



PCC MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held (online) at 7.30pm on Monday 26th April 2021

STATUS

Approved
28.06.2021
(Public)

Present (via zoom)	Paul Langham (Chair), Rachel Ambler, Chris Brown, Malcolm Bourne, John Butler, Mark Ellis, Mei Yen Furey, Hannah Gibney, Alasdair Groves, Jonathan Hendry, Susannah King, Janet Lee, David Newton (DNe), Cluff Noon, Di Noon (DNi), Mark Orriss, Mark Parsons, Tavi Price, Catherine Simmonds, Peter Smithson, Graham Stuart, Dave Vernon, Sara Wadsworth, Chris Whitwell
Apologies	None
Minutes	Tavi Price

Ref	Item	Notes	Action (what)	Who and by when
	Welcome Bible input	PL opened the meeting and noted that it would be recorded so that TP could produce the minutes following the meeting due to not feeling well. [TP was on the zoom call listening to the meeting]		
A	MAIN ITEMS			
A1	Vision Presentation	<p>PL gave some introductory notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The vision would not be ready to present to the congregation at the APCM, we are still on a journey The Core Team have been living with these materials for months so no pressure at all to respond immediately No decisions are to be made this evening After the presentation there would be a break to add notes/comments/questions into the chat There is no Paper 01 – the presentation is visual and verbal <p>Comments from the PCC have already been heard and one of the things about this process is that the vision needs refining rather than tearing up of the old and starting again.</p> <p>Looking back at some of the areas of our vision that have been achieved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus on <i>heart for the nations</i> – partnership with Tearfund Focus on <i>wholeness</i> – year of growth teaching series and intentionally investing in our small communities and leaders 		

