

Bentley PCC Meeting Thursday 16th January 2020 chaired by Yann Dubreuil

Present: Yann Dubreuil, Christopher Ogilvie Thompson, Jill Kiely, Nick Caddick, Steve Fice, