AVON VALLEY CHURCHES PCC MEETING



Minutes of the 8th Meeting of the AVC PCC Monday September 26th 2022 7.0pm on zoom.

Serving the Parish of Fordingbridge and Hyde and Breamore and Hale and Woodgreen

Present:

Rev'd Tom Burden (Temp. Chair)		Heather Clark		Jane Cant		Lynette Stanford	
Lynda Warne Vice Chair (on rota)		Ruth Crosland		Andy Finch		Martin Ings	
Nigel Spratt Temporary Secretary		Alex Sains					
Apologies	Julian Simms	5	lan New	/man	John Dowsett		

No declarations of conflict of interest have been received or were declared

Action

2022-08-01	Welcome and prayer led by Rev'd Tom			
2022-08-02	Apologies for Absence - see above			
2022-08-03	1. Minutes of the meeting held on July 4th			
	a. Accuracy- approved unanimously as a true record on a			
	proposition from Heather Clark, seconded by Mary Melbourne.			
	b. Matters arising not covered elsewhere –			
	item 2022-7-03 Bishops permission for Tom to chair- Ian Newman	Ian Newman to advise.		
	to write In lan's absence it is not known if he has written.			
	item 2022-7-04 No decision yet from Zoe about taking on the role			
	of minute secretary. Nigel and Ian happy to continue until the next			
	APCM if required.			
2022-08-04	Appointment of new Incumbent:			
	Heather reported that all the individual parts of the Parish Profile			
	have been completed and sent to Laura Cowdery to be tidied up. They			
	will be seen by the wardens at their meeting on Friday 30 th Sept. and			
	then sent to the LCC's. The more detailed appendix to the profile and			
	Role description have yet to be written. Both these documents will			
	then have to be approved.			
	The advertisement will go into the Christmas editions of the			
	newspapers and the profile and role description will be sent to			
	potential candidates.			
	The Section11 Meeting with Bishop Debbie should be held within four			
	weeks of receiving a notice from the Registrar as the Designated			
	Officer for the purposes of preparing a statement describing the			
	conditions, needs and traditions of the parish, and to approve the			
	above programme. The meeting date has yet to be confirmed. Ian has			
	written to the Bishop's personal assistant to try and fix a date but she			
	was on holiday.			

A closing date for applications is proposed as the 31st January 2023. With the interviews taking place in February, hopefully resulting in the new Incumbent taking up post after Easter.

A Day of Prayer on September 28th is planned with 12 hours continuous prayer spread among all of our churches to pray for a successful outcome of our search for the right person to lead us all forward. Details have been published in partners.

2022-08-05

Mission Topics for discussion:

- i) Outreach initiatives at Parish Level
- a) **Open Doors UK** -To ask the PCC to give support to a fund-raising event for Open Doors UK. A Bingo Night in St Marys Church Hall, on12th Nov., prizes would be of a non-monetary nature, in order to comply with Regulations. The PCC felt that the timing of the event is not ideal, happening between Armistice Day and Remembrance Sunday and competing with the Festival of Remembrance on the TV. However, the Council are happy to give permission for it to take place. b) **KInkiizi-** The PCC have agreed to sponsor the purchase of Smartie Tubes to raise money for Kinkiizi. Sarah Perelle has purchased 4 boxes of 48 Smarties for £62.04, She needs to be paid for them.

The Council authorised payment to Sarah Perelle.

ii) LCC Minutes: To review action points reported to this meeting by the Local Area reps.

There were no referrals to the PCC Hyde, H&WG or Breamore.

There were the following from the Fordingbridge LCC held on July 4th

a) FB LCC wish to emphasise that AVC PCC does not have the required Officers in place. There is no Treasurer, no Secretary (NS and INN covering agendas/minutes is not being a secretary). The Curate taking the temporary role of Chairman is not ideal for him nor the PCC. There is no Safeguarding Officer.

