

Parish Church Council Meeting 18 November 2024

Present: Rev Alec Corio, Margaret Cranfield, John Savage, Rev Abe Konadu-Yiadom, Victor Chan, Gail Phillips, Angela Johnson, Roger Melling, Amy Jobson, Katherine Duncan-Kerr, Alison Blunt, Bettina Von Cossel, Stephen Edwards

Apologies: none

1. Welcome and opening prayer

2. **Apologies:** none

3. **Approval of minutes of September PCC meeting.** Roger proposes, John seconds. Minutes approved.

4. Correspondence received

- a. Invitation extended to PCC to attend school service. Maria Constantinou, St Mary's school headteacher, has invited any PCC member to attend the school service. There will be a Christmas carol service. There is an invitation to set up a tour of the school for the PCC. The school Evensong was very well attended. Roger raises the suggestion of an annual Sunday service at the school. Alec praises the work of Maria and Steve in promoting the relationship between the school and the church.
- b. Alec received a letter from Barnet Council informing the church they will not be continuing with Churchyard maintenance despite statutory obligations to do so. Alec has sought clarity on whether they will do the safety works and the progress on the Sharp's monument.
- c. More material from Diocese on cultural safeguarding work. Update on safeguarding DASH board.

5. Matters arising

- a. Standing Committee spending authority approval. Standing Committee approval currently stands at £2000. Spending is notified to the PCC through the Treasurer's report. In between spending is about £1000. Roger reports £2000 has been sufficient to manage any spending decisions. John Savage proposes reduce the limit to £1500, Stephen Edwards seconds. Resolution passed 12 to 1. Standing Committee spending approval limited to £1500.

- b. Grant Fasset has resigned from PCC. Katherine to send letter thanking Grant for his role on the PCC. This was completed on 30 November 2024
 - c. PCC safeguarding progress.
 - i. Roger has to complete further training and has said he will do so.
 - ii. Tom Hodgson has progressed his DBS check but has not done his safeguarding courses. Katherine to send letter saying there has been some progress on the completion of the DBS checks, safeguarding checks to be completed and asking if he wants to resign.
 - iii. Gail suggests there are lessons to be learned from this and we need to chat to people who want to join the PCC what the expectations are for members.
 - d. Resolution re roofing passed at September PCC. Architect, Jeremy Bell, has changed his recommendation. Thinks its unrealistic to do the risks the PCC agreed on. Recommended much better served by a roof survey and portion of the tiles and sorting out the joins of the roof. Noted the PCC is not in a position to do a roofing project immediately.
6. **Highlighting current signs of growth within the church.** Discussions had and notes handed to Alec for preparation for the next meeting.
7. **MAP SMART goal 1 Steps towards appointment of a children's worker.**
- a. Applying for grant under NBPSGT. Project plan prepared. Deadline for grant submission is 19 May 2025.
 - b. Need to put together what costs are. Including equipment, resources, management time.
 - c. Summary of what the project would look like.
 - d. PCC approval for the working group to continue its work in applying for a grant.
8. **MAP SMART goal 5: Progress toward Silver Eco Church.** Angela presented on paper. Agreed with the ethos of the plan with further discussion of the detail. Gail suggested separated by the goals by age group. Angela will look at developing some age-appropriate goals.
9. **MAP SMART goal confirmation**
- a. Social course focussing on growth for goal 2
 - i. Alec considering running 4 or 5 week course on Faith Stories or Faith Action. Alec asking if there is commitment from the PCC to drive

enough momentum to get the course going. Bettina, Roger, Margaret and John expressed commitment to attending.

- ii. MAP SMART goal 2: to run a social course on Christian discipleship. Alec to be the lead. Alec to bring proposed schedule of date options for the next PCC meeting.
- b. PCC leads for goals 2,3,4
 - i. Alec to be lead for number 2
 - ii. Number 3 – if a leader is not identified by the January meeting, the PCC will have to decide whether to remove this as a goal.
 - iii. Number 4 – if a leader is not identified by the January meeting, the PCC will have to decide whether to remove this as a goal.

10. Job fair

- a. Alec recommends we use the grant application for a children's worker to include line management which would include a portion of costs for an administrator.
- b. PCC approves intention for an application for Diocese mission grant for administrator.

11. Reports

- a. **Children's Outreach Working Group** All tickets sold for St Nicholas party.
- b. **Communications** Margaret asks if the church is getting involved with Blue Sky. Alec suggests tipping toe in and see if works. Katherine proposes and Alison seconds that the Church account on X is closed. PCC voted to close X account. Discussion to take place in January if the church is to have a presence/profile on other platform.
- c. **Events and Fundraising** No report. Margaret puts in plea for younger people to help to tidy up afterwards.
- d. **Fabric** Alec reports one of the fans for the church boiler is broken. The inspection has been completed.
- e. **Fabric Project Working Group** No minutes.
- f. **Finances** Recommendation to pay off outstanding Parish share and resume pay full amount from January 2025. Parish share is £123 p.a. increase. Roger proposes, Bettina seconds. Resolution passed. Report noted don't know full cost of the roofing repairs.
- g. **Halls Working Group** No minutes since last PCC. Meeting on 25 November.

- h. **Partnership Enabling Group** No questions
 - i. **Planned Public Events** Christmas Eve ‘Scratch Nativity’
 - j. **Safeguarding** No report
 - k. **St Mary’s VA Primary School** No questions. Katherine to write to Maria and express the PCC’s gratitude about the report to the PCC.
12. **PCC dates in 2025.** If meeting is on 27 January, Alison Blunt will take the minutes.
13. **AOB.** Further conversation to be had with Angela, Chris and Katherine about something akin to a safeguarding audit.