

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

Monday 14th March 2016

Present: Rev Rob Powell (Chair), Rev Johan Allen, Sue Allen, Nick Burt, John Farebrother, Liz Gibbons, Antony Herbert, Alan Hollamby, Steve Linton, Nat Okoro, Pauline Pepperrell, Lilian Reddie, Richard Reddie, Adam Seymour-Davies, Stephanie Sulaiman, Paula Thomas, Glynis Wilkinson and Christina Contreras.

Apologies: Carol Burt, Carol Patterson, Myles Taylor.

1. **Welcome:** Rob welcomed everyone to the meeting and opened the meeting with prayer.

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

The Minutes of the meeting on 25th January were considered, accepted unanimously and signed.

3. **Matters Arising from the Minutes**

1. **Youth Report (item 4).** Since the last report, Sam has held a student's assembly in Graveney Secondary School about stress and held a meeting with the senior staff about support to the behavioural department. Sam and Rob thanked everyone for their prayers. A Yr. 7 assembly is planned for the near future.
2. **MAP: Nurture and Discipleship Update (item 7)**
A short course between Easter and May half term is being prepared and depending on attendance another course will be planned between May half term and summer.
3. **Gospel Concert (item 8)**
The concert will be held at St. Alban's on 1st July at 8pm. The band has an evangelistic message to reach out to the community, so priority will be given to non-church members when tickets go on sale.
4. **Revd Canon Geoff Vevers**
Rob reported that Geoff is now involved with The Well offering prayer support, mentoring the elderly and opening communication with the care homes.
John reported on other points and asked for prayers for the group and for the changes that are coming.
In regards to the GP Chaplaincy Service, Rob was very pleased to inform that this is up and running and Geoff has had already his first referral.

4. **Finance Report**

Annual accounts:

Paula presented the draft annual accounts which had now been reviewed by the independent examiner. The final result was very similar to that presented to the PCC in January.

January management accounts:

It is too early to draw much conclusion on the figures to date. Income is lower than budget due to differences on property income, but there are encouraging signs that some members have increased their giving. Expenditure is in line with budget overall.

Johan Allen asked for his title used on the Annual Report to be changed to Assistant Minister.

Nick Burt proposed to approve the annual accounts, seconded by Adam Seymour-Davies. Members approved the accounts with one abstention.

5. **171 Mitcham Lane**

The PCC requested Pauline Pepperrell to leave the meeting at this point. (8:24pm)

Nick Burt reported that Marcus Knight who was a member of St. James had given a broad estimate of the work to be undertaken on 171 Mitcham Lane and it rounded to £32000 plus another £1500 to repair the balcony. This estimate was given back in 2015.

A team from St. James gathered on January 2016 to put together a revised scope of the works that need to be done and Nick estimated it to be around £30000.

Kevin Pepperrell was asked to give an estimate along with Don Shiel following the revised scope and their quote is £25000 not including supplies and no repair of the back garden fence. The total budget will be around £33500 which is almost the same as Marcus' quote over a year ago.

Another independent company also provided a quote of £37000 + VAT, this is from a contractor who has done works at MLBC manse recently.

A third quote was requested from Lukas Terlecki who was recently contracted also by MLBC but unfortunately a quote was not received.

Nick informally asked Marcus for his informed opinion regarding the estimate given by Kevin and Marcus thought the quote was very reasonable.

Nick Burt's proposal is to accept Kevin Pepperrell's quote of £25000 with no VAT charges and a £34000 overall budget to complete the whole of the works required in the revised scope.

Seconded by Steve Linton. The proposal was accepted unanimously.

Rob thanked Nick for all of his time and work and asked the PCC to keep on praying for the project.

Pauline returned to the meeting (8:52pm)

6. Building for the Kingdom

Rob reported that the working group had their first meeting. Its Members are: Rob Powell, Pauline Pepperrell, John Farebrother, Steve Linton, Nick & Carol Burt, Mike White, Sue Allen, Kirk Douglas.

It was a very positive meeting and each member was assigned some homework/research and the results will be discussed in the next meeting in April.

Some of the questions asked were:

- *What might our church look like and be like in 5 to 10 years from now?*
- *What kind of buildings will we need if we intend to be that church?*

The following feedback was given after discussing these questions in small groups.

- A caring, inclusive, open, friendly meaningful place.
- A church that has Mission and Evangelism as top priority, were we go out to the community and welcome them in.
- A space that's accessible and flexible in which we make better use of the space we have.
- An 'everyday' church.

At this point the meeting paused for some reflective prayer.

7. Team Council Mission Action Plan (Team MAP)

Rob reported that the Mission Action Plan document has being revised and is being updated.

8. Health and Safety Policy

Richard Reddie and Steve Linton kindly put together the new Health and Safety Policy which was emailed to all members the previous week. Please see attachment.

Richard explained that this was the first draft and various suggestions and amendments were given which will be actioned before it is circulated.

Richard proposed that we accept the Health and Safety policy, seconded by Nick Burt. The PCC agreed unanimously.

9. Safeguarding

It was pointed out that as a church we follow the Safe Church policies of the Diocese of Southwark.

Judy Douglas is the nominated Parish Safeguarding officer with Stephanie Sulaiman being responsible for vulnerable adults.

Furthermore, Davinia Roberts is the Youth Ministry safeguarding officer and Phil Barnard is the F.Y.C. safeguarding officer.

10. Easter Programme

Rob gave information on the annual walk that takes place on Easter Sunday and this year the assembly will start at Southcroft Church from 4:30pm, they will walk along Mitcham Lane and will finish at Streatham Common with a brief open-air service.

Rob encouraged people to participate and to join in the event.

11. APCM 2016

Rob reported that 4 spaces will be available on the PCC at the APCM.

Antony Herbert, Lilian Reddie and Myles Taylor's term of office is over.

Wardens are to be elected each year. Richard Reddie is up for re-election but Steve Linton will be stepping down because of health issues.

As usual reports from different ministries will be updated for this year's APCM booklet and Christina Contreras will be in contact with the details very soon.

12. LICC Learning Hub

Rob reported that he attended the "Preach & Lead Worship" seminar in February.

There is an afternoon seminar for leadership teams in June looking at mission planning and an evening session to which Home Group leaders will be invited, more details to follow.

Another seminar, extended to everybody in the church, will be held on Saturday 5th November.

A more extended report was given by Rob on the session he attended as to how to connect with God Monday to Saturday in our places of work. He is aiming to visit church members in their workplaces to gain a better understanding of the joys and challenges people face.

13. Time for God Volunteer

Claudia Lass will be leaving St. James at the end of July. Rob recently interviewed a young German lady over Skype, who is studying theology and would like to be a pastor in the future. Rob to keep the PCC updated on any progress. We will need to find accommodation for the intern and the church will need to give accommodation confirmation before anything is agreed with Time for God.

14. Any Other Business

- Phil Barnard is leaving MLBC to a new position as a Regional Minister Team Leader with the London Baptist Association. Phil feels God is calling him to a new role, please pray for MLBC in this time of transition.
- Synod Report: Nick Burt attended a meeting on Saturday 12th March with Bishop Christopher on the theme "Vision for Mission". A short report on issues and different subjects in the Synod was given by Nick at this point. Please see attachment.

15. Dates of Next Meetings

- PCC Meeting – Monday 9th May, 8.00pm in the Church Centre
- PCC Meeting – Monday 4th July, 8.00pm in the Church Centre

The meeting closed in prayer and with the Grace at 9:59pm.