

St. Giles (Matlock) PCC meeting 4th June 2019

Draft Minutes

Present: Fr. Mark Crowther-Alwyn (Chair), Angela Neale, Claire Drabble, Emily Brailsford, Gill Briggs, Jackie Steele, Jane Pomphrey, Jason Knighton, Joan Link, Martin Smith, Michael Amos and Sarah Higgs.

Fr. Mark started the meeting with a prayer and a reading from Paul's Epistle to the Romans

44/19. Apologies. No apologies had been received

45/19. Minutes of meeting 14th May

Minute 7 (Meeting Space Committee report). The quoted costs are inclusive of VAT. An additional sentence was inserted as follows; *'The meeting accepted the suggested compromise whereby £5000 would be spent on the kitchen in church and £5000 on the Barn'*.

With these two amendments the minutes were approved as a correct record and signed by Fr. Mark

46/19. Correspondence

A query from Cornerstone Books re the purchase of more 'It's your move' books for those leaving St. Giles School this term.

The purchase of the books and suitable prizes was agreed.

47/19. Financial Report.

Nothing to update since last meeting but note £19.7k in current account.

a) Gift Aid reclamation. Mick Maltby has said he will continue to do the Gift Aid return and has also agreed to revamp the envelope scheme.

b) New collection box. This has been received and is to be fixed to the wall near the position of the original box. Not too obtrusive, but not too inconspicuous either. It will be emptied daily. Decision needed on wording of notice, e.g. 'This box is emptied daily'?

48/19. Safeguarding.

Joan reported that we were OK for the time being, with only Gill requiring checking. Next training sessions would be in October, but the diocese is re-examining how safeguarding is being dealt with and a new 'App' is being introduced that is intended to provide data on a rolling basis rather than an annual report. Joan expressed considerable concerns about the amount of time involved in such a scheme.

49/19 Mission and Social Committee

a) Preparations for Blessing of vehicles. Claire has produced a poster (circulated). Date of service is 7th July. *Note that the double decker bus on the poster should be one of Stagecoach's X17 vehicles.*

b) Corpus Christi. Gill will liaise with Angela about the provision of the wine. The need for some sort of frame for the banner was discussed. Jackie to investigate.

c) Wine glasses. The extra wine glasses have been purchased and washed. They are at The Rectory and will be brought over to church. Jane to be given the invoice, but the glasses have been paid for out of the wine fund.

d) Godly Play. The name has to be changed, because Godly Play is apparently a specific type of activity as far as the CoE is concerned and our version doesn't comply. No name decided upon as yet. Also the timing of the sessions needs to be addressed, with the possibility of having an earlier time, coinciding with the end of school. Possibility of taster sessions in school to be investigated. Noted that the sessions are not just for children. Anyone can attend/volunteer. Emily to lead on this and involve Bridget and Joan Pybus.

e) Notice Board by lych gate. Mark has received a quote of £695 ex VAT for a new notice board by the lych gate. The order has not yet been placed as he has not decided on the final wording. Once that is done the board will be ordered.

50/19. Meeting Space Report.

The discussion on this agenda item centred round the 14th May compromise solution of spending £5000 on kitchen and barn.

a) Church Kitchen proposals and quotations. Angela updated PCC members on the proposals for the revamped kitchen area in the church, the quotes for which came in at just over £5000. At issue was the need for a dish washer as against additional cupboard space. To have both would increase the quote by some hundreds of pounds. There was strong support for additional cupboard space and considerable doubt whether a dishwasher was required and even if it was, whether it would be a practical proposition, given that it could not be left to run on its own for safety reasons. It was also pointed out that the remains of the old organ could now be removed and this would potentially create more storage space.

b) Barn proposals and quotations. Sarah presented the Barn proposals, emphasising that the key issue was to make the Barn a useable asset and therefore what was needed was to make the building DDA compliant, i.e. improved access to the building, level access within it and the provision of a disable toilet facility. These various issues had been costed and could not be provided for the £5000 suggested in May. The estimated cost of implementing all the work required for full DDA compliance is in the order of £13000. Whilst it would be possible to effect an improvement in access to the building for £5000, this would not make it fit for purpose. Sarah noted that the proposals for the Barn had been first mooted some 6 years earlier, when the suggested improvements (and extensions) were costed at between £80000 and £100000. A more recent estimate of £30000 for a reduced package of works had been drawn up by the church architect and these have been whittled down to the present proposal.

c) Discussion and resolution

Fr Mark then asked each PCC member for their views on what they'd heard and an interesting and quite forceful discussion followed, where there were some strong views expressed. As far as the church kitchen was concerned these centred round the need for more cupboard space versus the inclusion of a dishwasher.