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attention to <i>prayer</i> – the emergence of One Church One Day (so many members of the church family have got involved in leading us) <p>A presentation was shared with the PCC using pictures from Julia Loveless.</p> <p>Scripture</p> <p>The presentation began with a picture of a library representing the richness of God’s word. Some of the books had scriptures written on them – these being significant passages to the Core Team during this process.</p> <p>PL then read Joshua 3 vs 1-6 which has been particularly significant since Jill Garfitt brought it to them some years ago. The context being that it is about being in a place of change. There is a sense, like the Israelites in this passage, that The Church (not just CC) is at a Kairos moment.</p> <p>Prophetic</p> <p>For a number of years, we have been feeding from a deep well of prophetic words. {The picture from Julia depicting people drawing water from a well}.</p> <p>We have had internal and external words and pictures, words from across the city, across the nation and globally. One of the key words has been that it is a time to be bold and a time of moving from the old to the new.</p> <p>Chris Whitwell then spoke about receiving a word from Paul Golf in 2013 which he promptly forgot about but was reminded by him in 2019. It was the following: <i>‘The new expression of church will begin to emerge in 2020. At that time a pronounced division and conflict will arise between the old and the new. Also, at this time God will begin to raise up voices to mediate between the old and the new and you are one of those voices’.</i></p> <p>Quite extraordinary to have received this in 2013 given what we know now about 2020. Significant for Chris but Chris also believes it is significant for CC.</p> <p>PL returned to the presentation with the third picture from Julia being 6 strands converging into one knot. Depicting the use of Scripture, the prophetic, discerning God’s voice and seeking wisdom from external sources converging at this Kairos moment. Are these strands tied neatly? (shown in the first picture) or will we partner with God and weave them together into a new future (shown in the next picture)? So, the sense is that we are also subject to Kronos (time) and that this is the moment to be bold – God is already on the move – are we going to jump on board?</p> <p>MP then shared some of the structure of how the Core Team have used both the spiritual input as well as some</p>		
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		<p>practical texts such as firstly <i>The Unstuck Church</i> by Tony Morgan - MP reminded us that using this book it was concluded that CC was stuck in the preservation stage – and reminded us of the five challenges with this stage (<i>see minutes of 25th Jan 2021 for more details</i>) and secondly <i>The Advantage - Why Organisational health trumps everything else in business</i> by Patrick Lencioni. He uses six critical questions for organisational clarity (<i>see minutes 22nd March 2021 for more details</i>). The core team have started working through the first 4 of these questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why do we exist? • How do we behave? • What do we do? • How will we succeed? <p><u>Why do we exist? (PL)</u></p> <p>The church’s global mission is to continue and fulfil the ministry of Jesus until he returns.</p> <p>What is Christ Church’s part in this? Where do we exist? How do we equip, empower and deploy God’s people to be Jesus and confident in their discipleship?</p> <p>Evangelism isn’t just for a few key people who will deliver an Alpha course – it is about every member of the church feeling confident in leading people to Christ.</p> <p>Even before the pandemic, the Church in the Western world was in crisis with its identity, relevance and significance in society. It is now time to move forward believing that revival is at hand. So, do we want to be part of God’s rebuild? Often in scripture, after a time of being shaken (the reality of this last year), God stirs his people and leads them into a new phase.</p> <p><u>How do we behave? (PL)</u></p> <p>The picture shown had pillars representing values – the Core Team presented 4 pillars of core values that they feel God is asking us to shape our corporate life around:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Encounter</i> – being more intentional in creating spaces for people to encounter God, to worship him and to hear his voice. • <i>Family</i> – committed to building CC as home for people • <i>Generosity</i> – we want to be a generous church – to help its people live generous lives (not just in terms of money but all aspects of our life). • <i>Transformation</i> – to bring people into transformational opportunities, where God can really turn lives, families, relationships, businesses around. To bring people closer to understanding their purpose and destiny. 		
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		<p><u>What do we do? (CB)</u></p> <p>What are going to do differently and focus on? We need some strategic anchors. We need to refine our focus.</p> <p>What is the most important thing for CC to be focusing on right now?</p> <p><u>How will we succeed? (CB)</u></p> <p>Identification of these strategic anchors that are specific to us - what makes CC unique. These strategic anchors provide a framework for making decisions on what we will and won't do.</p> <p><u>Conclusion (MP)</u></p> <p>The Core Team are aware of two significant facts: we are coming to the end of the RENEW project and looking at the Government roadmap out of Covid that by the Autumn we should be back to "normal". So, they are focusing on the Autumn term – Sunday Sept 12th is the date in the diary that we are hoping and praying to be a CC re-launch - our <i>Kairos moment</i>.</p> <p>The meeting then paused for 10mins to allow everyone to pray and then post questions into the chat for the core team to gather to help frame the next stage of the vision process.</p> <p><u>Implications (PL)</u></p> <p>As part of refining the vision we may need to look at our staffing structures. One such post is Chris Whitwell. PL talked briefly about Chris and Helena and their contribution to CC and how Chris' role has grown and developed over the 10 years. It is clear that God has called them both into leadership at CC. CW has been operating beyond his "on paper" role and has been, in many ways, undertaking the role of an Associate Vicar. However, he is not ordained, and God had made it clear that this was not the route he should be taking. At the same time Chris was discovering ordination was not his calling, Helena was growing in the sense that this could be hers. This has since taken shape and she has her online selection conference on the 4th May!</p> <p>Returning to Chris, although it is not a title, Chris is in affect our <i>Senior Lay Leader</i>. There are now possibilities in the Church of England that these sorts of roles are possible as there is growing understanding that there are leaders in God's church that are not all called to be ordained. PL then explained that it is standard practice (using Janet's as an example) that when someone is stepping into a new role that they have the opportunity to take a step back – have some rest, to seek the Lord for his empowering and equipping so we are going to enable Chris to do this. Therefore for 3 months Chris will step back from the public aspects of his ministry and will reemerge to coincide with the launch of our redefined vision with a redefined role.</p> <p>PL ended this session in prayer.</p>		
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A2	Decisions made by Email	<p>Ratification of Decisions made via email since the last meeting:</p> <p>1. Approval of updated Safeguarding Policy and Guidance Notes</p> <p>Proposed: SW, Seconded: GS</p> <p>Carried with 1 abstention</p> <p>2. Approval of proposal to re-engineer grant application to Garfield Weston Foundation</p> <p>Proposed: DNe, Seconded: CN</p> <p>Unanimously Carried</p> <p>[PL apologised for attempting to lead this discussion in HG absence at the last meeting without sufficient knowledge. HG explained to the meeting that the application should be re-submitted this week and that Garfield Weston are very happy with what we are doing and have entered it into one of the expediated processes so we are hoping to get a decision earlier than normal]</p> <p>3. Approval of spend to replace church carpets</p> <p>Proposed: JL, Seconded: AG</p> <p>Unanimously Carried</p>		
A3	Reporting of Serious Incidents Paper 02	<p>Request from the Diocese of Bristol to adopt the policy contained in Paper 02</p> <p>Proposed: SW, Seconded: HG</p> <p>Unanimously Carried</p>		
B	STANDING ITEMS			
B1	Approval of minutes Paper 03	<p>Minutes of the meeting on 22nd March 2021 were noted and approved.</p>		
B2	Review of PCC action tracker Paper 04	<p>MP noted that the action regarding the subgroups has not been forgotten but is being picked up as part of the ongoing vision process.</p>		
B3	Paul's Points	<p>RENEW is on full steam ahead with Kitto and we are expect to have the keys handed back on the 28th May. Note for the diaries (contingent on the government roadmap). We are planning to have a weekend celebration on the 3rd and 4th July. Catherine Simmonds and Julia Loveless have been putting together a wonderful programme. It would be great for members of the PCC to be there to show people around and to serve our church family.</p> <p>October 2nd – formal opening of the Crypt for the community where Bishop Viv will be cutting the ribbon!</p>	<p>Add celebration weekend dates to diaries</p>	<p>ALL / ASAP</p>
B4	Warden's Points	<p>GS: Used the lift for the first time!</p>		

