



WARFIELD PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held at 7.45pm on Tuesday 16th January 2024

at St Andrew's Church, Priestwood Ct Rd, Priestwood Ave, Bracknell RG42 1TU

Present: Paul Allen (PA); Gaynor Boulton (GB); David Brown (DB); Penny Brinkley-Brown (PB); Andy Colpus (APC); David Chislett (DC); Chris Drage (CD); Alex Fry (AF); Beth Gomm (BG); Ashley Hill (AH); Catharine Mabuza (Chair; CM); Kevin Pearcey (KP).

In attendance: Sarah Colpus (Appointed during the meeting as Interim PCC Secretary) and Phil Durbin.

Apologies: Lili Mirza; Amanda Palethorpe; Michelle Porter-Babbage; David Ritchie; Gary Rivington; Kate Tyson; Jon Watts.

Resignations: Catriona Cappleman and Abi Howell.

| | | Action by | Target Date |
|------|---|--------------|----------------|
| 24.1 | Opening The meeting opened with a reflection from 1Kings 3. | | |
| 24.2 | Appointment of Interim PCC Secretary CM advised that following Helen Francis standing down as PCC Secretary, CM has advertised for a for a new person to take on the role. Until a new person is appointed, Sarah Colpus (SEC) has offered to act as Interim PCC Secretary. Phil Durban as observer at the meeting CM advised that Phil Durbin (PD) is in attendance as an observer of the meeting as he has been nominated for the position of Churchwarden. She proposed that he be allowed to observe and speak, and those present agreed. | | |
| 24.3 | Declarations of interests It will be noted on the register that Sarah Colpus is married to Andy Colpus. | SEC | 20.2.24 |
| 24.4 | Where have we seen God at work? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bishop Steven's email was encouraging as he highlighted that attendance figures for the services across the diocese were up on the previous year marking a return of attendance in churches post Covid.• The last St Andrew's prayer meeting was attended by 19 people, and it is encouraging to see the interest in the life and mission of St Andrew's.• Warfield Church North mini-series on prayer. CM used coloured beads as an aide memoire which was very helpful, particularly as people made their own and took them home.• The increased attendance at Warfield Christmas services including, in particular, the attendance at the | | |

Bereavement Carol Service.

- Following prayer throughout the autumn term, the positive response to Giving Sunday (see para 24.6 below)

24.5 Minutes from meetings on 25 November 2023 and 2 December 2023

(i) 25 November 2023

Subject to the correction of 13.1.54 to 23.1.54

Proposed by: PA Seconded by: AH

Approved

(ii) 2 December 2023

Para 23.156 refers to a 'statement attached'. This was not attached. Subsequent to the meeting, matters changed. It was agreed that a note be attached to the minutes to document this and that the statement would not be attached to the minutes.

SEC/ 20.2.24
CM

Proposed by: CD Seconded by: GB

Approved

(iii) Matters Arising

1. The Parish Share

This will be reduced by £40,000 to £50,000. The final figure is to be finalised shortly.

2. The appointment of a second Churchwarden

CM reported that the matter is progressing.

3. Decisions made outside of PCC meetings by email:

- a. Service Patterns for January and February
- b. Memorial stone for the Late Jean Hood

Action:

SEC will add these to the register of decisions made

SEC 20.2.24

24.6 Budget 2024

CD took the PCC through his report, drawing attention to the recent changes.

Income:

- One off gifts of £16,000
- CCLA Investment Fund performance in Q4 made a leap in value
- Giving Sunday resulted in an increase of £22,500 p.a.
- Prospective grants available
- Interest on interest bearing a/c

Costs:

- The Parish Share will be reduced and it is noted that CD awaits the precise figure.
- It is noted that in relation to the rest of the Deanery, the share of each church is not affected by changes to the shares of other churches.
- David Ritchie leaving will reduce costs
- There will be a small deficit of £9,000 (compared to a projected deficit in November of £90,000)
- CD is aware that financial giving may be negatively affected by people leaving to join David Ritche and he has

made an estimated figure for this

- It was agreed that this, and the effect of decisions regarding LLF made in May, are potential 'risks' and should be noted on the Risk Register.

At the November meeting, the PCC agreed to move all the money in the CCLA Fund into a high interest account. In the light of the CCLA Fund's greatly improved performance there was discussion regarding this decision. There was also discussion regarding the need to consider financial parameters such as short-term v long-term goals and attitude to risk. DC suggested advice was available from the diocese.

Proposal: to rescind the PCC Decision of Paragraph 23.148 to move all the funds in the CCLA Investment fund to a high interest account.

Proposed: AH Seconded: GB
Approved.

Action:

It was requested that CD and the finance team do further research and bring a paper to the PCC .

CD

20.2.24

Approval of the Budget 2024

Subject to the following caveats:

1. The figure for the Parish Share being amended
2. The figure for Recruitment being increased to £1,500

Proposed: CD Seconded: KP
Approved

The PCC wish to thank Chris Drage and Alison Wilkins for all their work in connection with the Budget for 2024

24.7

LLF Process update

CM had sent an email to all Warfield members outlining the meetings to be held. She emphasised that, because it is the PCC who will be making decisions regarding LLF, she would like each PCC member to view the three meetings as important as a PCC meeting, and to model to the rest of the church that all aspects of the topic be heard.

Each speaker has agreed that their input be recorded and be available to Warfield Church members.

The Q and A will not be recorded, and the meetings will not be open to non Warfield Church members i.e. members of other churches.

