

# WEST LITTLETON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 6 NOVEMBER 2017 AT 7.30 pm AT ST JAMES'S GRANGE

### **Present:**

Rev Sally Wheeler, Chairman  
David Adams  
Christopher Bell  
James Golob  
Michael Horgan  
John Mackenzie-Grieve  
David Sandeman  
Elizabeth Sandeman  
Alan Young

**Apologies:** Carolyn Adams

### **Item 1- Chairman's introductory remarks**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and expressed thanks for the way the parish had worked together to foster goodwill between the church and the community; highlighting events such as Gardens Open and the recent concert. The Reverend Ness Whiffin, our former curate, was now settled in her new role as Team Vicar in Witney. Bishop Mike Hill had retired and the Bristol See was currently vacant.

### **Item 2 - Apologies for absence**

There was an apology from Carolyn Adams.

### **Item 3 – Minutes of PCC meeting held on Monday 3 April 2017**

The minutes were accepted without amendment.

### **Item 4 - Matters arising**

#### **a. Display Boards (Item 4a)**

Alan Young reported that the work was continuing. Although the format of the boards had been agreed there was still some research and layout to be completed. He proposed that we should also be looking to develop a new layout for the display in the right-hand side of the porch noticeboard as the photographs were looking rather tired and faded. This was agreed and Alan Young offered to set up and lead a small subcommittee.

**Action: Alan Young**

#### **b. Church Recording (Item 4b)**

David Adams reported that we were still on the list and the team from Severn Valley NADFAS hoped to start during the next few months.

### **Item 5 – Benefice Report**

The Chairman highlighted the following:

- Cold Ashton had raised £54k towards the repair of their church roof following the theft of lead and subsequent damage last year.
- The Deanery Confirmation would be held on the 8<sup>th</sup> November in St Mary’s Marshfield.
- This year marked the 775<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Marshfield Church
- The Benefice “weekend away” in 2018 would be held at Lee Abbey in North Devon.

### **Item 6 - Treasurer’s report**

Michael Horgan talked the meeting through the spreadsheets. The unencumbered balance at 31 October 2017 was £14,700.85 and the value of the investment portfolio £27,105. After consideration of potential expenditure (Item 7) on the fabric, the level of Parish Share for 2018 (Item 10) and acceptance that interest on the deposit account was close to zero, it was agreed to close the deposit account and transfer £10,000 to the investment fund. The Treasurer confirmed that funds could be recovered from the investment fund at no notice.

### **Item 7 - Church fabric**

David Adams reported that the chancel arch had been repainted during the summer. Some limited touching up had also been done but it was probably time for an assessment as to whether the church should be fully redecorated. The bell rope and pulleys had been overhauled and were now working well. It was agreed that any decision on redecoration could be deferred until the Quinquennial which was due in 2018.

The memorial bench for Caroline Chrisp was now in position against the East wall of the churchyard.

### **Item 8 – Services**

The proposed dates for special services through to Easter were confirmed/agreed:

10<sup>th</sup> December                      Gift Service at 1030 am

Gifts/Donations would be for the Sisters of the Church in Bristol. Elizabeth Sandeman had kindly offered to oversee this.

17<sup>th</sup> December                      Carol Service at 6 pm

Christmas Day                      Family Service with Communion at 10 am

The service this year would be based on some readings and carols followed by a shortened Communion.

30<sup>th</sup> March Good Friday      Devotional Service

1<sup>st</sup> April Easter Day          Holy Communion

There followed a discussion about the possible provision of new hymn books and a review of the service booklets. There was also a need to review the carol sheets. Christopher Bell kindly agreed to put forward proposals about the hymn books and Elizabeth Sandeman kindly agreed to review the service booklets and the carol sheets.

**Action: Christopher Bell and Elizabeth Sandeman**

### **Item 9 – Events**

#### **a. Madrigals 2018**

David Adams was in touch with the Bristol University Madrigal Ensemble with a view to finding a suitable date in March. Elizabeth Edwards had kindly offered to host the post-concert supper at Cadwell Hill Barn.

#### **b. Gardens Open 2018**

The date for Gardens Open in 2018 was the weekend of 9/10 June.

### **Item 10 – Parish Share**

Correspondence between the Diocese and the Churchwardens had been circulated prior to the meeting. The original request had been poorly expressed and the Diocese had apologised. It was agreed that, whilst the process had not been well handled by the Diocese, the important point was to ensure that we paid our fair share of the Benefice costs.

The Benefice costs for 2018 were estimated at £69300 (£65900 in 2017). We were being asked for £6110 (we gave £5700 in 2017). It was agreed that we should meet the request plus an additional £490 bringing the total to £6600 or £550 per month.

**Secretary's Note:** The Diocesan Finance Office was informed of our decision by email on 7 November.

### **Item 11 - Any other business**

There was no other business.

### **Item 12 - Date of next meeting**

The next meeting would be held at 7.30 pm on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2018 at Harcombe Barn.

Sally Wheeler  
Chairman

**To:**

Rev Sally Wheeler

David Adams

Carolyn Adams

Christopher Bell

James Golob

Michael Horgan

John Mackenzie-Grieve

Elizabeth Sandeman

David Sandeman

Alan Young

cc VillageWebsite

Church Folder