



**Minutes of Parochial Church Council Meeting**  
**Monday September 16<sup>th</sup> 2024 – 7.15 pm at Rothley Primary School**

**Present:**

Rob Gladstone (chair), Fred Sleath, Margaret Rouse, David Wilson, Sue Wilson, Ray Prince, Nigel Willey, Liz Barker, Wendy Ferguson, Alison Parkinson, Susan Pinkus (secretary)

**1. Opening Prayers/Reading**

**2. Declarations of Interest:** None

**Apologies:** Wendy Lewis, Susie Clark, Linda Poole, Margaret Leverment, Chris Garnett

**Accuracy and approval of minutes from PCC July 1<sup>st</sup> 2024.** Agreed as an accurate record.

**Matters Arising:**

- Awaiting updated Health and Safety Policy
- It was agreed that a copy of the minutes, once approved, should be displayed in church to accommodate people who do not have access to the website. Susan to ask Liz to do this.

**3. Evangelism**

The PCC had been asked to read material from a link to CPAS evangelistic resources and these were discussed at the meeting.

We were asked to consider two things: -

1. From our experience of meeting Jesus what type of event would we like to invite someone to in order that they could learn about Jesus?
2. What resources would help us to do that?

Several suggestions were put forward during the discussion including running an Alpha or Christianity Explored course; putting a video clip of our Christmas pantomime on the website to attract people.

The matter of the budget set aside for Evangelism was raised and it was outlined that this would be mainly used in relation to the Broadnook development over the next 10 years.

**4. Finance**

**Draft Budget and Financial Contribution 2025**

The budget does not need to be agreed until the November PCC meeting. Members had no comments or questions on the figures.

In the light of a projected £13k deficit for 2025 and the, as yet, unknown cost of the Church Building Improvements, the Finance Committee had proposed that we maintain our Parish Contribution to the diocese at £96,430 for 2025. The Diocesan target for us is £65,000, to cover the cost of employing and housing one full-time minister as well as a share of all general diocesan costs. However, we are now working with nine other churches to form a Minster Community, which will jointly be expected to cover the cost of its paid ministers. The Business Committee had agreed that two further proposals be made to the PCC:

1. That we specify that our gift to the Diocese is made up of £65,000 to cover the shared costs of having one full-time minister and the remainder (£31,430) is to be allocated to the neediest

parishes within our proposed Minster Community, namely those least able to afford their full share of a minister and oncosts.

2. If funds permit, at the end of the 2025 financial year, we will attempt to pay a total of £100k, thereby increasing the support to others in our Minster Community.

Following discussion, these proposals were agreed unanimously by the PCC.

## **5. Operations**

Ray Prince updated the PCC.

All the roof leaks have been attended to and at the moment there are no leaks.

The gas heaters in the church and the one in the OSR all passed the annual inspection.

Some headstones are loose in the churchyard, but this is a matter for Charnwood Borough Council and they will deal with it.

Some of the LED lights have stopped working and need changing. They had been out of action for about six or seven weeks.

AV - we have problems with the microphones and the screens. 2/3 of the microphones are not working properly. Ray had obtained a quote for a replacement microphone system as the current one is 10 years old now and it was decided to replace everything with new, updating the microphones to the newest models. This will cost £2,375.

A member of the congregation has offered to replace the hedge around the garden of remembrance and this was gratefully accepted by the PCC.

Ray gave an update on the wildflower meadow at the end of its first season. Charnwood Borough Council will also review it. A request was made that Barbara Sutters be included in future discussions about the meadows, as she still tends the churchyard.

A food safety course is being run on October 12<sup>th</sup> for all those involved with food preparation in the church and OSR. These courses are required every three years. The PCC agreed that someone with food safety training should oversee the catering arrangements for all events. For our Health and Safety policy, this would mean that a trained person would be involved in each event, even if they are not actually present on the day.

## **6. Church Improvements**

We still have no faculty for the church improvements. David Pendery is still liaising with Charnwood Council and chasing them, and we hope to get it eventually. Clive Jackson can't approach some charities until the faculty is in place and he will then proceed.

## **7. Working Groups**

### **Send**

There will be a focus on Tearfund at the morning service on the 6<sup>th</sup> October.

Crosslinks have introduced 'Join us in Prayer' Zoom meetings where mission partners talk about their work and prayer needs and prayer follows.

Liz Barker highlighted opportunities to meet persecuted Christians from around the world through the organisation Open Doors. If you're interested in this please contact Liz. There will be meetings in Birmingham and Lincoln on the 12<sup>th</sup> of October and 2<sup>nd</sup> of November respectively.

### **Evangelism**

The group had met to plan the Macmillan coffee morning to be held in church on the 28<sup>th</sup> of September.

## 8. Safeguarding

Wendy Ferguson had circulated two documents prior to the meeting. Wendy keeps our details updated on the Diocesan database.

At the moment everything is updated but it is a concern that there are still some people in the children's groups who have not completed their training. Lisa Cook has updated all the DBS paperwork and all the role descriptions are now up to date. All PCC members are compliant and up to date with training needs. It was felt that personnel who have not met the training and safeguarding requirements should not lead groups.

Safeguarding is very important and needs monitoring constantly to ensure that all legal requirements are being met. Policies are due for review in November.

## 9. Minster Communities

Two meetings for more detailed discussion are now taking place. It was suggested that we should update the congregation, which would be best done after the second meeting in November.

## 10. Vicar's Report

A report was circulated prior to the meeting.

The website is progressing with John Bragg and Sue Jackson taking a lead on this. It is hoped that this will be completed by the end of September. Sneha is working with others to produce a leaflet for distribution at Broadnook.

The Bereavement Group are hoping to use software produced by the national church to help them with their work.

## 11. Correspondence

The PCC had received correspondence outlining concerns about the movement of people between the 9.30 am and 11:00 am services and the 'logjam' at the door during coffee time and changeover. It was decided that no formal changes would take place whilst the reordering of the porch area under the church improvement plan is ongoing.

**Meeting closed with prayer at 21.20 pm**

### **NEXT MEETINGS:**

**Business Committee: Thursday October 31<sup>st</sup> 3pm: 56 Grangefields Drive, Rothley**  
**PCC Monday: Monday November 11th, 7.15pm: Rothley Primary School Academy**

*Papers and requests for agenda items/time for November 11<sup>th</sup> meeting to Susan Pinkus by **Sunday October 27<sup>th</sup> please***