

Hughenden PCC Mission Statement:
"The elected representatives of Christ's church, who prayerfully lead the
life and mission of the church in Hughenden."

**Hughenden Parochial Church Council Meeting
Thursday 19th September 2019 at 7.30pm**

Present: Clergy: Rev Keith Johnson, Rev Helen Peters, Rev Tracey Jones

Churchwardens: Nicholas Devlin arrived at 8.10pm

Elected: Brian Clark, Anne Dean, Mike Dean, Ian Faulkner, Arthur Johnson, Antony Rippon,
Ben Sharp, Louise Stallwood, David Tester. Patricia Devlin arrived at 8.10pm

Deanery: Arthur Johnson

Diocesan: Christopher Tyrer left at 8.50pm

- 1. Opening worship and prayer:** Keith opened in prayer. TJ was welcomed to her first meeting.
- 2. Apologies for absence:** Julia Grant, Clare Godfrey, Frank Hawkins, Mike Hill, Matthew Skillen.
- 3. Proposal for Colour Printer** moved to Item 7
- 4. Minutes of the Meeting held on 11th July 2019:**

The minutes were signed as a correct record of the meeting with 2 corrections. Item 12 Health and Safety changed to hard standing was considered, Item 13 event date changed to 19th July.

Matters Arising

- Thank you letters sent by KJ to PCC members who have recently stepped down.
- Old trestles to be collected by Tim Aze.
- PCC is grateful to Sylvia Clark who has taken over responsibility for the flower rota. Cupboard containing sprays and keyboard to be re-organised. **SC AJ**
- Item 12 PCC structure Vision replaces Leadership. Membership of the group to be decided after Helen and Keith have met to identify 5/6 members after deciding where the church will be in 2/3 years. Vision group to meet before November PCC. **KJ HP**
An extra group to be added under Outreach for special projects. Terms of Reference to be checked against structure sheet. **AD MD**

5. Update on proposed works to Church Bell Tower/Roof:

- A report had been circulated prior to the meeting. Brian distributed a paper about the information required for Grant trust applications. He talked through each area and it was noted that this is very time consuming and much effort is needed to gather all the relevant information. The profile of the church is particularly important to make us stand out. This needs to be updated to include all we do in the community, including Community Day. **KJ HP**
- The cost for the project is possibly £200,000, £150,000 for the project and the rest for professional fees. The need to engage the congregation is important and therefore a Gift Day is

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- important. With the recent legacy of £117,000 it will be harder to be awarded grants and therefore it was proposed that £100,000 be set aside for the tower. The money must be there before the work starts. Money has already been spent on reports. It is essential to have a safe and serviceable church or other plans are pointless. The tower roof has deteriorated significantly with use. Water is causing timbers to decay. New tiles, timber, flashings, new lead guttering and repair to the porch which is bowing out because of the failing buttresses are planned for in this cost. The Church finances had already provided £14,000 set aside for the project and the Bucks Historic Churches Trust had indicated that a recommendation had been put to their Trustees to make a grant. Progress on other grants cannot be made until drawings were provided. All the same information would be needed for a Faculty. There is a new DAC Secretary in Oxford Diocese. Grant funders had to be informed about the legacy as they are informed about the amount standing in the Church accounts as available to the cost of the repairs. Timetable to be ready for DAC approval in February 2020 and then through the Spring to October for work.
- Christopher handed out second paper showing the Stages in the Church Tower project. A meeting with Daniel from Ablett Architects had taken place. Architect reports that the tower is not safe, access needs to be improved and bells should not be walked through. It was acknowledged that project is a huge undertaking and PCC was impressed by the work and time given by Christopher, Brian and Nick. Nick expressed frustration with the Diocesan architects.
- It was asked if we are obliged to repair the tower, could spire be taken off and roof sealed and a lower cost option be done? The group had not been instructed to do that. A lengthy discussion followed and it was highlighted that the bells are a significant part of Hughenden. The church is grade 2*, the diocese would need to approve anything, delay would make matters worse and money would need to be spent for further costings. It was important that legacy was spent in the right way. Work should not be a temporary fix. A meeting with the diocese to see if they would agree to removal of the spire is needed and that answer would dictate the next course of action. In 50 years would it be the right decision? After an hour’s discussion it was decided to vote. Do we want to explore other options - 10 voted for, 3 against and 2 abstentions. It was noted that the diocese is sympathetic to the main proposal but we have a duty of care as a PCC to explore all options.

