

Minutes of the Parochial Church Council, St. Peter's Draycott

Held on 01/08/2022 at 7:30 p.m. in the church

Minutes of the Parochial Church Council, St. Peter's Draycott	1
1. Opening prayers	1
2. Apologies, welcome	1
3. Additions or amendments to agenda	1
4. PCC minutes from 30/05/22- confirmation of accuracy	1
5. Brought forward and arising matters from the minutes	1
6. New matters	2
6a. Bibles for school leavers	2
6b. Alan Rowntree's talk	2
6c. Parish Survey	2
6d. Progress on works recommended by the QQS	2
6e. Archdeacon's inspection	3
6f. Heating in church	3
6g. Richard Dingley's memorial service	4
6h. Funeral	4
6i. Noticeboard	4
6j. Memorial book	4
7. Continuing matters	4
7a. Worship	4
7b. Synod	4
7c. Finance update	4
7d. Fabric update	4
7e. School	4
7f. Supporters of St Peter's	4
8. Dates	4

1. Opening prayers

Stuart opened the meeting with a reading and prayers. John took the chair. In John's absence, Thea took the chair.

2. Apologies, welcome

Present:

Stuart Burns	SB	Tricia Lumley	TL
David Cheetham	DC	Pat Mullay	PM
Gill Dury	GD	Thea Oliver	TO
Chris Green	CG		

Apologies:

John English	JE
--------------	----

3. Additions or amendments to agenda

Added: 6f, g, h, i, j.

4. PCC minutes from 30/05/22- confirmation of accuracy

The minutes from the last meeting were agreed following minor corrections and signed by TO.

5. Brought forward and arising matters from the minutes

07/09/21 #6b (Eco Church)

Nothing new; carry over

22/11/21 #6a (Benches)

- (i) Norman Brade's bench is now fixed in place and the repointing on the wall behind finished.

- (ii) Sarah Burns's bench is also now in place, currently standing on cement slabs. We must decide whether this is adequate – NB. Stuart thinks the feet shouldn't be drilled if possible.

16/02/22 #6d (Rewilding the churchyard). The mow/no-mow areas are now working as planned, as Mendip District Council (MDC) has mown twice leaving the designated no-mow area. We have a significant job in late August or early September when we will mow or strim the no-mow section and gather up the cuttings.

30/05/22 #6c (CG's readership renewal). This is now in hand – thanks to everyone for their support

30/05/22 #6d (Magazine price). Discussed but not decided at the last Rodney Stoke PCC. This should really go in the October magazine (copy deadline 13th Sept) as subscription collection begins in January. Stuart undertook to get a response from Rodney Stoke.

6. New matters

6a. Bibles for school leavers

In response to a suggestion from Samm both Draycott and Rodney Stoke had agreed to provide bibles for school leavers. Thanks to Thea for getting the bibles (and contributing a £20 voucher). We have had a donation from Roger Peel towards the cost of bibles, in memory of a relative.

6b. Alan Rowntree's talk

We had agreed to Alan's request to use the church on Friday 21st April 2023 for a talk on the history of Rodney Stoke, Draycott and Nyland, ahead of his exhibition on the 22nd in the Memorial Hall in Draycott (proceeds to go to Draycott church). SoSP would look at providing a supporting display in church.

6c. Parish Survey

We had sent our parish survey return, declaring a somewhat reduced figure of 23 (down from 26 in 2019). However we have gained members as well as lost them.

6d. Progress on works recommended by the QQS

- i. Repairing the tarmac path (a priority issue – #5.2.1 in the QQS) – is now on MDC's job list (CG met them on an inspection). They intend to replace a whole section of the path where it joins the new graveyard, which should fix the trip hazard previously identified.
- ii. Repair to vestry/ WC roof. Rob Millard had renewed the concrete flashings (as specified under QQS #2.1.2). He pointed out that the roof had sunk, and so replacement of the roof (as per #2.1.3) might eventually be needed. A first step would be to inspect the roof from inside.
- iii. An additional repair not specified in the QQS was to the hopper/downpipe immediately above the WC roof, which was leaking. Rob determined that this was corroded and carried out a temporary repair that should stop leakage onto the roof below for the moment.
- iv. Rob has also carried out various bits of repointing, outside the back door and also outside the organ chamber/ south transept (see QQS #2.4.1 – 3)
- v. CG had removed some more of the ivy growth on the boundary wall with the new graveyard – no new damage to the wall was revealed, beyond that repaired already (#5.1.1)

ACTIONS:

- a. Ask Dawson's to quote for tile replacement in the sections of roof Rob cannot reach (DC).
- b. Look at the 'areas of infestation of the altar' (3.5.1) – TO will ask Richard Oliver

- c. TO will also ask Richard Oliver if he knows how the joists are arranged on the ceiling of the WC, as an inspection panel would need to be made before any quotes can be obtained.
- d. Arrange for PAT testing – NB. Previously done by Emelia Floyd (CG).

