

# ST MARY MAGDALENE PCC MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 11<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2023

**Present:** Jema Ball (Vicar/Chair) Simon Potter (Associate Vicar), Lucy Allen, Hayley Brydges, Angela Cattell, Jennifer Hall, Sonia Home (ASMA Curate), Tony Hughes, Anna Mayo, Caroline Owen (Treasurer & Safeguarding Officer), Nick Powlesland, Peter Robottom, Jerry Sandford and Stephanie Wren.

## **1. OPENING REFLECTION & PRAYER**

Jema opened the meeting at 7:30pm, using the story in Exodus 14 which had been chosen at Stoke Bishop school as one the children wanted to hear. It speaks of how God can be trusted to deliver his people into a new phase of their lives.

## 2. APOLOGIES

**Apologies had been received from** Vivienne Francois, Jo Morris, Caroline Jowett-Ive (Warden) Kate Pinfold, Brian Richardson, Hazel Trapnell, Jo Bridgwater, Caroline Simpson, Tony Yeadon and Steve Fairbairn (Secretary)

## 3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

#### 3.1 To agree the minutes

The minutes were **agreed** as a correct record Proposed. Nick Powlesland. Seconded Stephanie Wren

## 3.2 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the November minutes.

#### 3.3 Leadership Team Minutes

The minutes of the meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> December had been circulated to PCC members. There was one matter which had arisen which was that there was a vacancy for a PCC member on the leadership team. **Stephanie Wren agreed to serve for a year initially.** 

Proposed Angela Cattell Seconded Caroline Owen. agreed without objection

## 4. RESOURCING MISSION

#### 4.1 Our People

It had been a very busy period before Christmas, but it was hoped that things would stabilise in terms of workload for the ministry team.

The HR committee had met and recommend that the salaries of all staff be raised by 5%, in line with diocesan proposals. (This does not Include our Cleaner who is on the National Living Wage which was increased in November 2022). This 5% increase was already included in the budget for 2023. **This was agreed with three abstentions from PCC members with a conflict of interest.** Proposed Andy Judd. Seconded Simon Potter

## 4.2 Our Finances

## **Mid-year Accounts**

Caroline Owen explained the year-end accounts which had been circulated. There was deficit of £12,979 but that might change a little. Staff were asked to make sure that they got their expenses claims in as soon as possible. The deficit is less than was budgeted for the year.

## 4.2.2 Budget for 2023

Caroline said that the budget for 2023 did not leave us entirely comfortable if we wished to have some reserves for 2024. We have agreed to pay our parish share in full but have made it clear to the diocese that that may not be possible.

It was **agreed** unanimously to review the position in the May PCC meeting Proposed Peter Robottom Seconded Angela Cattell.

It was also **agreed** to report to the congregation in the third week of February on the overall position, including the result of the stewardship campaign.

## 4.3 Our Buildings

It was **noted** that the new screen and projector are in place, but further work will be needed before we are able to use the projector and the TV monitors simultaneously. Hopefully this will be sorted soon by New Day who have done the work on this for us so far. The issues relate to incompatibility of the old cabling with the new equipment.

## 4.3.1 Church Rooms Development Project

The Buildings Committee report had been circulated. The architect has reported that a number of contractors are keen to tender and it may be possible to start work in July 2023. Meanwhile the office is looking at how to deal with all the equipment which will need to be moved and stored elsewhere. Nick Powlesland reported that Leese and Nagle will be pleased to market St Laud's Close. The PCC thanked Peter, Chris, Al and Nick for all they had done to keep the project on track.

## 5. TRANSFORMING CHURCH TOGETHER (TCT)

The diocese had asked PCCs to look at the Diocesan strategy. Leaflets were available to PCC. The values they identified were creativity, openness, bravery and generosity and it may be helpful for the PCC to align its values with theirs. This would need consideration at a future meeting if we wanted to pursue it.

The strategy may lead to additional funding from the central church, but this is more likely to support churches in poorer areas and may involve starting additional mission areas, having learned from our experience. Some new posts are being created in the diocese.

## 6. MISSION AND MINISTRY UPDATES AND DECISIONS

## 6.1 Worship and Teaching

Christmas has been encouraging with attendance up on last year. About 100 people attended the ASMA joint service on 1<sup>st</sup> January. The Spring Term will have a sermon series focussed on 'The Good Life', while Lent will be about 'The Wild Life'. After Easter we will be 'Body Building' in a series looking at 1 Corinthians. In SHINEonSundays and at Explore@4 the younger generations will be focussing on parables. The Trinity students will be more evident this term gaining their preaching

and leading experience, while Sonia and Julie will be spending more time in other ASMA churches. A service for those bereaved in the last year will take place on 5<sup>th</sup> February. All are invited.

## 6.2 Caring and Praying for each other

It is not clear that we are identifying everyone who needs additional care and support. Alison Sowton from Shirehampton is going to run a course for people who might become part of pastoral care teams.

## 6.3 Connecting with younger generations

Hayley reported positively on the Confirmation service in December. The group of young people involved in the confirmation class had asked to continue Bible study and have been joined by a couple of others. Rachel continues to do a lot to support the St Edyth's children's ministry during their vacancy. A new part-time Children and Families Minister for St Edyth's has been appointed but is awaiting visa clearance.

## 6.4 Stoke Bishop C.E. Primary School

There is still a vacancy for a foundation governor. If you or someone you know is interested, please speak to Jema.

## 6.5 Serving the wider parish, mission area and beyond

## 6.5.1 ASMA update

The silos between the churches are slowly being broken down. It is hoped that Sea Mills will be able to advertise for an incumbent shortly.

#### 6.5.2 Mission giving

The report on Mission giving was shared. It was noted that the total donated exceeded budget because of some donations for specific purposes. A representative from One25 will be speaking at both the morning services on 5<sup>th</sup> February.

#### 6.6 Safeguarding

There was nothing to report other than to encourage people to complete the relevant courses.

#### 7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

A Bishop's Mission Order (BMO) is proposed for Hazelnut Community Farm so that it will be enabled to develop its own path independently of the three parishes with which it is connected. St Mary's have been asked to comment as it grew out of the work of Revd John White when he was a curate at St Mary's. It will be in City Deanery.

The PCC **agreed** with great pleasure unanimously to this exciting development and to agree to the BMO. It was noted that they will need to sort out their own DBS checks. (Caroline Owen has been doing it for them). Jema will pass on our warm endorsement to the Bishop.

## **CLOSING PRAYER**

Sonia Home closed the meeting with prayer.

Signed.....

Date	
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### Abbreviations

ASMA Avonside Mission Area PCC Parochial Church Council DBS Disclosure and Barring Service

## The dates for 2023 PCC meetings will be:

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November

These dates are the usual second Wednesday of the month, except for the March meeting. The date for the APCM is after a 10am service on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May.

Angela Cattell **agreed** to prepare refreshments on 14<sup>th</sup> March.