

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
Tuesday 21st January 2020 at 7.30pm**

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

Churchwardens: Nicholas Devlin, Julia Grant

Elected: Brian Clark, Anne Dean, Patricia Devlin, Ian Faulkner, Mike Hill, Antony Rippon, Ben Sharp, Matthew Skillen, Louise Stallwood.

Deanery: Arthur Johnson

Diocesan:

1. Opening worship and prayer: Keith remembered James Godfrey and the Godfrey family. Prayers and a time of reflection followed.

2. Apologies for absence: Frank Hawkins, Clare Godfrey, David Tester

2b. Keith asked that the meeting be conducted with love, patience, mutual respect and recognition of God’s presence with us. Unnecessary delays with the bell tower must be avoided.
Richard Peters was invited by Keith to share words with the PCC in order to restore relationships. Richard has offered to lead the bell tower project but considers repairs to the church family to be more important than fabric repairs. Richard had met with some members of PCC individually. Words needed to be guarded in future. There should be an outpouring of love. Arthur proposed that letters be sent to Christopher Tyrer, Nick Devlin and Brian Clark from all the PCC to reiterate how grateful we all are for the work that has been done over the last 2 years. PCC expressed its total gratitude to the group and thanked Nick and Brian personally. Arthur proposed and Mike Hill seconded that Keith and Richard Peters compose the letter together. This was agreed unanimously. A letter would be sent to Mike Dean, who had resigned from PCC and chairing the Standing Committee, to thank him for all his work over many years. KJ RP

Richard wants to look at a bigger vision than the bell tower and improve the church for the community. He is confident that the money will be raised. Fundraising leaflet had already been distributed by the churchwardens. A wider remit is supported but the primary objective is the bell tower repair as the central beam is rotting. Brian stressed the importance of the minutes showing full support of the PCC for repair to the bell tower by the end of the meeting.

Richard Peters was thanked for his timely and very generous offer. Brian Clark proposed and Antony Rippon seconded to accept Richard’s offer to lead the bell tower project. This was agreed warmly and unanimously. Richard would now look at the documents concerning the bell tower.

Richard left the meeting at 8.18pm

3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 21st November 2019:

The minutes were signed as a correct record of the meeting after the following corrections:
Item 5, 4 lines from end addition of “by some” after inappropriate and second line from end “Standing” added before Committee
Item 6 Shillig not Shilling.

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Matters Arising:

- Screen needs a faculty and any purchase needs to be approved by PCC.
- Thanks to Messy Church helpers on 19th December.

4. Treasurer’s Report including approval of budget for 2020:

- No figures available as yet. Ian was thanked for his work.

5. Standing Committee:

- The committee had not met. Mike is no longer chairing the committee. KJ IF

6. Church Bell Tower/Roof:

- After discussion on the options for the Bell Tower, it appeared old ground was being revisited. Brian Clark proposed that the application for a Faculty should be completed and submitted to the Diocese. The current design work should also be completed and put into a bid document and potential contractors should then be identified. The proposal was seconded by Nick Devlin and approved by the majority of the PCC, with one vote against and three abstentions. The Bell Tower Team will give an update to PCC once items in the proposal have been carried out. The project is currently at the beginning of Stage 4 of the Lead Architect’s proposal dated 27th August 2019.
- Focus is fund raising. A meeting with Natalie Murray, a bid writer, arranged for 27th January. Meetings with Gold Hill and Hazlemere Churches suggested, as they have both undergone significant building projects. ND JG
- Suggestions for fundraising from the congregation circulated. An article to be printed in February Outlook. The Fairbairns had offered to hold a music marathon on 30th May.
- A priority is to put together a fund raising team. A church meeting is needed to present the plans to all 4 congregations. 11th February Communications meeting will discuss publicity. This then needs to be pulled together. ND JG RP

7. Governance Working Group:

Actions in hand.