Joan Link had left the meeting at this point.

The Barn proposals were even more keenly discussed and these particularly centred round the fact that the proposed improvements were now the minimum that would make the building DDA compliant. A decision was needed whether to proceed with these or do nothing and let the Barn fall into disuse entirely. There was very little enthusiasm for the latter course and so the rest of the discussion then centred on how the requisite work on the Barn could be achieved and, in particular, how the additional cost could be met. Various grant aiding bodies were suggested and also the possibility of fund raising from amongst the congregation.

Fr Mark strongly expressed his view that he felt the proposed expenditure on the Barn would be a waste of money. He felt that the need was to draw more people into the church and both he and Angela reminded the PCC members that we were likely to have significant expenditure on the rest of the church roof probably within the next five years.

After further discussion it was proposed by Martin and seconded by Jason, that we should earmark £5000 for the Barn project and seek to raise the remainder from grant aid sources and local fund raising. Jackie then queried why we couldn't 'borrow' the extra money from the existing funds the church has and then seek to replace these funds with grants and fund raising. Having clarified that 'borrowing' the money from our existing funds would not make PCC members individually liable she then proposed an amendment as follows;

- *That the PCC approves the expenditure of £5000 on the kitchen in the church, which expenditure excludes the provision of a dishwasher.*
- *That the PCC approves the expenditure of up to £13000 + VAT on the Barn to make it fully DDA compliant, the money for which is to be drawn initially from existing*

church funds, with the intention to replace the excess over £5000 with grant aid money and local fund raising.

The amendment was seconded by Claire and on being put to the vote, was carried by 9 votes to 2, with Fr Mark and Angela voting against.

The amended proposal then became the substantive proposition and was again approved by 9 votes to 2, with Fr. Mark and Angela repeating their vote against.

(It was clear from the discussion, that in principle, the PCC approves additional expenditure on the church kitchen to provide further cupboard space and for the removal of the remaining bits of the old organ. However, this was not incorporated into the resolution and as there was no estimate available for either the extra cupboard space or the removal of the organ remains, this expenditure needs to be discussed and approved by the Standing Committee at its next meeting)

Resolved:

- a) **That the PCC approves the expenditure of £5000 on the kitchen in the church, which expenditure excludes the provision of a dishwasher.**
- b) **That the PCC approves the expenditure of up to £13000 (+VAT) on the Barn to make it fully DDA compliant, the money for which is to be drawn initially from existing church funds, with the intention to replace the excess over £5000 with grant aid money and local fund raising.**

51/19. Garden Party

- Posters up and banner up.
- Martin Cruttenden to do Claire's jam and plant stall (see Cake stall reference below)
- Struggling to find more volunteers for children's area. Four more needed. Mark to announce on Sunday and Claire to do note on news-sheet asking for volunteers. Possibly approach two new couples who have started to attend church.
- Noted that All Saints have their fete on the same day as the garden party
- Tables to be got out and placed at 10 a.m.
- If it rains, decamp into church.
- No-one to do the bric-a-brac stall.
- Cake stall. Are MU doing it? Jane and Gill to check. Possible combined cake/jam stall.

52/19. Flood Lighting

Fr. Mark has contacted Lee but hasn't heard back from him yet.

53/19. Working Party in church grounds.

Agreed to have a working party to clear paths of weeds on 15th June 10a.m. to 12 noon.

54/19. Direction sign

The direction sign to the parish church at Matlock Green is pointing towards Tansley. Jason to contact DCC to have it turned round.

55/19. Dates of next meeting of PCC and Standing Committee

- Standing Committee 9th July 1930 at the Rectory
- PCC 3rd September 1930 in Choir Vestry.

The meeting finished with the Grace.

Note. Following Joan's departure from the meeting during the discussion on the Meeting Space agenda item, she has apologised for the disruption caused and stated that she is resigning as Deanery Synod representative with immediate effect, because of personal reasons. She will continue to deal with safeguarding issues.