



**Minutes for the
Meeting of the LCC of Hyde
Tuesday 14th November 2023 at 7.30pm at
Hyde Church**

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, Robert Herridge, Jeremy Houghton-Brown, Canon Michael Anderson, Alan Moore, Ann Edwards.

Welcome from Chair

Opening Prayer – led by Martin Ings.

1. Apologies for absence – Carrie Darke, Marrienne Tomkies, Julie Francis, Heather Clark, Julian Sims, Sheilah Collis.
2. Minutes of the LCC meeting of Thursday 14th September 2023
 - Accuracy – Correction. Piano player is Margueritt Williams rather than Margueritt Harris.Review of action points and matters arising.
 - Car Park resurfacing – Estimate in the region of £3000 being paid for by an anonymous doner. Work to start in the spring.
 - DofE Volunteer in Churchyard – Started last Sunday.
 - Wheelchair Maintenance – Wheelchairs seem in good condition but MI recommends that we have a cushion available for comfort.

JH-B/MI – acquire or purchase a cushion.
 - Pre-school shed and beech tree management – Fence has been repaired by volunteers. Pre-school confirmed to JB their intention to put the shed on a loose slab base not a permanent concrete base for relocation and their desire to use it to keep the 'forest classroom' area tidy. It would also provide them with a discreet spot to use a porta potty as at the current time they need to bring all children back into the classroom should one of them need to use the toilet. Forest School only takes place on a Thursday morning for six children at the current time. The Pre-school is an important part of the Churches income and they are paying additionally for Forest School mornings. Concerns from the LCC were discussed with them regarding keeping Forest School to the designated area and respecting the graves and graveyard. It was pleasing to learn that the children are already being taught about the special nature of this space and how to respect it. A breadth of opinions were expressed together with the need to explore whether a faculty or just special permission was needed for such a relocation of the shed to take place.

Proposal by JB :We investigate the necessary permission required to allow relocation of the Pre-school shed to the Forest School area of the Churchyard and provided all such criteria can be met we allow the relocation to go ahead. Seconded by JH-B vote carried 6 for 1 against.

A further request to the pre-school to keep the heating settings to below 25C has been made and must be checked on occasionally as costs have gone up considerably.

Beech Tree – Will Cobb is coming to look at the tree and carry out any necessary work.
- Update from the last PCC meeting. – Parish website upgrade continues. CMA reported to our PCC members that at a recent Diocesan Safeguarding Team meeting the request was made that all PCCs be encouraged to actively discuss safe-guarding matters at all meetings.

Heather Brook joined the meeting.

AOB brought forward from the September meeting.

JH-B – Prayer Corner – Set up at the foot of the pulpit. Has been approved by CMA and our Prayer Champions who would be pleased to purchase a suitable cross for the table and 'Prayer Corner' sign to put up beside it. It is designed to be able to be put up and packed down swiftly and easily in keeping with the multifunctional space arrangements that we have in this part of the Church.

- Creationtide – Proposal to create a village walk for visitors to the community to take in visits to The Foresters Pub, The Potting Shed Tearooms and Hyde Church with a view of putting Hyde Church on the map of the community and encouraging people to visit our space during their visits. This would be an A4 sheet with a map on one side and detailed directions on the other to be located in the pub, the café and the Church, so interlinking Church and community in mutual support. AE informed that colour photocopying costs 10x more than black and white so recommended black and white copies. LCC were supportive of this proposal.

JH-B to design the Hyde Community Walk sheet.

- Defibrillator – Suggestion was made that we should look into purchasing a defibrillator for the Church and Church Centre. This would be an expense if we were to buy a good quality one, and there would be an issue with location. Should it be outside for whole community use, thus risking theft, or inside, thus reducing its availability but keeping it safe. RH reminded LCC that Glynis Herridge had previously made recommendations regarding purchasing a defibrillator. It was felt that her suggestion of purchase through the Red Cross was likely to still be the best one and we should go down this route if further costing and location issues could be resolved. Currently the nearest defibrillator is at Hyde School. **Action point?**
- Selection of Bible translations for the Epistle readings used at Hyde – It was agreed that this was a subject that should be revisited once we have a new incumbent in post.
- Welcome Notice for door – JH-B presented a simplified version of his original proposal for this that was met with agreement. **JH-B will put the notice up.** RH suggested that a notice should also go on the Lytchgate to ask people to shut the gates to keep out the forest animals. This was also thought to be a good idea.

