

**Minutes of a meeting of the Parochial Church Council of St Dionysius Church,
Market Harborough, held in The Meeting Room at St Nicholas Church, Rectory Lane, Little Bowden
at 7.00pm on Wednesday 21st March 2018**

Present. The Rev. Barry Hill (Chair), Paul Betts, Pat Brafield, Roger Brookstein, Chris Davies, Garry Davies, Angie Hill (Honorary Treasurer), The Rev. Stephanie Hill, Ken Hook, Christina Marshall, George Marshall, Samantha Peverett, Deirdre Quinn, Rennie Quinn, Anthony Sharp (Honorary Secretary) and Sandra Ward.

1. Prayers. The meeting opened with prayers and a bible reflection led by The Rev Barry Hill and assisted by Pat Brafield and Chris Davies.

Welcome & Apologies. The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies were received from Myra Anhoury, Sally Duke, Chris Etherington, Elizabeth Howe, The Rev. James Pickersgill and Lydia Tebbutt.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting held on Wednesday 31st January 2018 and matters arising from these minutes not on the agenda.

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on Wednesday 31st January 2018 were approved and signed with one small amendment.

Matters Arising

2.1 Item 2.4 To receive a further oral update report on the progress being made to ensure the Team of Churches is getting properly prepared for the introduction of the new General Data Protection Regulation in May 2018.

The Chair reported that matters were progressing regarding the issue of compliance with the new Data Protection Legislation coming into effect on 25th May 2018, but it was unlikely that The Team Churches would be fully compliant by that date. However he understood from the Diocese that as long as the intention was in place, it was very unlikely that the Information Commissioner would be taking enforcement action. This was not an excuse for inaction and every effort would be made to get the Team Churches up to speed as soon as possible, certainly by the end of the year. It was important that each Church within the team worked together over this.

3. To consider the Role profiles for various Church Officers including Trusteeship & safeguarding and other introductory leaflets.

The various Role profiles and Introductory leaflets were now complete and together with the already existing leaflet on Trusteeship all documents were circulated prior to the meeting. This governance for all the Church Team was well received and acknowledged as very useful. It was agreed that The Chair would prepare a Role Profile for the Electoral Roll Officer to assist in the recruitment of a new Officer after the APCM.

The Chair pointed out in particular the document on safeguarding stating that the behaviour of some across the Church in England over the last 50 years had been nothing short of disgraceful in this area. It was important that the Church acted much better now to safeguard and protect all those in our care as a core part of our mission. The bar for Trustees needed to be set high. It was agreed that although it would not be necessary for all PCC members to be DBS checked, it was strongly expected that all PCC members would at least attend the CI Safeguarding Course in the coming months, as one step towards cultural change.

This was proposed by Sandy Ward, seconded by Chris Davies and unanimously approved.

4. 4.1 To consider a Discussion Paper representing the bid to the Church Commissioners for a resource Church for funds to support Resource Churches

A discussion paper prepared by the Chair on the bid to The Church Commissioners for funds to support six Resource Churches/Team was circulated prior to the meeting. The Chair spoke to the paper and it was discussed.

Andy Giles had now been appointed as the curate for St Dionysius with special focus on the 9.15am All Age service. He would be joining the parish in July. Andy and his family would be living in 49 Ashley Way Market Harborough, a house owned by the Diocese. There was certain refurbishment and redecoration need to be undertaken and it was hoped that help would be obtained from some of the 9.15am Sunday congregation in a practical way.

Some shared how they felt St Dionysius was a 'closed shop' and this attitude must change. It was important that we got to know each better. There was useful discussion around this topic. One or two new ideas for the 11.00am Sunday service about mixing better had been put forward. The Chair welcomed all ideas and these could be attached to these Minutes.

ACTION Barry Hill

4.2 To note the position regarding reports from The Pioneer Ministry

The meeting agreed that the idea inviting the Pioneer Ministers to attend The PCC to provide a report would be placed on hold for the moment until it is finalized to which church/group each best relates. Generally things were going well and Watershed were making important links with Launde Abbey and Tea@Three with the Transfiguration.

5. FINANCE & FABRIC- led by Rennie Quinn

5.1 To receive an updated written report on The Re-ordering of the Church.

A written Re-Ordering Report was circulated prior to the meeting and Rennie Quinn spoke to this Report. There was some disappointment expressed by the PCC at the apparent lack of a full response to the Re-ordering proposals from the DAC at their last March meeting.

The grant application with the Market Harborough & Bowdens Charities is ongoing.

