

## MINUTES

**Present:** Revd. Henry Curran, Kate Curran, Ian Knight, Joyce Cooper, Lawrence Ward, Debs Hunt, Kathryn Hubbard, Stacey Mutch, Becca Haines, Jonathan Larsson, Rosie Adsley, Chris Drew. Sean Gavin joined us for item 13.

### **1. Opening Prayer**

Led by Debs.

### **2. Apologies**

Fiona Houghton.

### **3. Welcome to new PCC members and Introduction to working of PCC**

We welcomed new members and Henry explained how the PCC works.

### **4. Code of Conduct**

Approved without changes.

### **5. Minutes of previous meetings (11<sup>th</sup> March 2019, 24<sup>th</sup> March 2019 – APCM, 24<sup>th</sup> March 2019 - PCC)**

All minutes approved and signed.

#### **a. Action Points and Matters arising**

None.

### **6. Vicar's Report**

We prayed for the church weekend.

### **7. Report from Standing Committee**

1. Standing Committee approved the quote for repairs to the church hall guttering and downpipe, and work has now been completed.
3. Henry presented a quote from Crew Electrical. We agreed to go ahead with installation of heaters but that hand driers should wait until we have paid Parish Share.

### **9. Easter Review**

We discussed this year's Easter services and events, and felt they had all gone well and that Easter is an excellent outreach opportunity. The Maundy Thursday supper was appreciated. Henry thanked Becca for challenging him about whether he needed to do the catering. Kids' Easter Fun had plenty of visitors, mainly by personal invitation, and the format worked well. The Good Friday service was appreciated as a time for reflection. The Easter Sunday service had a large number of visitors and the format mostly worked well.

### **10. Finance Report to 31 March 2019**

We thanked Stacey for quickly getting up to speed as our new Treasurer. Lawrence explained that the language of profit or loss is not helpful at this stage in the year and that we should think of it as excess or otherwise of cash spending. Church Hall income is down due to losing a regular booking from Nottingham & Notts Photographic Society, but Henry is not unduly concerned.

### **11. Organ**

Lawrence talked us through his proposal for repairs to the pipe organ. He suggested the priority should be the couplers work at £900, but that the instrument's long-term reliability would be

secured if we spent the larger amount. As we had not budgeted for this work and had agreed to make full payment of Parish Share a priority, we decided to find out more before making a decision.

**Action: Henry** to add this to our July agenda when we will be considering our worship services.

**Action: Lawrence/Henry** to find out more about other repair options.

**Action: PCC** to find out more about what the congregation thinks.

**Action: PCC** to send questions about the organ to Henry, who will compile them and ask Lawrence to respond at next meeting.

## **11. Any Other Business**

- a. Kate presented a card from Revd. Tom Devas, thanking us for our continued support enabling him to take part in the Arrow leadership programme.
- b. Henry commended a Gafcon prayer meeting to us.

## **12. Date of next meetings:**

- a. Standing Committee: 1<sup>st</sup> June 10:00am – 4:00pm
- b. PCC: 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019 in Church, not Church Hall (Agenda to include Autumn term programme, services, vision statement priorities for 2019-2020).

## **13. Student Ministry**

Sean Gavin visited our meeting to give us his views as a current student. Sean appreciates being a student at St. Mary's because he is made to feel welcome as part of the church family and can engage with different generations, but the special situation of being a student is also recognised. Student Connect has helped him to get to know the other students at St. Mary's. He has appreciated the church's support to serve God as part of the university Christian Union.

Henry expressed thanks to Sarah Sim, whose work as a Ministry Assistant to start a regular student group paved the way for our Student Connect ministry. Henry has spoken to a number of students for whom St. Mary's has been very significant in their spiritual growth, but there is room for improvement in ministering to our students and attracting new students.

Henry worked hard on every avenue to invite freshers to St. Mary's this year, but we have not seen much increase in the number of new students joining us. Obstacles to this include physical visibility of our buildings, not many current student members to bring others along, and that we are no longer a new church on the student scene nor the only small conservative evangelical church.

Suggestions for growing student numbers included spending time with our current students thinking about how to appeal to new students, making it clear to visiting students that they will be well disciplined here and not overlooked, inviting new students for lunch on Sundays.

Suggestions for improving our ministry to students included asking them more often how their personal evangelism is going, putting on small scale evangelistic events such as dinner with friends, putting on story style events which appeal to a wide range of people.

Rosie reminded us not to be unduly discouraged, as St. Mary's is not the right thing for many students.

## **14. Determination of Confidential Items**

[removed]

## **15. Review of meeting**

Becca closed in prayer.