AH asked if members will be able to email questions. This will be actioned.

DGB

23.1.24

CM will chair the first meeting; DGB the subsequent meetings. Questions can be submitted on paper prior to the meeting or by

email.

There was discussion as to the status of PCC members. It was noted that their decision is their own – they do not have to ‘represent’ the views of a particular group of members.

The church website does have a list of the PCC members, if church members wish to contact them.

AF asked what the basis was for the choice of speakers. DGB and CM made the choices. Jodi Stowell and Sean Doherty are known to a degree by CM.

- Both are members of General Synod
- Both are members of formed groups representing parts of the spectrum of views
- Both position themselves as evangelical (clarified as ‘self-identifying’ as evangelical.)
- CM felt both had an engaging manner.

It had been stated that the decision regarding LLF ‘would be in the life of this PCC’ i.e. before the next APCM.

There will be no PCC Election before the decision and the APCM will be delayed until 21 May 2024.

APC and CM will consider the rules regarding the casual vacancies created by the resignation of Catriona Cappleman and Abi Howell.

CM &
APC

20.2.24

24.8

Vacancy process

CM referred the PCC to the minutes of the November meeting and the email link to the Diocesan website.

Points to note:

1. The bishop has power to delay the start of a vacancy. Bishop Olivia has agreed to delay the start of the vacancy until 1 June. The significance of this is that, when a vacancy lasts more than 12 months, the process becomes legally more complicated. Since it would be good for the LLF process to be completed before recruitment can start, this gives extra time.
2. Correspondence
It was noted for the record that a letter had been received from Darren Oliver, Register of the Diocese.

24.9

Changes to the Service Patterns

DGB provided a briefing paper in the meeting pack.

DGB noted that the plan was for the Together Services to be as follows:

February: Warfield Church North - St Michael's

March: Warfield Church East - Whitegrove

April: Easter Services at St Michael's

May: Warfield Church West – Woodhurst

BG set out a proposed plan for Children's provision during the Together Services following discussion with congregational teams. She proposes 'All Starz Together' to take place whilst the Together Services take place.

DGB suggested that he will preach at the Together Service and one other service in each congregation per month. The Archdeacon has suggested that on one Sunday a month there could be a different pattern such as a Social Action Sunday or testimonies to replace the sermon. This leaves teams with just one Sunday to cover

Proposed: DGB Seconded: PA
Agreed

24.10

St Andrew's Subcommittee Update

APC updated that the architect, Mark Goodwill-Hodgson, had been sent digital copies of the original architect's drawings; the structural engineer had completed a site visit and the heating engineer had completed a site visit.

APC shared the architect's initial thoughts and drawings. There was discussion regarding opportunities for use of the church and others such as Share Bracknell.

APC outlined the next steps were for the quantity surveyor to cost the work and the heating engineer to produce her report.

APC was thanked for his work in progressing this.

24.11

Portia Grove

APC emphasized that if the PCC decides to sell Portia Grove, it will need to give notice to the current tenant.

The sale of Portia Grove is a separate matter to work on St Andrew's. If no member of the PCC wishes to take on the role of managing Portia Grove, then the future of ownership must be discussed.

CD commented that the commitment of being a landlord is likely to become more strenuous.

CM urged the PCC to think and pray ready for the next discussion of the matter

24.12

Future Meeting of the PCC

The next PPC 'business meeting' is on Tuesday 23 April which will be a lengthy meeting as LLF will be discussed and the APCM.

Proposed to hold a meeting on Tuesday 20 February instead of the meeting scheduled for 12 March.

The PCC secretary will send a list of amended dates.

SEC

20.2.24

- 24.14 Vicar's matters
CM expressed her concern regarding the workload of DGB and the Churchwarden.
DGB advised of a conversation between himself and Bishop Olivia where she set out her requirements for him to take:
- one Quiet Day per month
 - one week Retreat per year
 - ensure Annual leave is booked
 - Evening of Thursday to be kept as free as possible
 - Friday to be DGB's day off
 - Morning of Saturday to be kept as free as possible
 - Every month to take a second day off so that he and Anne can go away
- CM proposes a similar conversation with APC and the second churchwarden.
CM reminded the PCC that the churchwardens are not available 24/7 and the vacancy was an additional burden.
- CM expressed her thanks to the PCC as it was her last PCC meeting; her thanks to DGB for 'stepping up' which made her departure easier and her thanks to APC for shouldering the burden of being a single Churchwarden.
- 24.15 Churchwardens' matters
APC expressed his thanks to CM on behalf of all the PCC members for the enormous amount of work that CM has put in – mostly unseen – and wished her all the best for her new post of Archdeacon in the Guildford Diocese.
- APC also wished to express his thanks to Michelle Porter-Babbage and David Ritchie for their service to Warfield Church and the PCC.
- 24.16 AOB
None
- 24.17 Review of the Meeting
GB was pleased that wellbeing had been talked about and given serious consideration.
- 24.18 Safeguarding update
Report of January 2024 noted
- 24.19 Electoral roll officer update
Report of 14 January 2024 noted
- 24.20 Offsite activities
None reported
- 24.21 Standing Committee Meeting held on 10 January 2024
Minutes of the meeting attached

24.22 Mission Subcommittee

24.23 Fabric Subcommittee

24.24 Income working party

St Andrew's Subcommittee

Minutes of the meeting in November 2023 attached

24.24 Close

The meeting closed with prayer.

Chair:

Date: