

THE PARISH OF CENTRAL EXETER

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parochial Church Council on Wednesday 18th July 2018, St Petrock's Church

Present: Keith Walton (chair) Richard Skinner Mary Keaney
John Dobson Sue Blow Celia Smith
Sheila Swarbrick Averil Swanton Jessica Claridge

1. Welcome and Prayer:

Keith welcomed everyone to the meeting and Sheila read a collect from the Hungarian church.

2. Apologies:

Michael Hall, Betsy Allen, Sarah Branton and Don Branton

3. Minutes of the last meeting.

The minutes of the last meeting held on Wednesday 23rd May 2018 were amended (second charity name added to point 12), accepted and signed by Keith.

4. Matters Arising

An account has been set up with Shared Interest.

5. Parish Activities

5.1 Services

Sunday 29th July Bob Burn to take service in St Olave's at 9.30am

Sunday 5th August Tony Raven is to conduct this service with Dorothy Raven to play the piano. It is also Bob and Isabel Burn's Diamond wedding anniversary.

Sunday 12th August an informal service to be held in St Mary Arches using Unlimited Church's liturgy. Peter Harflett to play the organ.

Sunday 19th August Caroline Cornish to play music

Sunday 26th August all musicians absent so service will be unaccompanied

Sunday 30th September Harvest service in St Petrock's with Harvest lunch in St Stephen's. Steve Chown from Exeter Community Initiatives to preach.

Sunday 4th November Mary Keaney and family to give a talk about their experiences in Malawi.

Peter Beacham has been invited to preach on Advent Sunday.

Sunday 23rd December Meeting Point may be cancelled

NB Stay and Play will be happening on each first Saturday in the month from October 2018 to April 2019.

5.2 Pastoral Care

Margaret Godsland's funeral will take place on Friday 31st August in St Stephen's at 1.30pm. Steve Santry will participate in the service too

Helen Evans begins a 'Foundations in Christian Ministry' course in September 2018.

There is a wheelchair located in the vestry for people to borrow/use.

5.3 Parish Website:

We have added a 'Recent Events' page to the website (on drop down menu under main Events) so photographs and comments can be recorded about things of interest to or involving parish members.

5.4 Parish GDPR update

In light of GDPR the Charity Commission are changing their rules and now require the full legal names of trustees. This applies to all PCC members who are also trustees.

Action: Keith will be requesting all PCC members to give their full name to him in order to send to the Commission to update their records.

5.5 Report on Chris Southgate talks

The posters have been created for Chris Southgate's series of Poetry Evenings in October and will be circulated. John Allan is giving a talk on St Petrock's church as part of the Heritage Weekend and a poster with details will be up soon.

Sheila mentioned the Christian Aid 'Sharing Supper' on Saturday 8th September which Mary Ellis is promoting. For every £1 donated the European Union will donate £5.

Action: Sheila will circulate information via email.

Sheila aims to do the 'Ride and Stride' event this year.

5.6 Parish Social

This year the parish social is to be a tour of Exeter Cathedral on Wednesday 21st November with Jessica Claridge as tour guide. The cost will be £6. Betsy has volunteered to organise a tea afterwards in St Stephen's. Sheila suggested we have the PCC meeting, scheduled for later that day, to follow the tea in St Stephen's at about 5pm.

5.7 University Halls posters

Betsy is to put up posters welcoming students to Exeter and St Stephen's church in University Halls.

6 Church Buildings

6.1 St Stephen's

The Quinquennial Inspection (QI) is due to take place on Tuesday 24th July.

The new gardener, Michelle Scriven, tidied the flower bed at the back of St Stephen's in early July but feels unable to continue maintenance of the garden due to the unpleasantness she experienced from members of the public (and possible hidden sharps in the soil) as she was working.

Action: MK to find replacement and Jessica to send her gardener's email address as a possible replacement.

6.2 St Petrock's

The Russian Orthodox service on 4th June was well received.

The church is being used by a variety of groups. In June EXCOS and Amnesty International put on a joint 3 week exhibition about Refugees with a talk on one evening which the Mayor attended. Currently Foodbank have a display in place until 10th August with other groups to hold displays in the Autumn including ECI, Green Churches, DDE and Peninsula Initiatives Community.

Homelessness Sunday is 27th January 2019 and there will be a display to accompany this date.

Sheila has sent a list detailing which organisation is using St Petrock's for a display with dates to Martyn Goss.

Sheila talked about having a service in St Petrock's to mark it being for JPC before end November 2018.

Action: MK to put St Petrock's information flyer on the website and Autumn list of displays.

A further display board is to be put for the bellringers. It seems probable that the bellringers will move their practise session from Saturday late afternoon to Monday evenings.

Quotes have been obtained for the cost of solar panels and shown to the Trustees.

6.3 St Mary Arches

The one off donation of £1,000 has been given to Unlimited Church.

6.4 St Pancras

Repairs to the roof are still to be completed.

