

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

Held on 07/09/2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the church

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1. Opening prayers

Thea opened the meeting with a reading and a prayer. John took the chair.

2. Apologies, welcome

Present:

| | | | |
|----------------|----|-------------|----|
| Stuart Burns | SB | Chris Green | CG |
| David Cheetham | DC | Pat Mullay | PM |
| Gill Dury | GD | Thea Oliver | TO |
| John English | JE | | |

Apologies:

| | |
|---------------|----|
| Tricia Lumley | TL |
|---------------|----|

3. Additions or amendments to agenda

Added: 6e, f.

4. PCC minutes from 01/08/22- confirmation of accuracy

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

5. Brought forward and arising matters from the minutes

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

Nothing new; carry over

22/11/21 #6a (Sarah Burns' bench) – we agreed to leave it as it is, for the present

16/02/22 #6d (Rewilding the churchyard). The area left un-mown over the summer has now been cut – many thanks to Richard Oliver, and also to Jeff and Tricia for raking up. NB. Richard was unable to strimm it all, at least this time – we hope Mendip might do some of this!

30/05/22 #6d (Magazine price – proposal to increase to £6 p.a.). Rodney Stoke PCC has not yet had another meeting so we can't finalise. A notice will need to go in the December/January issue. 1/08/22

#6d (Quinquennial Survey – works progress). (i) Repairs to tarmac path – this section of the path has been replaced by Mendip District Council along with another near the car park
ACTIONS (a. tiles): DC asked Dawsons who said they would have to erect scaffolding, which would be very expensive. Rob Millard didn't think that there were any gaps in tiling or water ingress, and we could let this alone for the moment. We decided to follow this advice.
(b. infestation – woodworm?) Richard and Rob inspected and thought this was probably old, not active. Recommended we don't clean under the affected panelling to see if there is new dust over the next few weeks. Gill to inform cleaners.
(c. vestry roof). Rob questions whether inspection is necessary (NB. replacement of this roof would be very expensive). Since the survey, he has identified that the hopper to the guttering immediately above the roof has rotted and was leaking onto the roof. He has done a temporary repair, and in his opinion, this is the most important problem. However, this raises issues of access, as Rob does not feel he can work on it further in safety (to himself or the roof). Stuart offered to ask the builder currently working on St Andrew's for an opinion.
(d. PAT testing). CG had contacted Rodney Stoke and Megan informed him who did their testing – but not yet when it was due. We will try to combine with Stoke if we can, if not commission this for ourselves only.

01/08/22 #6e (Actions following Archdeacon's inspection). a. TO will ask Gordon Jeff whether he knows where the Terrier might be. b. All have now replied to CG regarding church keys.

01/08/22 #6j (Memorial book). Nikki had updated this.

01/08/22 #7f (Resetting supports for chains around area for cremated remains). Rob Millard was too busy to do this but has recommended a local builder, Brian Redman. They estimate the cost at £200 (although this would not include disposal of waste concrete). We agreed to this (proposed: JE; seconded: GD; *nem. con.*). *ACTION*: CG to commission this work - they can put waste material on the current pile in the NE corner of the churchyard. We then need to look at smartening the whole area, which is looking rather sad.

6. New matters

6a. Planning to mitigate energy price rises

Some people are not keen on changing, as per previous suggestions, although the school has said they could probably allow us to using the school hall (they are checking on insurance issues). After discussion we agreed in principle to keep services scheduled normally, but to consider the following mitigations:

- i. Use the front of the nave, or use the transepts (NB. Seating is very uncomfortable in the choir)
- ii. Look at installing radiant heaters; NB. St Andrew's are going down this route.

ACTIONS: (a) Remain flexible and don't rule anything out. People may change their opinion when things get cold! (b). Keep the service rota unchanged – no service cancellation for the present. (c) Wait for St Andrew's to try out radiant heaters and then review for ourselves. We can use fan heaters in the meantime – this will still be much cheaper than the central heating (the organist will probably do this anyway).

6b. Deanery Service

After two years of cancellation, David has successfully revived this institution. The date is Sunday 23rd October (probably 6pm), at St Mary's Wedmore. We had not yet received any communication about this from the deanery, although Richard Neil is supporting it.

