



Minutes of PCC Meeting
Tuesday 11th May 2021 at 19:30
On Zoom

Present: Howard Wright, Jonathan Rooke, David Duffin, Andrew Walters, David Craigen, Vicky Efstathiou, Janet Foster, Rich Gillard, Pip Hughes, Timothy James, Pam Maloney, Bob Meekums, Abi Mezzullo, Mike Saltmarsh, Howard Short, Jill Williams, Lorna Littlewood (guest), Jane Hughes (guest), David Williams (secretary).

1. Welcome and Apologies

Howard welcomed the complete team to the third meeting of 2021.
There were no apologies.

Action

2. Worship & Prayer

Howard read Psalm 100 which describes why we worship. God made us, and we are His.
Andy, Jill, Lorna and Howard then led us in prayer.

3. Declarations of (financial) Interest

None.

4. PCC – 2nd March 2021

- a. Approval of Minutes of the Meeting of 2nd March – approved.
- b. Approval of Confidential Minute of the Meeting of 2nd March – approved
- c. Matters Arising from Previous Meetings:
Historically, minutes of PCC meetings were posted in the church porch. This has not been feasible during the pandemic. Should we post a summary, or complete minutes, on the website (as Medstead do)?

DW

5. APM and APCM

- a. Approval of Minutes of the meetings of 20th April – approved.
- b. Matters arising: subject to tidying of the document to remove review marks, the document was approved.

6. Diocesan Restructuring – progress report

A meeting between Howard, the five members of the PCC of St Andrew's Medstead and one other had been encouraging. It was followed by two larger meetings of about 25 Medstead parishioners each with Howard, David Craigen and Vicky Efstathiou at the first, Howard, Jonathan Rooke and Jill Williams at the second.

At the larger meetings there had been a healthy emphasis on 'us together' rather than 'them-and-us' at all the meetings. Howard had outlined the time to be taken over staged consultations over the next eight months or so and emphasised that the proposals were by no means a 'done deal'. He had then asked for questions from the floor.

Questions had been positive in nature. Jonathan had gained the impression that the Medstead congregation had initially felt abandoned, and Jill sensed fear that they might lose their identity as a traditional church in a smaller community than the proposed benefice.

It was noted that financial arrangements were not raised in either of the parishioners' meetings. However, there are clear differences in approach to church finances which will eventually need to be worked through.

Concerns about the proposals might exist in both churches and it was suggested that COGS parishioners might appreciate a similar meeting with opportunity to ask questions.

7. Questions from the PCC & Ministry Leaders' Update.

Document *PCC & Ministry Leaders' Update – 4th May 2021* already circulated.

Discussion on Pastoral Reorganisation covered in item 6 above.

Lorna (Youth and Children) and Jane (Family) spoke about their respective past activities and future plans.

8. Future Strategy Team progress report

There are four steps planned:

- a. The team had met with the Staff team and will meet the Ministry Leaders shortly. So far they have received 21 online responses to their survey and a number also responded to the three Zoom consultations.
- b. They are in the process of collating the responses.
- c. They are looking to discover what are the generally agreed priorities for further development. It is recognised that these may also be affected by discussions over Pastoral Reorganisation.
- d. A report will be brought to the PCC as soon as possible.

9. Finance.

2021 status – Doc: PCC Finance Summary Jan_April 2021.pdf

- a. After four months we are overall slightly ahead of budget forecast, but this conceals a running deficit for the last three, as some regular givers have now moved away.
- b. To be able to live-stream our services we will need to invest in new technology. We are advised to buy good equipment to enable the resulting broadcasts to be of suitable quality, but to be aware of the cost implications.

10. Teams

- a. Personnel: As Alison Frater's term of office has ended, we need an additional member of the team. **HW**
- b. Building. Nothing to report.
- c. Ministry Leaders. ditto.
- d. Mission Team. ditto.

11. Safeguarding

PCC received an update on ongoing case.

12. Health and Safety.

Two documents already circulated: a general report and an inspection report of issues to be address. The contents of both were noted. **HW**
DD

13. Any Other Business.

- a. Further to item 4c: it was agreed that minutes could be published after the Standing Team has excluded any confidential material.
- b. Westlands has invited COGS to restart regular visits and informal services from July when it will be considered safe to do so.

14. Date of next meeting: 13 July 2021 @ 7.30pm.

Howard concluded the meeting with prayer at 9.30pm.