Averil asked for thanks to be given to Brenda Tripp for the beautiful new altar linen.

Action: Keith to write a letter of thanks to Brenda.

Averil also mentioned that Francis Coles is having to use very old, oversized vestments and she wondered if it would be possible for the PCC to organise some new vestments for use of visiting clergy.

Action: Sheila to visit Wippell's to buy appropriate vestments eg a cassock alb.

6.5 St Olave's

The QI report has been received. There is only one recommendation which requires urgent action. This is the clearing of the gully. Don will be approached to ask Gaydons to do this minor work.

There is a list of works which need to be carried out in the next 12 months. They include renewing the lead to the valley gutter and re-rendering and repointing a wall. All the repairs and improvements will cost in the region of £20-30,000 which will deplete reserves. The improvements will require a faculty which Keith has asked Russ Palmer (architect) to begin work on.

Sheila reported that the Romanians have a new priest and would like to begin using St Olave's on a weekly basis.

Action: Sheila is to meet with the Romanians to discuss their potential weekly use of the church and to mention a need for increased cleanliness and a rise in contribution towards the running costs from January 2019.

7. Deanery Synod Report

The last meeting on Wednesday 20th June was held at St Michael and All Angels, Mount Dinham. The main focus was Social Care and enabling people living with dementia to be part of the church community. The speakers were Sally Farrant, the social responsibility officer for the Diocese of Exeter, and Lisa Shrimpton from Age UK, Exeter.

This meeting was the last to be attended by Revd Robin Eastoe as Area Dean. There have been 2 Deanery appointments – 2 new curates and news that Revd Tors Ramsey of St Matthew's is to move to the Diocese of Southwell (Nottingham).

The new Bishop of Crediton, Jackie Searle currently Archdeacon of Gloucester, is to be welcomed to Exeter at the Cathedral on Sunday 14th October 2018 at 4pm. Her consecration will take place at Southwark Cathedral on Thursday 27th September.

8. Finance

8.1 Budget to end of April 2018

See Appendix 1: It was noted that Parish Giving has been increased by £1000 (the one-off gift to Unlimited) so needs to be recorded under Other with a note.

Action: Sheila will discuss this with Sean, PCC treasurer.

Action: Sean to speak to the accountant with regard to how the Shared Interest account is to be recorded in the budget.

8.2 New fridge

Jessica, on behalf of herself and Sarah, asked for funds to purchase a new fridge for St Stephen's to reside in the vestry. The PCC gave approval for this purchase.

Action: Jessica to ask Don to collect a fridge from Argos once purchased.

8.3 Congo Children Trust

Averil shared the plight of the Congo Children Trust charity which is supported by the parish but is suffering additional financial difficulties due to the loss of a grant. The PCC agreed to send a one – off donation of £250 and to ask individuals to contribute if they choose and are able to.

Action: Sheila to write a letter to the parish with details of the charity's current situation and how to help.

9. Safeguarding and Health and Safety

9.1 DBS

Sarah made a DBS application on Monday 9th July which was verified by Mary on the same date. We are currently awaiting a certificate.

9.1 Health and Safety

In the light of the QI at St Olave's we need to update our H & S assessments especially with regard to fire safety.

Action: Mary to investigate online Health and Safety courses provided by the Diocese

Action: Keith and Mary to update H&S assessments as soon as possible

10. CTAX/CTCE

CTAX's next meeting has been postponed to Monday 23rd July and will discuss the Good Friday Walk of Witness. **CTCE** The United Service is scheduled for Sunday 18th November in Southernhay. The Christian Aid Sharing Supper is on Saturday 8th September. The Revd Andrew Down is to be licensed at the parish of Ipplepen on Tuesday 28th August.

11. CMS link

Ruth Sayers came to Exeter on Thursday 31st May, visited all the parish churches and met Daphne and Sue in the morning. Later Ruth had tea with Helen and Sheila at the Library.

Jean Bosco, the CMS Mission Partner, from Kimbilio, is visiting UK in October and may be able to visit Exeter. He needs a visa.

Post Meeting Update: Sheila received the Ruth Sayer's CMS Link Letter on Thursday 19th July

12. Correspondence

See Appendix 2: We have received a letter from Revd Mike Partridge (Chair of the House of Clergy) thanking parishes for all contributions to Bishop Sarah's leaving collection and painting.

13. A.O.B.

Jessica expressed concern over the whereabouts of Joe, the Big Issue seller, whose regular pitch is outside St Stephen's. It seems he has been in hospital and is on crutches and has suffered the loss of his bike.

Action: To speak with Jim Pilkington re: Joe

14. Date and Place of next meetings

Wednesday 19th September to be held at St Petrock's

Wednesday 21st November to be held at **5pm** at St Stephen's (following the Parish Social to the Cathedral and tea in St Stephen's)

Sheila closed the meeting at 9.10pm with the Grace.