		He also had spoken with Val Moore who sends her love to the PCC		
B5	Operations Manger's Points	<p>Re. APCM - MP asked if anyone is planning on standing down from the PCC to let him know in the next few days.</p> <p>MP then talked us through an issue that has arisen during the full audit of the 2020 accounts. Due to RENEW, there has been a full audit this year. The audit has identified an issue with the wording of letters to mission partners which have inadvertently created multi-year commitments which should be recognised in our accounts in the year the commitments were first made. This would result in a significant departure from our accepted practice of making annual payments to mission partners from our annual mission giving budget. The result of this would be annual accounts for 2018, 2019, 2020 and going forward showing significant surpluses or deficits.</p> <p>As an alternative, the auditor has indicated that we could depart from the SORP reporting standard on this one aspect, and report our mission giving in the usual way. However, this would result in a qualified audit report. The Finance Team have discussed this at length and recommend this option.</p> <p>Questions and concerns were raised about whether this was the right approach and whether this would harm either our grant applications and or our reputation.</p> <p>After some further explanations and reassurances from MP, DNe and GS & DV, the meeting took an indicative vote in which 19 were happy with the Finance Team's recommendation, with 1 abstention. MP will issue the wording that the Auditors are intending to use in their report.</p>	Wording from Auditors to be emailed out to PCC	MP/ ASAP
AOB	Confidential Item	Notes of a confidential discussion have been removed from the public minutes.		
	Date of next meeting	<p>An Extraordinary meeting of the PCC will be needed to approve the 2020 accounts before the APCM.</p> <p>Annual Church Family Meeting will be held on Monday 24th May at 7.30pm APCM (on zoom)</p>	a doodle poll to be sent out to organise this meeting	MP/ Once accounts are completed
	Prayer	JL closed the meeting in prayer		

Future Meetings: Monday 24th May (APCM), Sat 12th June, Mon 28th June