

Minutes of St Andrew's Church PCC meeting held at 8 Abbey Road, Medstead on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2023 @

In Attendance: DB (Debby Barnes) Church Warden, SB (Sharon Blackshaw), WB (Wendy Busby), JG (Jeremy Griggs), PG (Patricia Griggs), IJ (Ian Jurd) Deputy Church Warden, JJ (Jackie Jurd), TGJ (Tracy George-Jones) Foundation Governor Medstead Primary School.

Apologies from Kerry Prior and Anne Lofthouse

1. **Opening Prayer.** IJ opened in Prayer
2. **Minutes of last PCC meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> March 23. And Matters Arising.** IJ reports that he has an update on the situation with the new church gate and repair of the Bells. There was a typo on Item 5 which was corrected. The minutes were accepted and signed as true and accurate record of the meeting.
3. **New PCC Member.** IJ wished to formally welcome Tracey George -Jones our Foundation Governor for Medstead Primary School onto the PCC.
4. **Safeguarding Update**

Most PCC members report that they have taken and passed the Basic Awareness course run by the diocese. As we presently have no safeguarding officer IJ contacted the last person who has records of PCC members' DBS checks. Cathy Dumelow was the last person to have dealt with this and she can confirm that they have all expired. IJ has contacted Siona Jeffery – The Safeguarding Administrator from the Diocese, who has agreed that we can use COGs PSOs as we don't have one of our own at present. Siona wanted the minutes to show a record that we have formally agreed to use COGS as our PSO and verifiers. The form will then need to be sent to COGS to sign off. (Matt Senior and Rev Howard Wright are the PSOs for COGS) IJ will send email addresses of all PCC members so Matt can send them the necessary documents for their DBS checks. **Action IJ.** All members who have completed the basic awareness course should either print off or download their certificate of completion. **Action all.**

5. Appointment of PCC Secretary. SB has volunteered to ask Maggie Dogrell if she would be interested in taking up the post now that Paul Shaw has stood down from the post. This would initially only be until October when the new joint PCC is formed. **Action SB**

6. Fabric Committee Appointments. A letter of thanks is to be sent to David Hayward for all the hard work he has done over the years to keep the fabric of the church in good order. **Action IJ.** As David is now stepping down from his role it has been agreed that his duties should now be shared between several people. Stephen Blackshaw and John Lofthouse have agreed to oversee the maintenance and servicing of the Church and Church Hall heating systems and Peter George-Jones has agreed to oversee the utilities service contracts and renewals. DH will be contacting each person to offer any training needed and hand over any documents. It has also been decided that the Fabric Committee monthly maintenance sessions should be re-instated to ensure church fabric is well maintained in the future.

7. Church Warden's Report. DB reports that Church Service attendance remains stable with 30/40 members in the congregation per service. The Rotation of priests is also going well. David Duffin who is on the music team from COGS will be playing organ at St Andrew's this weekend (28<sup>th</sup> May) to cover for Patrick whilst he is away this coming Sunday. There will be a full communion service for Pentecost Sunday instead of Café Church. Brian Pritchard is taking the service. A notice should be displayed in the church porch regarding the communion service instead of café church in the Hall. A Notice should also be put on hall door. **Action DB.** SB says that over 70 people are on the distribution list for church services so they should already know that this Sunday will be a Pentecost service.

**8. SOCOM Report.** SB reports that the Social Committee have had a successful year so far. The recent Jumble sale raised £925 in takings. The Annual Recital raised £1200 to be split 2 ways between the Gumbi appeal and Turkey/ Syria Earthquake Disaster Fund. SB wished to thank the Busbys for donating extra funds so the proceeds could be evenly split between the 2 charities. The Coronation Flower Festival made £240 in donations with a further £340.70 made from tea and coffee sales. £200 will be going to the Princes Fund with the remainder going back into the Flower fund. Other future events include an Open Garden in aid of the NGS at Church House organised by the Beresfords. The Church will be keeping a percentage of tea and coffee sales as they are providing refreshments at this event. Later on in the year there will be a play featuring John Lofthouse and in December the annual Christmas Tree Festival. SB reports that the Flenleys will be returning to Medstead on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June for a lunch in aid of the Kathryn Mercy Home in India. They would like to invite any individuals who have donated to the scheme in the past. The committee have been asked to provide soup for the occasion. SB to send the details to all on the Church distribution list.