The LCC suggest that the work done by a treasurer could be done by Fawcetts, and that a Minutes secretary should be found, to ease the work at present being done by Nigel and Ian. There were no suggestions from the LCC regarding the chair or safeguarding posts. There were robust objections from Heather and Andy against the involvement of Fawcetts, they felt that Julian is doing the work of a treasurer but does not want the title, preferring to be the Chair of the Finance Committee. He should be approached to determine if he is happy to continue with what he is doing. The council agreed that there should be a plea in partners for people to come forward to carry out the missing functions. The LCC's should also attempt to find volunteers from their members. Tom said that he is particularly worried about the lack of proper safeguarding cover and he will raise the problem at the staff meeting. It was agreed that the safeguarding officer must not be an ordained minister.

Sec. to inform Pat Bloomfield.

Julian Sims To arrange payment from the Central Account

If these problems are not resolved they will be included on the agenda of the next PCC meeting when Julian and Ian are present and can make their contributions to the discussion. b) Reporting and Recording Income and Expenditure. – Martin Calver, as Treasurer will continue to do that for Fordingbridge. Will other LCC treasurers will do the same? It appears that Hyde and Hale/WG do their own, but Breamore may approach Zoe to do theirs for them. Concern was expressed at the LCC, that, if everyone requests Zoe to post their accounts that she will be totally overloaded. Andy, as treasurer at Breamore felt slightly affronted that Fordingbridge appear to be worried that he would need to ask for help from Zoe. There is no problem for the Fordingbridge LCC to be concerned about. The individual Parish treasurers will not need to add to Zoe's workload. c) Plan next Parish Services- With the exception of Fordingbridge the wardens from each church have submitted their planned major services for the rest of this year to Heather who will send the final plan to the staff team for them to plan what staffing is required. Nigel has prepared the Fordingbridge **Nigel Spratt** programme of major services and sent it to Ian for his approval. In his absence Nigel will forward the programme to Heather. d) Ratification of email vote- Votes were requested and received in favour of supporting Julie Francis being signed off having completed her BCM, and accepting Jan Butcher for training on the BCM Pastoral scheme. The Council ratified this decision unanimously. e) Outgoing Invoices: These have previously been dealt with by Sec. to pass Fordingbridge, they are now the PCC'S responsibility and Zoe on this will now attend to them. The question from Fordingbridge LCC suggestion to **Judith for her** was who will check Zoe's work on a monthly basis. The Council reaction. suggested that Judith Dowsett, as Zoe's line manager, is asked to take on this task. f) Website: Fordingbridge LCC are concerned that the AVC Parish website is in need of updating. Tom reported that this is being done 2022-08-06 Governance Mark Ward i. **Review Policies** - Awaiting report from Mark Ward ii. **Safeguarding** – any action points from LCCs - none **Buildings issues raised by LCCs** iii. a) Hale Roof – 3 estimates have been obtained, DAC coming

b) Hyde - Quinquennial work being carried out

2022-08-06 (cont)

- a. Any works needing Faculties referred from LCCs Fordingbridge North Window - Cathedral Glass coming 27th Sept to assess revisions to their quote supplied in 2019. A Faculty application will be prepared on the receipt of the revised quote. Other faculties applications are being prepared for the work on the Sacristy, Access for the disabled and trees in the churchyard.
- b. Update on current Faculty progress Fordingbridge

Faculties for the new Heating System and the Nave Roof replacement have been approved.

v. Finance Update:

a. Finance – report from Julian Sims:

The accounts are almost complete with a couple of final things to sort with Fawcetts. We lost a little time with holidays both sides. I'm hoping to pick back up next week and push on.

Bank account - the new bank account is set up and some of us have on line banking access. We have also received into this the promised £300 compensation from Nat West for the original delays. However, after spending some time on the phone to NatWest, I am now told that the initial on-line banking they have given us does not allow multiple approvers or Zoe to be set up as a user with authority, just to view the account and set up payments for someone else to approve. I am told that I need to speak to a separate team to set up use of an alternative on-line system to allow this. I have not yet had a chance for what I think will be another lengthy call.

