

## **Minutes of Bemerton PCC Meeting Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2017**

**Present:** Terri Seaton, , Mike Bird, Hilary Bird, Debbie Ford, Pauline Townshend, Colin Frayling, Gillian Newton, Simon Woodley, Derek Townshend, Neil Robinson, Frank Pessell; Helen Pessell, Laurence Newton, Howard Tranter, Nicky Hanc. (Also 2 interpreters)

**Apologies** Susan Drewett; Robyn Golden-Hann

### **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting 5<sup>th</sup> September were signed as a true record

Safeguarding training was discussed with an update from the PCC on whether they had completed the on line course. Terri, Mike, Hilary, Colin and Laurence will undertake to do this as soon as possible.

Colin reported that the decoration of St Michael's should start around 10<sup>th</sup> January, the current faculty has been extended and the fire doors will be completed as part of this project. The need for extra work to be carried out whilst the scaffolding is up was discussed but this will incur extra costs. The need will be discussed by the fabric team.

The car park is completed and thanks were given to Colin and David Drewett for the planning and completion of the replacement tarmac.

Hilary reported that the cupboards for St Andrews has been approved in principle although improved drawings were required, the magnolia at St John's was also approved and there was no objection to the notice boards.

Hilary also reported that the Commonwealth War Graves Commission have a Faculty to place a notice that St John's Churchyard has some war graves in it on the boundary of the churchyard. The PCC discussed the best position for this and agreed that the preferred choice was on the gate pillar at the more easterly gate. If this is not acceptable as it is considered to be attaching it to historic fabric, on a post adjacent to this gate pillar would be the second choice.

A seat is to be installed in St John's Churchyard in memory of Marjorie Grant. Bemerton Community have proposed that it is placed on the triangle of grass to the south of the nave and west of the porch. The PCC approved this position, agreed that this should be a traditional all wooden one like the one near the magnolia and the decision on whether or not to fix it to the ground should be agreed with Bemerton Community. The wording on the memorial plate attached to the seat will be agreed by the Standing Committee in discussion with Marjorie's relatives.

These were approved unanimously

### **Jubilee and Harvest Review**

Since we last met St Michaels's 60<sup>th</sup> Jubilee had been celebrated along with several Harvest festivals. The events were all successful and comment was made about the number of visitors who had enjoyed the display of flowers and photographs in St Michaels. It was decided to keep all the memorabilia from the displays in an 'Exhibition' box so they can be used again. The display will remain up in St Michael's until the church is decorated.

**Treasurer's report (Circulated prior to meeting)**

Gill reported that through having a legacy and gifts during the year we will end the year with a 7,400 deficit as opposed to the 13,000 we thought. The proposed budget for next year was then discussed and even with a reduction in Parish Share we still realistically look to have a deficit of 14,300. This is obviously not ideal and analyzing the numbers further savings cannot reduce the deficit much further. The answer is to have more people in the congregation giving regularly, this will involve an emphasis on Mission.

We have currently spent 33,130 of the 168,600 given to us with another 25,400 being budgeted for the decoration.

Gill was thanked for her work and clarity of explanation and the budget was approved unanimously

### **Community Centre Update**

Ineta is working well as Centre Manager and with Sandie's help making sense of the accounts. There are still rooms available to hire especially during the day. Terri reported that turnover in the café is increasing again.

### **Parish Audit**

Simon reminded those who have not completed their parish audit tasks to return them to him as soon as possible please.

### **Servery Discussion**

Simon discussed the 2 options of where to place the server namely either where it is at present or at the left hand side of the church.

Discussion took place in church when both options could be visualized more easily. It became apparent that the majority opinion was that it was a temporary measure and that no more than 10,000 should be spent on it. Colin was asked to see what would be possible for this budget and that if a suitable server for this budget could not be found we should consider enhancing what we already have.

It was thought that the main cost lay in providing a water supply.

Simon asked that the PCC should discuss the server with the wider congregation to seek their opinion.

### **Equal Opportunities Policy**

This was overdue for review and it was decided to leave the policy without change. 13 members of the PCC were in agreement with one opposed and one abstention.

### **Foundation Governors**

Nicky Hanc is seeking reappointment for a further 4 year term, this was agreed unanimously Nicola Summerill a worshipper at the Vineyard Church was also approved as was Sarah Burley a parent who is also a confirmed Christian. These were also approved unanimously. Helen will complete the paperwork.

### **Ali's Licensing**

This is on 30<sup>th</sup> November at Pottern. Simon asked for those going to indicate if they had spare seats to take those who were not driving. There will be a list at the back of church.

### **Any Other Business**

1. Neil reported on the Deaf Mission in October and left a written report for those interested. The visit went really well. The team met many deaf people and spoke about

he gospel. The experience was good and helped Neil to stay focused and listen to God and was a time of growth for all concerned.

2. The PCC was asked to approve the extension of Susan's license for a further 2 years. This was agreed by all with thanks.
3. The Parish weekend at home will be on March 16<sup>th</sup> 2018
4. Colin reported that the window surrounds in church will be re-concreted shortly
5. A quote has been obtained for a handrail for the path from the community centre to the Trussell trust shop.
6. It was wondered whether a sign should put the car park saying it is private and we take no responsibility for accidents **(Simon to Action)**
7. The welcome pack will go with the Christmas Card and the December Magazine

## Future Dates

- Nov 14<sup>th</sup> Prayer night at St Michael's
- Dec 5<sup>th</sup> Standing Committee (drinks in White Horse)
- Dec 12<sup>th</sup> Prayer night at St Michael's
- Jan 9<sup>th</sup> PCC
- Jan 16<sup>th</sup> Prayer night at St Michael's
- Feb 6<sup>th</sup> Standing Committee
- Feb 13<sup>th</sup> Pancake evening then Prayer night at St Michael's
- Feb 14<sup>th</sup> Ash Wednesday
- March 6<sup>th</sup> PCC