

PCC Meeting

Monday 25th November 2024

Minutes



Location: 4 Warneford Way, LU7 4PX

Present: Rev'd Steve Marsh (Chair and Minister), Katharine Reedy (Mission Enabler/Churchwarden & Reader), Frank Reedy (Mission Enabler, Treasurer & Reader, Minutes for this meeting), Stu Blofeld (Mission Enabler/Churchwarden) Clare Nichols, Philip Nichols.

1. Opening prayer

SM

2. Apologies:

None

3. Minutes from previous meetings:

Minutes of previous meeting held on 7th October 2024 were approved.

4. Action points from this and previous meetings

Actions to take forward			
Reference	Action	Responsible	Due Date
07 OCT 06	Arrange Alpha Youth baptisms and baptism prep OUTSTANDING – See 11b below	SM, SB	20 th October
07 OCT 06	Agree date and venue for young people's baptisms OUTSTANDING	SB, SM	20 th October
07 OCT 06	Youth programme – KR to send Sermon Sheet to SM to get copies printed off, SB to sort out clipboards for use in service DONE	KR, SM, SB	20 th October
07 OCT 06	Whole Church Awayday – think about youth workers we could approach to lead young people's activities OUTSTANDING	SM	25 th November
07 OCT 10	Put into practice 'quick wins' from listening workshop, including getting feedback from café team at end of service DONE	SM	1 st November onwards
07 OCT 15	Share logon details for free Canva account (for designing flyers etc.) DONE	KR	5 th October
07 OCT 15	Consider whom to approach for new PCC Sec DONE - See 4d below	SM and All	25 th Nov
25 NOV 4a	Flag with preacher that Youth are discussing their sermon and make sermon sheets available for all.	SM, SB	31 st December

25 NOV 4b	Book whole church awayday venue	KR	31 st December
25 NOV 8c	Work with Gwynneth to find best solution for her for Home Group	KR, PN/CN	31 st December
25 NOV 9c	SM to send PPT to FD, KR & FR SB to get box of oranges for all the Christingles.	SM, SB	4 th December
25 NOV 9e	KR to talk to FD and others about Christmas related activities or event for Wednesday morning drop in.	KR	10 th December
25 NOV 10a	PN will raise Engage Worship course on Sunday.	PN	1 st December
25 NOV 10b	SB to contact families to find suitable date for baptisms. KR to ask Northall to see what is available.	SB, KR	31 st December
25 NOV 10c	Good Friday Walk of Witness service – discuss at PCC away day	All	25 th January
25 NOV 11a	SM to contact DM about progress on potential housing for worker	SM	25 th January
25 NOV 12a	Prayer support to be offered from this Sunday. FR to highlight	SB, KR, FR	1 st December
25 NOV 12	Continue to review pattern of Sunday services	All	25 th January
25 NOV 13	SB to do Christingle design, SM to print out.	SB, SM	1 st December
25 NOV 14b	FR contact Catherine in early 2025 to arrange examination of accounts.	FR	15 th January
25 NOV 15	MT will display Safeguarding Poster and will update risk assessment. MT & SM will meet alternate months, SuB and ST to support as second adult for children's work. SM to liaise with GH regarding workload.	MT, SM, SB	31 st December
25 NOV 16b	SM to contact LB to see if she would be interested in doing more with youth.	SM	31 st December
25 NOV 16c	ALL to think of other new members for the PCC.	All	25 th January

Matters Arising from action point above

- a) Youth programme – youth changes made, youth staying in for the sermon and then discussing it, which is working well. Do we need to flag with the preacher? Make sermon sheets available to everyone?

Action: SM and SB

- b) Whole church awayday – leave on Outstanding actions but will need to book something soon, this side of Christmas?

Action: KR

- c) Quick wins – Just Come, Just Be, chapel format, 4th Sunday, new House Group already implemented.
- d) PCC Secretary - Do we need a designated PCC Secretary? Agreed to rotate taking minutes. (See I6 below on potential new PCC members.)

5. PCC Guidelines for Engagement

PCC members to contact SM first regarding topics for discussion at PCC meetings.

6. Liaison with other churches and welcoming new people to CGS

- a) KR and SM regularly meeting with Colin Johnson and others from Hockliffe Street Baptist Church and Lee and Fi Trabucchi from Spirit and Truth Church.
- b) All three churches have started an evening worship time similar to Just Come, Just Be. Agreed that focus of Just Come, Just Be is CGS itself initially, while we get used to the format, as it is new to many at CGS.
- c) New arrivals are being welcomed on Sunday mornings, giving critical mass to Youth and Children's activities.
- d) CGS to be a safe space for all and let the Holy Spirit lead the pace. Any questions, please raise with SM.

7. Stepping down of Archbishop of Canterbury

Pray for CofE for the appointment. Any issues, do keep in touch with SM.