6. Treasurer’s Report:

- The accounts had been circulated. £17,000 outstanding from HMRC for gift aid. £117,000 generous legacy from Kathleen Moxham received.

7. Standing Committee:

- Minutes of the meeting of 16th September had been circulated.
- Approval of a colour printer agreed with restrictive access. A colour example of Outlook was passed round.
- Donations box with contactless option also shown. It was not possible to have a darker colour.
- The legacy had been looked at and it was a duty to be prudent with it but it was decided not to have a gift day.

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- No volunteers for church teas and therefore £6/7000 gap. Lighting and boiler will need replacement. Figures are guesstimates and it was requested that designs were made for lighting and then quotations sought. No decisions had been made on lighting.
- David suggested gift day be postponed not cancelled until financial need for Bell Tower clearer, after which the project can be presented to the congregations for our prayerful response.

8. Governance Working Group:

- An update had been circulated from the newly formed group. The objective of the group was stated and the policies required in order of priority. The group was thanked for its work and PCC is content with the work to date.
- Keith proposed that the Conflict of Interest Policy, which had been circulated, was adopted. This was agreed unanimously and signed .
- A rolling programme of review of policies to be done annually and internal auditor for each policy to be agreed.
- The Safeguarding policy had been circulated. Ben Sharp proposed and Antony Rippon seconded its acceptance. It was agreed unanimously. It would be audited before PCC in November. **KJ PD**

9 Discipleship:

- This item was left.

10. Youth and Children’s Group:

- Notes from 18th July had been circulated.
- Youth Alpha starts 3rd October. 7 people all from Hughenden. **HP TJ Bex**
- Ester stepping down from crèche for Bubbles. Replacement needed. Appreciation to be given to Ester at appropriate time. **KJ**

11. Social and Outreach:

- Notes from 9th September and updated programme of events had been circulated.

12. Mission Support Group:

- A report had been circulated. The response to the Santana appeal had been generous. Concentrating on one charity every 3 months gives clarity and is helpful.

13. Communications:

- Notes from the meeting of 14th August and Terms of Reference had been circulated. Mike and Anne Dean would check the Terms of Reference.
- The draft Christmas card had been circulated and PCC thanked the group for an awesome card. Carols at Naphill and TJ details to be added. Parking wording to be altered.

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- Agreed that Welcome Screen proposal should progress. Mission board needs to be moved to prominent position. Faculty needed.

14. PCC Constituencies:

- A concern about the new shed in the garden which the Mothers’ Union cares for was brought to the attention of the PCC.

15. Vicar’s Matters:

- Sharing the Fire to be held on 6th October at St Andrew’s Hatters Lane, led by Bishop Stephen. Photographs of our Community Day to be displayed. Lois Comley to be asked to carry candle, as representative of our Church, at the beginning of the service.

16. Churchwardens’ Matters:

- In Julia’s absence Nick reported that teas had no volunteers to run it and this would be communicated to the congregation. It was hoped to offer tea and cakes in church as outreach. The Eco church is being investigated.

17. Deanery and Diocesan:

- Common Vision will be on November agenda.

18. Parish Safeguarding:

- The Safeguarding Policy was adopted and signed. Bex is the Child Advocate.
- Julia and Tricia had met to discuss a questionnaire sent by the diocese. Training is in hand.
- Who needs DBS to be decided. **KJ JG PD**
- Webpage is a priority and Ben Brice and Ben Sharp will co-ordinate it after decision of content. **KJ PD BS**

19. Electoral Roll:

- 2 additions - Beverley and Richard Snodgrass. Total 188

20. Any Other Business: No matters had been advised.

The meeting ended in prayer at 10.04pm.

Date of next meeting Thursday 21st November 2019

SIGNED: -----