8. Vision Group:

- Group met in December. Space, accessibility and relevance as we engage with community are the 3 main areas identified. Bell Tower to be looked at in wider vision of church. Blue sky thinking from group reported to PCC then to congregation. Keith has invited our two Churchwardens, Julia & Nick to join the vision group since the first meeting.

Ian Faulkner left at 9.10pm

9 Youth and Children’s Group:

- Report of 16th January 2020 had been circulated. PCC was impressed with all that is being done and the group was thanked for hard work and effort and continued good work.

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10. Social and Outreach Group:

- Report of 6th January 2020 and programme of events had been circulated.
- New Year’s Day walk went well. Burns Night cancelled.
- Finding leaders for events proving difficult. Naphill Village Fete and Hughenden Village Day both need leaders. Prioritise Hughenden as biannual. Keith had contact numbers and further information about the day. The congregation would be asked for help. KJ
- Love Wycombe weekend 6/7 June .Further discussion needed. KJ HP
- Antony and his team were thanked for their work.

11. Housegroup Leaders Group:

- Keith had met with the 10 group leaders. About 80 attend the 10 groups regularly. The majority of those who attended our recent Alpha course have expressed a wish to continue meeting, so a new housegroup is being formed, led by TJ. New members will be encouraged for Lent. There will be no recommended book for Lent but 6/8 ideas had been presented. There will be a display in church by the beginning of February, with details of course material and groups which would welcome new members. KJ

12. Mission Support Group:

- David Tester had sent a report which Keith read. The focus this quarter is Mission Aviation Fellowship and Kevin Crook will speak at the 3 morning services on 2nd February.
- Christmas collections totalled £2290.88 to be split among chosen charities of SeeAbility, Wycombe Women’s Aid and HART. Collections are on a par with the previous 2 years.

13. Communications:

- Nothing significant to report.

14. PCC Constituencies:

- To be held over as more important matters at the moment

15. Vicar’s Matters:

- Sylvia Clark is very pleased with numbers on flower rota. A Flower Festival, suggested by Sylvia, was agreed for 28/31 August to be set round favourite hymns.
- Keith’s sabbatical is from 6th July to 5th October had been agreed by the diocese. This is after TJ’s ordination on 27th June. Keith will liaise with the Bishop of Reading to talk about his visit to India. Keith may be involved in hosting Bishop Pushpa from India before the Lambeth Conference, which begins on 22 July 2020.
- The National Trust had approached Keith about an event for VE day on 8th May. Sue Newton possibly to assist. KJ
- Keith had attended the bell ringers’ AGM. Cliff was hugely appreciative of all Nick Devlin’s work with the tower.

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- An approach had been made from a gospel singer to film in church. This needed further investigation before agreement. KJ ND JG IF

16. Churchwardens’ Matters:

- Julia had no matters.
- The shed is finished and a water problem on a recently restored grave had been remedied.
- An updated parish profile is needed. Communications group may help with design of this. KJ ND JG

17. Deanery and Diocesan:

- A summary of a Diocesan meeting held on 16th November 2019 had been circulated. Mike queried the meaning of “fit for purpose” in paragraph 9.
- No Deanery report.
- Elections for Deanery and Diocesan Synods are in 2020.

18. Parish Safeguarding:

- The diocese had sent a new policy with 4 changes. Tricia read out the changes. The policy was adopted and signed by Keith and the churchwardens. New policy to be out on website. Copy for the file and governance group needed. BS
- Insurance for off site visits for youth to be investigated. ND IF Bex
- A new Safeguarding Officer will be needed after the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. Tricia was thanked for all her hard work. Any thoughts for a replacement to be given to Keith. KJ
- Item 18 from November’s PCC meeting about compliance still needs to be sorted out before the March PCC meeting. KJ JG PD
- New dates for training are available.

19. Electoral Roll:

- No change

20. Any Other Business:

No matters had been advised.

- A volunteer is needed to take minutes at the March meeting in Louise’s absence.
- Mission Action Plan needs to be put on the agenda. KJ

The meeting ended in prayer at 10.08pm.

Date of next meeting Thursday 12th March 2020

SIGNED: -----