8. Looking Back

- a) 60 adults and children attended October Half Term holiday drop in. Some liked the separate space for adults, others not bothered.
- b) Regular Wednesday Drop is going well. Numbers fluctuate up and down. Building relationships with regulars. Introducing some Christian songs in the 0-4s session.
- c) Home Groups. Second Home Group has had one meeting, next meeting will be this Friday. Action: KR and PN/CN will work with Gwynneth to find the best solution for her. Use the same Home Group WhatsApp channel for both.
- d) Remembrance Sunday 10th November – act of Remembrance done with the football crowd (in the end) which was good.
- e) Quiz Night 22nd November – two tables from CGS, covered its costs and able to donate Raffle money to East Anglian Air Ambulance. 17 January 2025 already booked for next one.
- f) Listening Workshop: Feedback – agreed to hold again in March 2025.

9. Looking Ahead - Christmas Programme

- a) Sunday 1st Dec: Carol Singing at Greenfields
- b) Tuesday 3rd Dec: Carol Singing in the Estate. Spirit & Truth Church cancelling home groups to allow people to join in. Interest from other CofE churches. Possibly some from HSBC? Route will be Sandhills, finishing at MT and ST for mulled wine.
- c) Sunday 8th Dec 5:30pm: Christingle for adults with learning difficulties - adapt slides from last year.

Action: SM to send PPT. FD to lead, KR & FR to support. SB to get box of oranges for all the Christingles. Other materials in stock.

- d) Saturday 14th Dec: Family Carols – planning meeting held last week.
- e) Action: KR to talk to FD and others about Christmas related activities or event for Wednesday morning drop in.

10. In the New Year

- a) 'Just Come, Just Be' is going well. Not meeting in December. Need to share leadership so not just PN. Aim to do one a month up to Easter. Engage Worship are currently working with the Diocese. They have also produced a series of videos that could be used to involve more people.

Action: PN happy to run this so will raise it on Sunday. Keep 'Just Come, Just Be' on 2nd Sunday to complement morning Chapel Time which doesn't have any sung worship.

- b) Baptisms – finding a date will be tricky – will be on a Sunday. Afternoon if using a baptistry for full immersion.

Action: SB to contact families to find suitable date. KR to ask Northall to see what is available in January and February (3 pm on a Sunday afternoon). Spirit & Truth might have a portable baptistry if we decide to try to use Astral Park.

- c) Need to plan for the Good Friday Walk of Witness service as it will be our turn to organise in 2025.

Action: Discuss at Jan PCC Away Day

11. Review of the Families Outreach Worker

- a) SM had had a conversation with David MacGeoch about our possible plans
- Action: SM to keep in touch with DM

12. Listening Workshop Continued Feedback

- a) Prayer support – after service or during communion? Agreed to have two people ready to pray with people and the best place to do this, at the back of the hall. We will need to make sure people are available to support it.

Action: We will start from this Sunday (1st December 2024) and the prayer support will be introduced by FR at the start of the service.

Sunday patterns of worship:

- b) 2nd Sunday – do we need more adults staying out to engage with those coming in for refreshments? Chapel is really popular so we need to look at the balance between being directly missional on Sunday morning and supporting Church people with their spiritual life so that they can be missional during the week. Also, is the craft mainly for CGS kids rather than drawing people in?
- c) 4th Sunday. More content is wanted, such as sung worship, maybe different teaching content, more discursive. If we are not to put the walls up, SM will need microphone on 4th Sunday and make sure we engage with children in other ways. We need to make sure there is something for small children every Sunday.
- d) Action: Continue to review the above and other feedback issues raised at January PCC Away Day.

13. Communication

Action: SB to design Christingle poster, SM to print out.

14. Finance

- a) Report from Treasurer – General Fund deficit broadly as predicted in the budget. Income has gone up but expenditure has gone up at broadly the same level.
- b) When the 2023 accounts were examined, we were told that the existing independent examiner was retiring and Upton Wilson would no longer be offering the service. FR contacted the treasurer at Trinity Methodist Church and they put him in contact with their independent examiner who was willing to examine CGS' accounts for 2024. It was agreed, therefore, to appoint Catherine Sheehan as CGS' independent examiner.
Action: FR contact Catherine in early 2025 to arrange examination of accounts.

15. Safeguarding

- a) CGS formally thanked and prayed for HF. It's been a good handover to MT, who is getting stuck into the role. MT is reporting regularly to the PCC.
Action: MT will display Safeguarding Poster and will update risk assessment. MT & SM will meet alternate months, SuB and ST to support as second adult for children's work. SM to keep in touch with children's and youth leaders to ensure they feel well-supported.

16. A.O.Bs

- a) Meeting with Christians Against Poverty (CAP): SM met with local rep from CAP. Looking at potential of offering life skills course, aware that RB may be interested.
- b) Lynette had attended a Diocesan Growing Younger, Growing More Diverse Meeting and reported back to the PCC. Action: SM to contact her to see if she would be interested in doing more with youth.
- c) New PCC Members: Action: All to think of potential new members for PCC.

17. Closing prayer – SB closed the meeting in prayer.

18. Dates of Future Meetings:

No meeting in December

PCC Away Day Saturday 25th January 2024

Tuesday 25th February

Monday 17th March

Monday 14th April

Monday 19th May

PCC Away Day Saturday 21st June 2024

Monday 21st July 2024