



**Minutes of the  
Special Meeting of the LCC of Hyde  
Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> August 2023 at 7.30pm in  
Hyde Church Rooms**

***This LCC exists to work together joyfully in step with God's Spirit to fulfil his mission in this place, at this time.***

Present; Martin Ings, Jan Butcher, Julian Sims, Marrianna Tomkies, Peter Chew, Canon Michael Anderson, Heather Clark, Heather Brook, Ann Edwards, Sheilah Collis, Robert Herridge, Jeremy Houghton-Brown, Carrie Darke.

Welcome from Chair

Opening Prayer led by Canon Michael Anderson

1. Apologies for absence from Alan Moore, Julie Francis, Rev. Kate Wilson.
2. **Common Mission Fund.** HC explained that now we are a single Parish, Common Mission Fund (CMF) is a single figure which is divided amongst the Churches according to the number of parishioners on their role. Any application for 'special consideration' now has to be made as a whole Parish not as individual Churches.

Following a meeting of the treasurers of the LCCs it would seem that Hyde and Breamore Churches are able to meet the whole of their CMF contributions this year. Fordingbridge and Hale and Woodgreen Churches are not able to do this. HC made the recommendation to the LCC that we should pay our full quota of CMF this year, whilst an application for special consideration to reduce the Parish Share next year would be made to match the combined amount that Fordingbridge and Hale and Woodgreen are unable to pay.

It was recognised that Hyde had undoubtedly benefitted from the active approach taken to the preaching on 'giving' during services throughout Generous June. It was also agreed that we would like to continue to maintain this focus in the coming months regarding not just financial giving but also of time and talents. In line with the leadership that we have received from Canon Michael Anderson, it is the aim of the LCC of Hyde that we would like to be in a position to give to mission regularly from our community funds, not only through focused activities and collections. With this in mind, HC is preparing a letter to go out to the Local Church Community. This could be timed to come ahead of a proposed Pledge Sunday Service towards the end of September.

JS proposed that a letter asking parishioners of Hyde Church to consider their giving to the Church of time, talents and funds should be sent. This was seconded by Jeremy Houghton-Brown with all in agreement. A final draft is being completed and will be circulated to the LCC ahead of printing.

Thanks were expressed to all the team who care for the finances of our Church and are constantly mindful of them, particularly our Treasurers, Ann (LCC) and Heather (PCC), as well as Canon Michael and Julian for their preaching during Generous June and beyond.

3. **Vacancy: Parish Profile and Advertisement update.** MI explained that the PCC are to vote next week on whether or not to use the original advert one final time at no additional cost, in which case it must be submitted with minimal changes, by Sept 1st. Alternatively a new advert can be submitted at a cost of £1000 shared across the Churches of the Parish, with no immediate time constraint. Should the original advert be used for free and not attract any applicants, there would be time to fully discuss and rewrite both the profile and the advert. At the moment an amended version of the advert which will incur the £1000 fee is being proposed.

Following this, there was discussion of a draft of a new advert that could be used if the PCC vote to go ahead immediately with a new advert. (The results of this discussion will have already been fed by our Wardens into their ongoing collaborative work with the other Churches.)

Overall there was a concern that the new draft advert lacked an element that spoke directly of the wish to attract new families and youth through varied worship styles, including accessible worship styles. There was concern that the failure to mention this, obscured the intention to be Churches that wish to grow and thrive at a time when church closures are not unusual. It was also felt that it was not in line with the PCCs stated desire to celebrate the diversity of worship styles across our Parish.

**The LCC discussed the merits of the different actions and would like to make the following proposal to the PCC.**

**Hyde LCC would like to propose that either the process of advertising for an incumbent for our Parish is delayed to allow for a full redraft of the advert or that the advert goes in unchanged before the deadline of Sept 1st at no extra cost.** Proposed by JS, seconded by JH-B, all in favour.

HC added an addendum to this which is that should the PCC vote to go ahead with a redraft of the original advert, that bullet four on that redraft be amended to;

**‘Support and develop our different styles of worship to nurture and deepen the faith of all ages and create some accessible worship to encourage those younger families not used to Church.’** All in agreement.

Proposed changes to the Parish Profile were then discussed. Minutes were taken by the Wardens which were to be taken to the Wardens meeting the following evening.

The inclusion of a statement regarding the importance of selfcare by our incumbent was seen as an added strength.

There were two main concerns raised. Firstly that preaching the Gospel has been completely removed from the profile. This caused deep concern amongst our members. Secondly that inconsistencies in statements, about styles of worship and attitudes, are in line with the reasoning given by previous applicants for their failure to go ahead and apply for the post. Wording that celebrates all the traditions and demonstrates mutual support for those differences to be nurtured within the different parts of the Parish were felt to be essential given the criticism made of our Parish only recently. The importance of an accurate role description was highlighted, as it is against this that any applicant will be questioned and measured by the interview panel.

Further discussion included the desire to embolden statements about mission work and outreach. Suggested wording for these were proposed for the Wardens to consider.

4. **Simplification Process:** What worked well and what could have worked better if it had been done differently.

As the time was now after 21.00 it was felt the at the final agenda point should be postponed until the next meeting on Sept 14<sup>th</sup>, which would still be ahead of the PCC meeting to discuss this matter.

The meeting closed with the saying of The Grace.

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September 7.30pm.