed by Peter Breckwoldt. Seconded by Janine Thomas. All were in agreement.

The PCC then prayed for the Global Action Members of St John's Church.

d) Youth and Children's – (no meeting) SH

e) St John's Pre-School – (no meeting) PB

10. Deanery Synod Report – (no meeting) PB

11. Standing Items:

a) Health and Safety

Nothing to report.

b) Activities/RA's to approve.

None.

c) Safeguarding

Nothing to report.

12. Parish Mission 2024

The dates are 1st – 6th October 2024. Various possibilities for Speakers were discussed but further suggestions were welcomed. The next planning meeting is 26th February.

13. Any other Business

None – Peter closed the meeting in prayer and the PCC said The Grace together.

Next Meeting:

Monday 25th March 2024 7.30pm (Conservatory)

Also see PCC Meeting Dates 2024

KAZ 30/01/24