The Organ. The major refurbishment of the Organ had never been a part of the Re-Ordering proposals. The big questions to be answered were firstly which option should be taken and secondly how do we fund such a refurbishment? Rennie Quinn believed that we should make the Organ refurbishment a separate project and a separate team should be formed to organise it. It seemed sensible to employ an organ specialist in the first place as advised by the Diocese. This was generally agreed.

The meeting was advised of a £20,000 legacy left to the Re-Ordering project through a Trust Fund set up on the recent death of Karen Brown. This was given to would go towards the AV system. The PCC expressed considerable thanks to the Brown family for this generous gift and expressed continued prayers to the family.

5.2 To receive a written report from the Finance Committee including the Treasurer's summary accounts for the year to date and Budget for 2018.

A written Report from the Finance Committee and the Summary of Balances from the Honorary Treasurer had been circulated prior to the meeting. Rennie Quinn and The Treasurer emphasised the need to find ways of increasing income. Certain fund raising events were planned for the latter part of the year but more was needed. Both reports were accepted by the meeting

5.3 To receive oral reports from the Fabric Committee including a report on The Church Community Hall.

Ken Hook reported that the idea of finding and using more space in the Community Hall now needed a view from John Dodson, the Church's Architect.

A mid Energy Performance Review was taking place which should assist the finances of the Hall when complete.

Thanks were offered by Sandra Ward and the meeting to Ken Hook for all his excellent work and in particular for the excellent new sound system in the Hall.

6. WORSHIP & NURTURE- led by Barry Hill

6.1 To receive the final updated paper on Children & Families Development Worker and Youthwork Development Role together with the additional note for St Dionysius PCC circulated at the last PCC.

Both papers on the Children and Families Development Worker and Youthwork Development Role had been circulated prior to the meeting.

The Chair reported that all other Churches in the Team had now voted in favour of the proposals. An application to the Diocesan Growth Fund would be made after Easter.

There was a full discussion this matter and although the meeting agreed the proposals in principle, certain members were apprehensive about the on-going costing of funding the positions particularly in the later years as outlined in the Papers. A good deal of the money would be able to come from the Dorothy Smith Bequest Forums. It was also proposed in the Papers to approach the Market Harborough & Bowdens Charities.

A proposal was made to accept the financial support at the levels expressed in the papers, with the hope that The Dorothy Smith Bequest Forum could be used to support 100% of the cost St Dionysius Church of the youthworkers for the four years and the cost of the continuation of the Children and Families Development worker from September to December 2018 (inc) and then at a tapered funding level for 2019 and 2020 (with the rest coming from the normal day to day budget) so that, by the end of 2020, funding for Children and Families Development worker was coming entirely from the normal budget of the church and not from The Dorothy Smith Bequest. This was proposed by Barry Hill, Seconded by Paul Betts. All in favour except for 3 abstentions (although they all expressed this was based on the finance side of the plans but there was full support for the proposals in principle). Rennie Quinn was asked to discuss the matter with The Dorothy Smith Bequest Forum so that these plans could be implemented (pending successful grant applications as above).

6.2. To receive an oral report on the current Alpha Course

Rennie Quinn reported that the current Alpha Course was going well and it was also well resourced. The number of guests who were sticking was high. There was a complete mix of attendees from all the Churches and it was believed that everyone attending was finding it very fulfilling. Many people from all the Churches were giving both their support and remembering the Course in their prayers which was very rewarding. The current inclement weather had caused a delay in the conclusion of this course.

Following this Course a Home Group or Continuation Group would follow the Course. After the summer holidays another course would commence.

7. To consider and approve The Child Protection Policy for the Church for 2018 and receive an update report on Safeguarding.

Sam Peverett lead on this item and all papers relating to the new Safeguarding procedures supplied by the Diocese had been circulated prior to the meeting.

Previously the agreeing of Safeguarding policies and procedures had been undertaken at the first meeting of the new PCC after the APCM, but the Diocese understandably felt it preferable that this exercise should now be done during the last PCC meeting before the APCM.

Sam Peverett took the meeting through the changes to the Policy and procedures from last year. The Chair commented that greater Team-wide work could be advantageous in this area, although the responsibilities remained with each PCC. There were indeed small gaps that could be improved upon in Safeguarding, although we are compliant with the diocesan policies and procedures.

Angie Hill proposed and Ken Hook seconded and the meeting unanimously approved the new Policy and Procedures and the forms were duly signed.

8. The Annual Parochial Church Meeting

8.1 To approve the draft Annual Report which includes a draft Budget for 2018 and draft Financial Statements for the Y/E 31 December 2017.