- b. **Charity Commission :** Heather asked that all the work already done be given to her and she will get it completed and take responsibility for it.
- c. **Overtime for Zoe Goddard:** An email vote was taken to give 6 hours overtime to Zoe. The PCC are asked to Ratify the approval of overtime for Zoe Goddard.

All were in favour and that vote was ratified by the Council.

vi Updates from Deanery Synod – Report from Julian Sims:

Deanery Synod met on Saturday at New Milton,3 main items were discussed.

Vacancy in See

Rev Canon Charles Stewart (who chairs the committee) gave a summary of the Vacancy in See process for the appointment of the new Diocesan Bishop as follows:

Vacancy in See committee met on 1 September and meets again on 18 October, 9 November, 5 December and expects to finalise the 'Statement of Needs' at the last of these meetings. The 'Statement of Needs' contains two parts: a snapshop of the Diocese now; details 'who' we need and where the Diocese is going. At that meeting it will also elect six of its members to represent the Diocese on the Appointment Committee itself. It is expected shortlisting will happen

2022-08-06 (cont)

in late March, interviews over two days in late April, with our new Bishop in post in about September 2023.

We are asked to continue to pray for all those involved in the process and also to respond to the Vacancy in See questionnaire that has been sent to everyone on the diocesan mailing list. For those without internet access, we can print and ask people to complete and return to Winchester (preferable in one bundle, rather than individually).

Growing Faith by Church Planting and Renewal

We then had a talk by Rev Kate Seagrave, the Diocesan Church Planting Missioner (a post funded nationally for three years). She talked about recognising that God had already given us what we needed for church growth and that we needed to grow this and care for what was already there. Most of her time was then spent telling the stories of a number of churches which had been renewed from a low base to thriving communities. These were not large churches even now but worshipping communities of 50-60 people where there had previously been 6-12 and a threat of closure. Only one of her six examples had involved a team from outside the existing church community, the others all built from the people and what they already had!

Her call to us was to Pray (for our place and for our neighbours in Deanery and Diocese); to Watch (for the activity of God and for what was happening elsewhere); to Hope.

It seemed to me that one thing we could take from this locally was to continue to ensure that we identify and work with what God has given us in each part of our parish.

The Growing Faith Foundation (and Diocesan Education team)

Finally we had a talk from Jeff Williams and Jane Kelly about the ideas of the Growing Faith Foundation and best practice and opportunities to work in and with schools. He also highlighted that parents often found it difficult to share faith with their children and one of our tasks was to help and provide resources for this.

This highlighted the need to engage with children (and parents) where they were and we were asked to identify what we were already doing, what we could improve and what new things we could do. Many of the ideas are things we already do in the Parish but again the need to work with the skills and opportunities we have was highlighted – it was suggested that doing and building up from small things was better than aiming too high initially.

Jeff suggested that the key was to: Ask the school; Ask parents; Plan and share ideas together; Do together. If this work was a joint project with school and parents, it was likely to be far more successful.

Nothing to report from Diocesan Synod or General Synod

vii Update from Warden's Meetings covered by agenda items.

2022-08-07

AOB

 Memorial for Elaine Mickelwright. Heather presented a request for a memorial at Ibsley for the late Elaine Mickelwright. The Council approved the mounting of a memorial Plaque on the churchyard gates.

	 Ruth requested that the report from the St Giles Group be discussed at the next meeting. Ruth pointed out that the Fordingbridge LCC minutes considered at this meeting had items which should have been confidential. Nigel said that the minutes had not yet been circulated so he would modify them prior to that. 	Sec to add to the agenda Nigel Spratt
2022-08-08	Date of next meeting November 7th in the St. Mary's Hall	
2022-07-09	The meeting finished at 8.30pm Closing Prayer – led by Heather Clark	
	(Breamore next time please)	