

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

*Held on 27/03/2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the Benefice Office, Cheddar*

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 15/02/23	1
5. Brought forward and arising matters from the minutes	1
6. New matters	2
6a. APCM reports	2
6b. Any other APCM matters	2
6c. Organ matters	2
6d. Magazine	3
7. Continuing matters	3
7a. Worship	3
7b. Synod	3
7c. Finance update	3
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 a prayer. John took the chair.

## **2. Apologies, welcome**

*Present:*

Stuart Burns	SB	Chris Green	CG	Roger Peel	RP
David Cheetham	DC	Tricia Lumley	TL		
Gill Dury	GD	Thea Oliver	TO		
John English	JE				

*Apologies:*

Please note that both Pat Mullay and Barry Rose have now left the PCC.

## **3. Additions or amendments to agenda**

Additional item – 6d.

## **4. PCC minutes from 15/02/23**

The minutes from the last meeting were agreed (signing deferred as a fair copy not available)

## **5. Brought forward and arising matters from the minutes**

16/02/22 #6d (Rewilding the churchyard) JE requested a get-together of the Draycott Churchyard Management Group. *ACTION:* CG

10/01/23 #6d. Altar frontals. Best place for storage would be behind the choir stalls on the side opposite the organ. Needs a hanging space with a shelf above to shield them from dust. NB. The red frontal can't be used any more.

*ACTION:* TL will ask Jeff to have a look at the hanging space and come up with a solution.

GD will ask Heather Robinson for advice on what to do with the red frontal.

10/01/23 #6e. (Deanery Choral service). DC confirmed a 6 pm start time (NB. Judith's rota had the wrong time). SoSP has agreed to provide a tea at 5pm.

15/02/23 #6a (Re-imagining Abridge Deanery). There had been another meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March. Each parish had a 2-minute presentation. Thea read hers to the meeting, and gave further background. The deanery is looking further at all the responses.

The steering committee would like more lay volunteer members. Stuart will be involved, and thought that all the stipendiaries should also be included.

There was no legal precedent for the 'mission' model proposed. SB thought that a 'cross-licensing' arrangement was the most probable, where all clergy were licensed in each other's benefices.

15/02/23 #6c (Filling churchwarden and secretary vacancies). CG has been working on a hand-over list but this was not yet complete. NB. A plan needs to be in place in time for the APCM.

The following probably need to be involved: DC, JE, TL, GD, RP, CG.

DC had drawn up a list of broad headings and circulated them. The following division of responsibilities was suggested as a starting point (to be discussed at a meeting of those named):

Churchyard: JE; Building (exterior): Richard Oliver; Building: Interior (including Sacristan duties): GD; Insurance, electricity, gas, water: DC; Public face: RP; Legal reports (such as Parish Survey, other statutory requirements): TL. NB. The named people would be responsible for organising the different tasks, not for carrying them out. This 'committee' arrangement will be communicated with the diocese, emphasising that it is a stop-gap until the positions can be filled.

*ACTION:* The above people will arrange to meet before the APCM and draw up a proposal.

10/01/23 #7c. (Deposit a/c). Not actioned yet

10/01/23 #7f. (Big breakfast). 3rd June, morning; for Christian Aid fundraising

10/01/23 #7g ii. (Pat Mullay). CG to write and thank her for her years of service on the PCC

## **6. New matters**

### **6a. APCM reports**

The following reports were agreed, to be prepared by the person indicated:

#### *Statutory:*

Electoral Roll- JE; Covenants- JE; PCC Proceedings- CG; Churchwarden's Fabric Report- CG; Financial report and accounts- DC; Deanery Synod- TO

#### *Non-statutory:*

Worship- CG; Safeguarding- TO; School- Nikki Devitt; Health & Safety- Richard Oliver; SoSP – TL; Magazine- Rob Walker

#### *ACTIONS:*

Reports to be submitted to CG at least a week beforehand (20<sup>th</sup> April)

### **6b. Any other APCM matters**

Any publicity of the APCM needs to be put out at least 2 weeks prior to the meeting.