The draft Annual Report for 2017 had been circulated prior to the meeting. Pat Brafield proposed, Chris Davies seconded and the meeting unanimously approved the draft Annual Report.

8.2 To give consideration to the final plans for the Annual Parish Church Meeting for 2018 on Wednesday 25th April 2017

All arrangements were well in hand for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting to be held in The Community Church Hall on Wednesday 25th April. A report on Safeguarding would be an addition to the normal Agenda.

Val Fairbrother had been approached to once again look after the teas and refreshments and an answer was expected any day.

Barry Hill would provide a short presentation after the official business of the meeting. (Subsequent to the meeting he has chosen the title “What St Di’s could look like in 5 years’ time?”)

8.3 To consider the position of the parish's Electoral Roll Officer following the recent death of George Cator who undertook this role for many years.

Following the recent death of George Cator who had faithfully undertaken the role of Electoral Roll Officer for a number of years, the meeting agreed to the offer made by George Marshall and Anthony Sharp to act as joint Acting Electoral Roll Officers until the APCM.

The Chair agreed to create a Role Profile for this post. Two people had already shown an interest in understanding the work involved in this role, but the Role Profile would be of considerable assistance to assist them to understand more fully what the job entailed. It was necessary to leave the resolving of the issue of such an appointment until after The APCM.

9. PASTORAL CARE, MISSION & OUTREACH- led by Barry Hill

9.1 To consider approving the Section 17 Draft Order- Mission & Pastoral Measure 2011-The Benefice of Market Harborough and The Transfiguration-Little Bowden with Lubenham and Great Bowden.

The Chair explained the necessity for the PCC to approve the Section 17 Draft Order Mission & Pastoral Measure 2011-The Benefice of Market Harborough and The Transfiguration-Little Bowden with Lubenham and Great Bowden, the papers for which had been circulated.

George Marshall proposed, Roger Brookstein seconded and the meeting unanimously approved that the Draft Order should be approved accordingly. The Secretary would now advise the Diocese that this had been accomplished.

ACTION A.Sharp

9.2 To receive a report from The Churches Together Forum

The Minutes of the last meeting of the Churches Together Forum had been circulated prior to the meeting and the report was accepted.

10. Any Other Business

10.1 By requirement of CCLA Investment Management Limited, who manage The CBF Church of England Fund, it is necessary to confirm that Angela Hill is Honorary Treasurer of the St Dionysius PCC and Anthony M Granville-Sharp is Honorary Secretary of the St Dionysius PCC and that the charity known as St Mary's Land is a part of and administered by the St Dionysius Market Harborough Parochial Church Council.

Angie Hill explained to the meeting the requirement from the company CCLA Investment Management that confirmation was needed at this meeting to the effect that Angela Hill is Honorary Treasurer of the St Dionysius PCC and Anthony M Granville-Sharp is Honorary Secretary of the St Dionysius PCC and that the charity known as St Mary's Land is a part of and administered by the St Dionysius Market Harborough Parochial Church Council.

Sandra Ward proposed, Rennie Quinn seconded and the meeting unanimously approved the confirmation.

ACTION. A.Sharp & Angie Hill

10.2 To confirm a special Church event being held on Monday 4th June 2018

The Chair explained that following the Bishop's recent visit to the parish when he met with Duncan Murray, the Wine merchant, in the Town, a team wide evening of Thanksgiving for wine, cider and spirit producers would be held on Monday 4th June. It would be a civic occasion and would take place in the evening at St Dionysius at which Bishop Martyn would be present.

OTHER BUSINESS- led by Barry Hill

11. 11.1 To receive a report from the last meeting of the Deanery Synod

The unapproved Minutes of the last meeting of the Deanery Synod on 22nd February were circulated prior to the meeting and these were accepted by the meeting.

11.2 To receive an oral report from the last Team Council meeting

The Chair gave a brief report of the last Team Council meeting held on 20th March. It was a good and useful meeting.

12. Correspondence

12.1 To note receipt of a letter from The Diocese announcing Bishop Martyn's School of Prayer in May 2018.

The Secretary reported having received from the Diocese a letter and leaflet from David Newman of Launde Abbey announcing the Bishop's School of Prayer which is taking place at Launde Abbey between 9th and 13th May 2018.

13. Meetings

13.1 To note the date of the next PCC meeting as Wednesday 16th May 2018

An updated Diary Dates document had been circulated prior to the meeting highlighting the now new Winter venue for PCC meetings.

The date of the next PCC meeting which would be held in St Dionysius Church at 7.00pm would be on Wednesday 16th May 2018.

The meeting closed with prayer at approximately 9.30pm