6c. Sing for Ukraine service

David had already asked us separately about his and Barry's idea for a 'Songs of Praise' service for which members of the local community would be asked to nominate their favourite hymns, with a word on why they had chosen them. Proceeds would go towards humanitarian aid for Ukraine. This would be on 30th October at 5pm in church. David hopes to make a selection of 20 or so. Suggestion boxes have gone to the Community Shop and church. Can we use a projector for the words?

ACTIONS: Stuart would set up the St Andrew's projector for this, and lead the service. Barry and David should continue with planning and inform Stuart of all the details on his return from the Holy Land visit. Stuart would make contact with a Ukrainian family (or families) in Cheddar to see if we could include a Ukrainian hymn. SoSP would organise (hot!) refreshments.

6d. Community service

David suggested we should dedicate a Sunday service to those who provide practical help to the running of the church but don't necessarily normally attend services (all on rotas such as cleaning and flower arranging, SoSP members and helpers, and so on). Each would have a personal invitation. The service would be a somewhat 'bespoke' version of Morning Prayer. The PCC backed the idea, and Stuart said he wanted to be involved (it would be good if Thea and Chris could also play roles). We decided that Advent Sunday, November 27th, might be the best, and ideally it should be at a later time – 10 or 10:30.

ACTIONS. We need a subcommittee to take this forward –David, Thea, Chris and Stuart suggested. Gill to provide Thea with details of rotas, and Thea to draw up an invitation list. Add to the benefice service rota (Stuart will raise this at the forthcoming clergy meeting). Suggest we offer a glass of wine as part of the refreshments afterwards. The committee will meet to plan further immediately after the Ukraine service.

6e. Co-opting more PCC members

David indicated that both Barry Rose and Roger Peel might be willing to come on the PCC if asked, and proposed we invite them. Both have much to contribute and our numbers are getting too small. Thea seconded and we agreed *nem. con.* *ACTION:* CG would write to them both.

6f. Timing of PCC

Can we consider a still earlier time for the PCC meeting, of 6pm, which some of us would find easier? Thea could make this if it were not a Monday, when she works later. Tricia works on Thursdays and has Mendip Players on Wednesday, so a Tuesday would be best. *ACTION:* we agreed to experiment with this for our next meeting at least. Pat must be allowed to leave by 7 pm so anything for her input should be put early in the meeting.

7. Continuing matters

7a. Worship

(nothing further).

7b. Synod

(no meetings since our last PCC).

7c. Finance update

Balances were £18,786.87 for the General Fund, and £13,842.40 for the Fabric Fund.

7d. Fabric update

(nothing further).

7e. School

Collective worship day has been changed to Monday. Thea will do something different on Thursday when she is on the rota.

Stuart was pleased to note that there were children from both Draycott and Rodney Stoke at the Holiday Club in Cheddar.

7f. Supporters of St Peter's

The walking treasure hunt took place on a lovely day – many thanks to Janette and Kevin for hosting the BBQ. Neil Gibson's butterfly talk last Friday was very good and well attended (60).

The 1st October coffee and cake will be followed by the St Peter's Harvest Lunch in the church – 12-13:30 (a Ploughman's Lunch). Please bring offerings for the Sisters of the Church. Next coffee and cake as normal on 5th November.

On December 3rd the Coffee and Cake will be followed by a soup lunch (12- 13:30), alongside the Advent Festival. The theme this year is Christmas Trees made from recycled materials, so please get creative! Further details from Karen Percival (01749 870067)

The Holy Rollers had a good summer skittles, playing 14 games and winning 6. The star player was Chris Fulton who got the cup for highest ladies' score (52). Mary Watt rolled a '16 spare' on her first time playing. Thank you to all the team and supporters. And thank you to Mike and Lori for hosting, and donating £800 to church funds.

The meeting thanked SoSP for all their work and fundraising.

8. Dates

Next PCC is 1st November, at the earlier time of **6 pm**. We also agreed that this would be in The Den, Cheddar, as although we were happy to meet in each other's houses, any of us might struggle to accommodate the numbers if all (including those co-opted) were to attend. We shall share lifts where possible.

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