*ACTION:* CG to put up notices and also give one to Samm in the benefice office.

Stuart will be at a school governor's meeting and join us after at about 7:30 pm.

### **6c. Organ matters**

- i. Brian Hooper has been our organ repairer, but he is retiring on health grounds.

Liam Davis is his assistant, who will continue with the business. DC would like to appoint him as our new organ repairer. He is very competent. The PCC agreed.

- ii. DC thought he needed to be closer to the congregation to lead the music, so is playing the piano more. Is this acceptable? The PCC agreed.
- iii. DC will be on holiday in early May. This will not affect the first Sunday (7<sup>th</sup>) as this is a benefice service. On the 14<sup>th</sup> Ian Ames-White will play, as usual. NB. JE also agreed to play when needed.
- iv. DC doesn't like to play for weddings partly because he feels the fee is too high. SB approved him lowering the fee to the amount charged for funerals. NB. Would Joanne be prepared to step in for weddings and funerals if others were not available?  
*ACTION:* TO or CG will ask her

## **6d. Magazine**

Rob Walker has told Stuart that he wishes to step down as editor of the church magazine, although he would be prepared to continue until the end of this year. He suggested greater alignment between this magazine and that of Cheddar (more articles in common etc.). However it might be better to merge them outright, with the combined magazine having dedicated space for the different villages as well as common material. Would we be willing to support this? TO proposed acceptance, TL seconded. All were in favour.

*ACTION:* SB will ask the other PCCs and if they agreed, it would be looked into for next year

## **7. Continuing matters**

### **7a. Worship**

- i. SB asked the PCC whether they were willing for children to be offered communion (of one kind). SB has done this in previous churches. We also did this under John Hall, a previous incumbent. CG proposed acceptance of this, JE seconded; all agreed.

*ACTION:* SB will ask other PCCs as it is best (though not essential) if we are aligned. Some commitment from parents is needed, which SB would arrange

- ii. Bishop Michael is licensing Thea as Associate Priest on 29<sup>th</sup> June in St Andrew's. The village hall in Cheddar is booked for a party afterwards. SB asked TL if she would help organise catering for this – she agreed.

### **7b. Synod**

(see previous item under 'Matters Arising')

### **7c. Finance update**

- i. There was £20,318.23 in the General Fund and £15,066.90 in the Fabric Fund.
- ii. DC wanted to request a new parish survey from Matthew Pinnock in the diocese as our current parish share is based on outdated (pre-Covid) attendance figures, leading to an inflated parish share for our church. TO proposed acceptance, GD seconded; all were in favour.
- iii. The opinion was expressed that more transparency is needed over the relative prioritisation of different items of expenditure. Ideally we should agree a budget for the year ahead and the parish share should take its place among other essential items, not necessarily have pride of place as at present. DC responded that on taking on the treasurer's job, he told us he would not do this type of budgeting – this would be up to others.

#### **7d. Fabric update**

TO had sourced a reredos light but the other one had failed now. Jeff Monks was looking at it. CG pointed out the cause of the background hum in the sound system last Sunday (gain of the auxiliary input channel had been raised and not returned back).

#### **7e. School**

Collective worship was in the school hall for the moment. TO will be with them this week, on Thursday as she cannot cover Mondays. Currently Thea, Stuart, Ruth and Nikki are still sharing this. SB said Nikki will be greatly missed when she leaves - the children are very fond of her.

#### **7f. Supporters of St Peter's**

The curry night was very successful and raised £480.90

For the Jumble sale on the 29<sup>th</sup> April, please drop off for items to sell is from 10am at the Strawberry Special pub. It starts at 2 pm.

On May, coffee and cake will happen as usual on May 6<sup>th</sup>, but the Big Breakfast is deferred until June 3<sup>rd</sup> (to avoid a clash with the Coronation).

#### **8. Dates**

The APCM will be on April 27<sup>th</sup> (Thursday) at 7:30pm, with Compline beforehand at 7:15. A date for the next PCC will be set immediately after the open meeting by the new PCC.

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