6e. Archdeacon's inspection

Richard Neil (Area Dean) visited the church on 11th June with a long list of items to inspect (the list was circulated in advance) – met by CG who did some advance preparations. Extra signage has gone up to conform to requirements (Employer's Liability Certificate from Ecclesiastical Insurance, No Smoking, contact for church access). Photographs of church silverware were added to the inventory and pictures of other items (e.g. brassware) will be added later (CG has digital versions). The Inventory and Log Book were updated – kept in a white ring-bound folder in the safe.

The main missing document was the Terrier. This has been worked on by others (Gordon? Richard Dingley?) but there is no sign of it. Another item we need is a list of keys and key holders.

ACTION: please all look out for the terrier! Also, please respond to CG's email regarding keys.

6f. Heating in church

DC tabled this item in relation to the imminent increase in energy prices.

SWITCHING ENERGY SUPPLIER

We had approached 'Green Journeys' (the environmental energy consultant recommended by the diocese) to analyse our best switching options. The cheapest are combined electricity/ gas contracts with a three-year term, with the company 'Pozitive' the cheapest on current usage.

REDUCING ENERGY USAGE

Our main energy usage is on gas for heating. There are several things we might do to reduce this during winter months:

- i. PCC (and other) meetings could be held in people's houses
- ii. No heating for school assemblies (they would have to either come in their coats or use the school hall – NB. 4 hours heating for a 20 min assembly seems disproportionate). We would make an exception for special services such as the school Christmas concerts.
- iii. Hold joint services with Rodney Stoke and alternate use of the two churches. Stuart had put this to the Rodney Stoke PCC but they wanted to have services in St Leonard's every week.
- iv. Hold regular services in the school hall. This requires some negotiation with the school. Thea said Will Ewens was sympathetic to the idea but it needs to be discussed by the Governors.

ACTIONS:

- a. A decision on supplier switching was delegated to DC and CG, who would investigate further
- b. We agreed to PCC meetings in people's homes (item i, above)
- c. SB will revisit the 'joint services' option with Rodney Stoke PCC (iii), and also to ask them if they are happy for us to join them for some services even if they don't come to us
- d. TO will speak to school governors in the next meeting they hold, to ask them about services in the school hall (iv) and to communicate our decisions on school services in church (ii)
- e. Special measures would apply to the months of November, December, January and February, in the first instance. We need a decision in early September, to allow the service plan to be made for these months.

6g. Richard Dingley's memorial service

This would be on 27th August, and would be a family-centric affair (possibly in the churchyard and not in the church – to be finalised with the family).

6h. Funeral

TO let us know of a funeral on 19th August at 11 am.

6i. Noticeboard

In memory of her mother, TO had proposed to donate a new noticeboard to replace the old one, that was beside the gate. We had a look at the design (very similar to the one donated by Tricia Heckbert) and approved it (proposed CG, seconded TL, all in favour). We thanked Thea for the generous donation.

6j. Memorial book

This needs to be brought up to date. *ACTION*: CG to ask Nikki Devitt. NB. To cover all funerals

7. Continuing matters

7a. Worship

(nothing further).

7b. Synod

TO had not been well enough to attend the last one and TL not available.

7c. Finance update

Balances were £16,227.07 for the General Fund, and £13,057.55 for the Fabric Fund.

7d. Fabric update

Chains around the area for cremated remains – this requires a builder. *ACTION*: CG to approach Rob Millard.

7e. School

(on holiday).

7f. Supporters of St Peter's

Events will be as previously described. Additionally there will be a talk on butterflies of the Mendips by Neil Gibson on 2nd September at 7 pm.

On 1st October there will be coffee and cake followed by a ploughman's lunch (our harvest supper!)

8. Dates

Next PCC is 7th September, at 7 pm in church.

The meeting closed with the Grace, which we said together.