

Minutes of the Meeting of St. James P.C.C.

Monday 6th October 2014

Present: Rev Rob Powell (Chair), Rev Johan Allen, Joan Botterill, Carol Burt, Judy Douglas, John Farebrother, Liz Gibbons, Antony Herbert, Dave Ingram, Steve Linton, Lilian Reddie, Richard Reddie, Myles Taylor, Paula Thomas, Julie White, Glynis Wilkinson.

Apologies: Alan Hollamby, Everlyne Nyambura, Dan Obene, Stephanie Sulaiman, Simon James-Morse

Resignations: Rob reported that, for various reasons, Alan Burrows and Norman Graham had resigned from the PCC.

1. **Welcome:** Rob welcomed everyone to the meeting, led a short reflection based on Psalm 47, and the meeting began with prayer.

2. **Minutes of the Previous Meetings:**

The Minutes of the meeting on 7th July 2014 were considered, accepted unanimously and signed.

3. **Matters Arising from the Minutes**

1. **Appointment of Church Architect** (item 3.1). Rob reported that, unfortunately, Bonnie Kitching had left Purcell's, so a new church Architect was required. Nick Burt was currently reviewing CV's from 2 candidates and the diocese has recommended looking wider than Purcell's.
2. **intouch Prayer Event** (item 3.2). The meeting reviewed the first intouch event that had taken place on 21st September 2014. Feedback was positive. The next event is on 16th November 2014.
3. **CMS Mission Partner** (item 5). The meeting noted that David and Amy Roche and family were now in Lebanon. They had been encouraged to hear that St James was now a partner church.

4. **Mission Action Plan (MAP)**

Rob presented a further update of the '2020 Vision: Mission Action Plan' paper. The meeting discussed the merits of the current 'strap-line', i.e. "Here to know God and to make Him known by Growing Up, Growing Out, Growing Together", reviewing whether this still reflected the vision. The general consensus was that, although the current strap-line was still relevant, the wording was over 10 years old and needed to be changed to reflect a fresh vision and impetus.

The meeting **agreed** to consider and pray about the matter further, and to seek opinions from the wider church congregation.

The MAP was approved by the PCC and will be forwarded to the diocese. It will be presented to the congregation in January 2015 with opportunity for feedback.

5. **Finance Report**

1. **Management Accounts.** Paula presented the Management Accounts to 31st August 2014, showing a *deficit* for the period of £10,219. Although a budget deficit of £14,395 had been forecast, the results showed a favourable variance of £4,176. The meeting noted with concern the forecasted results for the year: a deficit of £11,300. The main reason for the downturn was attributed to the loss of generous members who had moved away. The meeting **agreed** to present the financial needs of the church more directly at Sunday services.
2. **Advent Gift Day 2014.** This was set for **Sunday 30th November**, with Sunday teaching on giving starting on Sunday 16th November. As in previous years, the first part of the offering would help fund an external project. The meeting **agreed** to contact David and Amy Roche regarding a suitable project.
3. **Legacy Policy.** Following the discussions at the previous PCC meeting (see item 7), Rob reported that there had been no further comments regarding the policy document.

Proposal: to accept the Legacy Policy document as presented.

Proposed by Paula, Seconded by Dave, agreed unanimously.

The meeting discussed a *draft* Legacy Brochure and gave various suggestions.

At this point, the meeting paused for prayer.

6. Children's and Families Worker

The meeting considered an updated Job Description of the Children's and Families Worker post, compiled by the working group. Once again, concern was expressed that the salary level was insufficient for the level of work that was required, but this was in line with other similar positions in London and would be according to experience and qualifications.

The meeting expressed their thanks to the working group for the work undertaken and for compiling the thorough Job Description.

Proposal: to accept the Job Description of the Children's and Families Worker as presented.

Proposed by Johan, Seconded by Julie, agreed unanimously.

7. Furzedown Youth Centre Update

Carol reported that it had been a challenging year at FYC, not least because 3 staff had left. However, Bethany Goddard had recently been appointed as the new FYC Manager (22 hours per week), and the junior volunteers had impressed FYC leaders. The FYC AGM was set for Sunday 30th November at 4:00pm, where the FYC Constitution would be changed to include St Paul's Church.

8. Safeguarding Action Plan

Judy reported that a Safeguarding Audit had been carried out, and presented an Action Plan to comply with Diocesan requirements. The meeting noted that the full Safeguarding Policy Document, 'A Safe Church', was available on the Diocesan website, at: www.southwark.anglican.org/what/diocesan-policies-procedures.

Proposal: to accept the Safeguarding Action Plan as presented.

Proposed by Judy, Seconded by Carol, agreed unanimously.

9. Any Other Business

1. **Disability Access.** Rob reported that the Disability Advisor from the Diocese had visited and had made several recommendations regarding improving access to the church and hall. The meeting agreed to discuss this further at the next PCC meeting.

10. Date of Next Meeting

- **Monday 8th December 2014**
- **Monday 26th January 2015**

The meeting closed with prayer, led by Joan, at 9:55pm.

Next PCC meeting: Monday 8th December 2014 at 8:00pm in the Centre