

## Minutes of St George's Church PCC Meeting Held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2020

at 7.45 pm at St George's Church

Present: Philip Dale, Sarah Nottidge, Mervyn Franklin, Jaish Mahan (Church Warden), Keith Roberts (Treasurer), Catherine Kaye, Carl Fender, Ella Harris, John Brian, Stefan Rakowski, Mary Lem, Lucy Tervet, Kevin Whittle, Sharon Stokes, Associate Rector Ben Topham (BT) and Carole Woodcock (Secretary). Clare Arthey in attendance.

BT opened with a study on Ephesians 4 1-16 and the meeting was opened in prayer.

1. **Apologies:** Revd Canon Martyn Taylor, Liz Fell (Church Warden), Anne Batty, John Brown, Sandra Freeman.
2. **Minutes of the Meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2020.** These were accepted as a true record.
3. **Matters Arising**
  - a. **Wake Up and Smell the Coffee.** Lucy Tervet shared a positive outcome from further discussions. Going forward it is highly likely that a creation care action group will be reformed from Church members who are passionate about climate change. She will report back progress in due course. **(Action: Lucy Tervet)**
4. **CAP.** Simon Jary reminded us of the history of CAP and presented a helpful update to the PCC. *(report issued prior to the meeting)*. He advised that a second edition of the 'The Hand of Freedom' book is being produced showing more CAP success stories. He told of the excellent partnerships with local support services such as the Job Centre and CAB, including many regional churches. He was humbled by the financial support that continued to pour in to support CAP locally, including the invaluable support given by the prayer team and befriending team. Simon shared that he is now making inroads into Spalding to help develop a CAP centre. He also works closely with a Debt Coach from Oakham and a current befriending member is undergoing training to be a Debt Coach. Gilly continues to support CAP at Stamford as a Community Links co-ordinator. CAP Life Skills, headed up by Chur Yue Brian and assisted by her husband John, continues to provide vital support in the community via these courses. Two new coaches are being trained to join the team and are expected to run their own course in in due course.
5. **Adoption of a Policy on the Use of our Buildings.** Since the opening of George's Place there has been an increased demand for usage, therefore a policy showing acceptable allowance of use was presented to the PCC for approval. Jaish Mahan proposed that the policy be accepted, Mervyn Franklin seconded and all PCC members supported the motion. Clare Arthey is in the process of drawing up a Hire Agreement and will investigate whether hirers need their own insurance for usage. **(Action: Clare Arthey)**
6. **Safeguarding Report** *(issued with the Agenda)* BT commented that the CPOMS system had greatly improved the secure recording of information and a vote of thanks was given to Joseph for his work on helping to implement this. It was confirmed that although there is now support from an outsourced organisation on safeguarding, the Diocese will still oversee matters. All other points in the report were duly noted.
7. **Finance.** February was a good month with an income of £42k, expenditure was £37k, leaving a surplus of £5k. A few generous grants had boosted all three funds. Keith had no real concerns;

taking the PCC through highlights to substantiate a few figures in the accounts. He advised that Bentley Street property will be let in April, drawing in more income. The year-end accounts will be presented at the next meeting, together with the Rector's report for signoff. He confirmed the Gift Day target of £136K. This donation will be apportioned as the priority of need; 1) Oil Tank (legally has to be underground), 2) The Tower Repair (H&S requirement), 3) Chancel ceiling cleaning. All present were in agreement of this.

8. **Updating the Website.** The Church website has served St George's well over the years, but as technologies and design have evolved and developed, BT felt that it is in danger of being outdated visually, and being content heavy, as it tries to be 'all things to all people'. He therefore proposed it be redesigned and relaunched by first setting up working parties to carry out an audit and then to explore development of key areas: (*design brief / strategy, visuals / artistic, content / writers*). All PCC agreed this proposal and it was suggested that this project be advertised through the normal channels to engage volunteers who will be interested in bringing their skills and interest to be a part of this venture.
9. **Joshua Day.** PCC members were reminded and encouraged to sign up for this leader's day event on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March.
10. **Update on Support for Service Wardens.** The Diocese and the Police have advised that confidential safeguarding information cannot be shared with Service Wardens and the Welcome Team. Only certain members of the staff team can be privy to individuals who pose a safeguarding threat and are barred from entering the Church building; this is for data protection and confidentiality purposes. Therefore, to support the service wardens each week BT confirmed that an identified staff member will be positioned strategically at the back of the Church to monitor this. Likewise, a member of staff will support other events that occur during the course of the working week.
11. **Any Other Business.**
  - a. **Coronavirus:** Staff discussion and advice from the Diocese and Government are being taken on when to take measures to protect the Church family.
  - b. **Service Sheets.** Sarah Nottidge asked for a review on the provision of introducing full service sheets again. BT said he would investigate this and report back. **(Action BT)**
  - c. **Date of Next Meeting:** Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2020. The meeting closed at 9.20 pm. Future date to note: APCM 27<sup>th</sup> April.

Signed Chairman..... Date.....