

Minutes of the meeting of the PCC of Milborne Port held on Tuesday 19th July 2022 at 7.00 pm in The Lady Chapel

Those present – Chair: Nicki Edwards (NE), Linda Mumford (LM), Richard Redman (RR), Anne Salkeld (AS), Graham Sharpless (GS), Susan Wales (SW)

Apologies - Elaine Ennis-Bunt (EE-B), Harold Clarke, Mary Clothier (MC), Pat Elliott (PE), June Goodman (JG) David Grant (DG), Jacquie Hall (JH), Robert Hall (RH), Trevor John (TJ), Amanda Mackintosh

NE opened the meeting with prayer.

Approval of Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday 17th May 2022 – these had been previously circulated and were signed as a true record with no amendments.

David Grant had recently been in contact with NE and JH. He is now on the Parish Council, which also meets on a Tuesday. He would like to remain as a member of the PCC, and has joined the Charity and Mission Committee, but he will be unable to attend a PCC meeting if it clashes with a PC meeting. NE therefore suggested that consideration be given to this when the 2023 meeting dates are arranged.

Matters arising from minutes – NE had received an update from TJ regarding the provision of a Broadband connection into church. All that is required now is a 'booster' to access the signal from Church House, where a connection has successfully been set up. There has been to date no luck in finding a new treasurer. Various avenues were discussed, but no firm conclusion was reached. GS raised the question of whether to produce an annual budget, but, as NE emphasised, if this were to happen, it would need to be after discussion with any new treasurer.

Milborne Wick – AM had tendered her apologies. NE confirmed that a special licence had been obtained, and that a wedding was to take place at Wick on the last Saturday in August.

Finance update – In his absence, RH had sent through a brief summary of the present position to 15-7-22: NatWest PCC Main Account - £65,011.42; NatWest Benefice Account - £5,708.54; Lloyds Fees Account - £6,685.67; Deposit Account - Unsure of the precise balance. The third quarter of the Parish Share is due to be paid out any day now amounting to £10K plus payment, which is the same value as the 2nd Quarter. The Benefice Account had paid out £941.12 for the advertisement for a new priest, and £110.97 in expenses for hosting the last candidate. There is some dispute with the Diocese and Peter Jackson Funeral Directors for what RH considers to be under payment for the 'Burial Of Ashes in a Cemetery on a Separate Occasion'. As a result, Rev Diane Barrett has yet to be paid. RH has received the fees for the upcoming wedding at Milborne Wick. The PCC element will be accrued to the Wick Sub-Account in our ledger and RH will submit the Diocesan Fees in the Q3 return on Wick's behalf. RH was unable to submit a tax refund claim to HMRC before he left for holiday. He confirmed that he will start the preparation on his return, and would ask Wick to be pro-active in providing their financial details if they wish him to claim on their behalf. **(AM – PLEASE NOTE)**

NE confirmed that the church now possesses a Sum Up machine, together with a dedicated mobile phone, which has been generously donated by a parishioner. This will be invaluable in receiving cashless/contactless payments.

Fabric update – In her absence, JH advised that: 1) Daniel Kempf will be returning for a few days in the autumn to finish off the pointing of the North wall of the North Transept (the Choir vestry); 2) that there had been no progress on the purchase of two new infra-red heaters for Lady Chapel. The last quote from Jim Brooks Electrical in May was that it would cost £1, 080 to replace and install them both, so she is attempting to find an alternative solution.

Vacancy – The garden belonging to the new Vicarage will require some maintenance, and this will be carried out by Mark Pattemore. The office conversion is yet to be completed. Two candidates have been shortlisted, and the tour of the Benefice will take place on Wednesday 27th July, with interviews being completed on Thursday 28th July.

Forthcoming events – Church Fete – all the stalls are now manned with additional offers of help. TJ will open with a short talk on the Wilder Churchyard project. More Draw tickets will need to be sold to match previous years. Harvest: 25th September. Open Day 24th September with the theme “Childhood Memories”. Christmas Tree Festival – this will coincide with The SoMP lights’ switch on that will be centred around church. The trees will remain up all week. Organ Recital – AS will contact Paul Ellis with a view to 22nd October. Harvest Supper - 30th September in Church House (tbc).

Foodshare – EEB had submitted a report in advance of the meeting. A discussion followed as to how to make more people aware that this is happening, with, although short notice, the possibility of a stall at the forthcoming fete to promote this vital initiative. Harvest/Open Day could also provide opportunities to promote this.

Churchyard – SW reported that members of the Grasshoppers group meet on alternative Thursdays. TJ and SW had met with Sarah Warren, who was delighted at the results thus far. She has made suggestions as to how to mow for the fete, and the continued maintenance of the areas going into winter. Dog mess – despite there being a dedicated bin in Church St, some dog owners are not clearing up after their pet.

Safeguarding – nothing to report.

Health and Safety - nothing to report.

AOB – LM provided an update on the most recent Deanery meeting. The situation is that clergy numbers have to reduce by 1.5 over the next 5 years. The emphasis will be on Focussed Ministry whereby Lay People will be encouraged to take on roles for which a priest is not necessarily needed. LM sees that nothing is likely to change within the next year, and that there is no time line for this change, so there is time for discussion to assess the best way forward. A discussion followed about how to develop as a church community.

Dates of next meetings - Tuesday 20th September, Tuesday 8th November

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20.08.