**Action SB**

**9. Fabric report.** IJ reports that he inspected the bell tower with David Hayward. One of the bells will need to be removed and taken away for repair. This will require a Category B faculty to be signed off by the Arch Deacon Richard Brand and could take some weeks to obtain. DB will email Richard this week and make enquiries. **Action DB.** New entrance Gate. IJ has one Quote received so far. Excluding Ironmongery (not required) £3259 plus VAT. SB points out that we need 3 quotes SB has a contact and also a member of the Parish Council - Graham Bennall has a possible contact. **Action SB**

The repair of the Church Noticeboard is in hand. Kerry and Paul Prior have all the parts ordered up for repair and hope to have this completed in the next few weeks.

**10. Finance Report** from Tim Wettone. The main points raised were FOSAC and its continued use. PG raised point that if we need to ring fence money for the maintenance of St Andrew's this would be a good institution to hold onto. IJ points out that many of the original members are no longer with us or have moved away. IJ proposes that we appoint a PCC rep to liaise with FOSAC. JG has kindly agreed to be our representative. Bill Dawson is the only known current member.

**11. Update on New single Parish.** On 9<sup>th</sup> May IJ went to meeting with Timothy James, David Duffin, Andy Waters, Revd Howard Wright and DB to discuss the merge of the parishes. The Pastoral scheme is now complete and a draft has now been sent to church commissioners. Once approval is confirmed, we will have a 6 week consultation period before this goes back to the commissioners. The date of the proposed merge is 1<sup>st</sup> October which we are still hopeful will be the case. Chris Graylish from newly formed parish in Andover has agreed to meet with our team to discuss any issues they faced whilst merging their parishes. i.e Banking – changing bank accounts and ensuring a smooth transition. Employees working for COGS will need to have their contracts renewed. More Volunteers will be needed as Howard will no longer have a curate.

Tues 17<sup>th</sup> October will be the APCM meeting for New Parish. There will be opening for 2 Church Wardens, 1 Treasurer and 9 PCC reps. 3 will be for a 1yr term, 3 for a 2yr term and , 3 for a 3yr. This will be done by drawing lots. There will also be 4 Deanery Synod rep slots available. 16 members in total. Treasure and Secretary do not need to be on PCC but will not be entitled to vote if not on PCC. For Church Insurance policies IJ has been informed that St Andrew's can carry on using Ecclesiastical as it's insurer. Our current policies can continue independently. For the Charity Commission we will have to re-register with a new number.

**12. AOB.** IJ reports that David Hayward would like to store his model aircraft in the church hub until he moves house. This could be up to 3 months. IJ happy with this arrangement David but he would have to accept any risk to his property it would not be insured. DH will need a spare key to the hub to access his equipment. DB also reports that Ingrid still needs to be able to access the photocopier.

Gigaclear – the company responsible for upgrading the broadband connection at Medstead School to full fibre has sent a letter to the PCC. They will need to lay new cables and dig trenches for these to be installed. The company seeks PCC's approval as we are trustees of the school property and land. Forms will need to be signed. DB to phone school and speak to headmaster regarding the signing of the forms. All were in agreement that these forms should be signed after DB has had a conversation with the Headmaster. **Action DB.**

New Hymn Books. SB reports that Rob Cragg has kindly offered to buy a new set of hymn books for the church as the present Hymns Old and New are now looking very tired and in need of updating. . The Busbys will meet up Rob and Diane to discuss possible options. **Action WB.**

The meeting ended at 9.30. IJ closed. In Prayer.

**13. Date of next Meeting.** TBA as JJ and IJ will be going away to France shortly.