

Hughenden Parochial Church Council

Minutes of Meeting - Thursday 16th June 2022 at 7.30 pm in Church House

The meeting was held in person in Church House with the Vicar on Zoom.

Present

Clergy: Keith Johnson, Helen Peters

Churchwardens: Frank Hawkins

Elected: Janet Booth, Clare Godfrey (Lay Chair for this meeting), Mike Hill,
Arthur Johnson, Mark Sherrington, David Tester, Christopher Tyrer.

Secretary: Susan Brice

1. Apologies

Julia Grant, Tracey Jones (TJ), Brian Morley, Antony Rippon, Ben Sharp

2. Extended Prayer

Helen led this time of extended prayer.

She commented that The Vision that was being presented to the PCC was written at a time of many desperate problems within our country and the world.

Helen talked about 2 Corinthians 4: 1-15

God's treasure is hidden within us all. We are the common, ordinary and fragile clay pots, cracked and damaged. We are waiting to be filled and needing to be empowered by the Holy Spirit when God chooses to work within us.

There followed a time of open prayer and then we sang: Be still for the presence of the Lord.

Two Bible passages were referenced as being relevant here. They came to Keith in prayer when he was on retreat in December and enabled him to form his ideas as to what our vision should be - Ephesians 3: 16-19 and Matthew 5: 14-16.

3. Vision

Proposed vision: To know God's love and to share His love with everyone. (See appendix)

It was suggested that the word 'His' in the previous sentence be amended to 'that' and the word 'therefore' precede 'our Church' in the top box on the right.

Christopher suggested that the box on the bottom right-hand side could read: '... through a wide variety of activities, community initiatives and our partnerships with local, national and global causes.'

The responses offered by email from Antony Rippon and Ben Sharp were both read out. Thanks were given and both sets of comments were seen as very useful.

The terms vision and mission were defined thus: Vision is what we want to do and Mission is how we are going to deliver it.

The appendices to this project run into very many pages and have not been disseminated. Keith commented that the appendices will be made available for the task groups.

Mike Hill voiced concern as to how we were going to communicate this vision to the congregation and the community. Is the language clear and understandable? Those within the vision group explained that every word had been individually considered. Comment was then made that to remove the 'churchy' language would result in also removing the intrinsic Christian ethos.

General discussion took place about a need to invite younger people to lead the two task groups (one outward looking and one securing the church base) and several references were made to the perceived problem of 80% of the work being done by 20% of the people. It was agreed that the finalising of the exact words of the vision documents would be left to Keith and Helen but that this would include changing the word 'hindrance' to 'prevent' in the section on people with disabilities.

Thus the proposal was put forward that the PCC adopt the vision with minor modifications. The vote took place with 9 in favour and 1 abstention.

Keith then commented that on return from his sabbatical, he would want to be involved with both groups but to chair neither of them.

It was noted that there would need to be terms of reference written for the leaders, (or possibly facilitators), of both task groups. Frank Hawkins and Susan Brice agreed to meet and compose the necessary task descriptions. These would be ready to present to the PCC at the next meeting in July. Support for these posts would be offered by the PCC and the clergy.

Helen told the committee that the job description for a new youth worker was now complete and ready to be advertised.

At the end of this discussion Keith expressed thanks to Clare. Frank prayed for Keith and his recovery.

Helen concluded the meeting by inviting everyone to join in saying the Grace.

The meeting finished at 8.52 pm.

ACTIONS

- **Keith and Helen to finalise the words of the vision.**
- **Frank and Susan to create task descriptions for group facilitators.**

Susan Brice (PCC Secretary)

17.06.2022



Our Vision

To know God's love, and to share his love with everyone.

Our aim is that all may know Jesus Christ, become his lifelong followers, and grow into mature members of the Church.¹

We will actively share the Gospel in word and deed, inviting all into a living relationship with God through his Son Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit.

We will encourage all to develop their faith, by regular Church attendance, nurture groups, membership of a housegroup, and active participation in the life & worship of the Church with good stewardship of God's creation.

Our Church family will actively contribute to the life of our local community. Our Church activities & facilities will be accessible and we will welcome all with warm and generous hospitality.²

Our Church members will support the community through a wide variety of activities. We will encourage voluntary service, especially supporting the most vulnerable in society. We will support the mission of the Church at home and abroad.

Our worship services, and all other Church activities will be open to all, and no form of disability will be a hindrance to participation in the life of our Church.

¹ Ephesians 3:16-19

² Matthew 5:14-16