Action point?

Community

Update on Vacancy. – Induction of our new Rector, Luke Wickings is proposed for 28th February 2024.

The suggestion has been made that all churches gather non-perishable goods for a joint Hamper from the Parish, as a welcome gift to Luke and Sarah Wickings.

3. to arrange a welcome hamper for him and his wife with donations from members of the congregation. Approved.
4. Tribute to Rev. Kate Wilson – CMA proposed that we approach John Cook to make a cross for the prayer corner, preferably from reclaimed wood from the Church pews, in Kate's memory and a plaque to hang on the pulpit beside it dedicating it to her memory. Words to be decided. Seconded by MI, all in favour.

JB to announce this proposal to the congregation.

MI to approach John Cook and ask him to come up with some design suggestions.

5. AVCM update and picnics together – The LCC recognised the greatness and the breadth of work carried out by this group and that this was all inspired by Kate's vision. There are thought to be further family picnics going ahead at Christmas under the lead of Irene Canton.
6. Christmas Fair – 9 Church run stalls and 7 other stalls including Scentsational Plants from Fordingbridge and Hockey's in Ibsley. The Kitchen team are all organised and Mustard Seeds are coming to sing. The Hall Committee are generously putting up their Christmas tree and bunting ahead of time for us and there will be no charge for the hire of The Hall.

Congregation

7. Mission Working Party update – JH-B Pleased to have approved the welcoming notice and will progress now to the next phase.
8. Upcoming Services and events.
 - 10th December Hyde Church Carol Service at 5.30pm
 - 13th December Christingle at 2.30pm combined with Hyde School.
 - 17th December Carols on the Common. Being advertised through Neighbourhood Watch email and posters. If wet in the Community Hall.

24th 10am Service.

25th 10am Holy Communion Service.

31st Parish Service at Hyde.

Church Building/ Churchyard.

9. Renovation of the main doorway – Update from Heather Clark via JB to say that she has a quote from a specialist glass door company called ION who specialise in Church doors. She will be in contact with the architect again before applying for a faculty to progress this project. Further discussion on her proposal for design and wording to follow.

JB suggested that the main doorway on the inside also needed some improvements, with the upgrading of the curtain and possible boxing in of wires. AE said there are some funds available for the upkeep of the Church which could be made available. RH expressed concern that the west wall is very damp due to the blockage of air bricks. This wall is also in bad need of decoration but needs drying out first.

MI to ask John Cook to look at this area and advise us on what is possible re the door area.

RH, JH-B and Fabric Officer to look at air bricks and decide what work needs doing.

10. Churchyard work-party update – Next working party in March.
11. Finance, including Accounts – Additional pledged money has helped to keep the income against expenditure in the black, although costs have been cut back to absolute minimum wherever possible. Preaching on giving has been a core part of our commitment to the financial stability of our Church community.
A donation of £400 restricted for use in the Churchyard has been received from the Frogham Fair Committee. £350 raised through coffee money needs to be designated to a charity and suggestions to Heather Clark would be welcome.
We are behind in proposing a balanced budget for the next financial year but are now in a position to do so. Unfortunately we are the only Church in the Parish to be proposing a balanced budget and to be able to pay our full CMF quota. We are not providing financial support to the other Churches in anyway, but continue to offer support in more practical terms such as preaching and pastoral work.
Funds that are given to Hyde Church stay in Hyde Church.
The finances of the Parish that suffered so badly during the cross over to 'unification' and Covid are finally coming together thanks to the work of the PCC Treasurer.
Hyde LCC records it's considerable thanks to both Heather and Ann for their diligent work on our behalf.
12. AOB (*Should be notified to the Chair beforehand. If not, the Chair will determine whether it is of sufficient urgency to be included here*)
Extension to the cremation plot – MI reported that he now has permission from the family who installed the bench in the churchyard near to the proposed extension site, to move it along to allow works to begin. RH reported that he has already planted box plants to extend the hedge in the spring.

Date of next meeting – Tuesday 16th January 7.30pm

Closing Prayer led by Canon Michael Anderson.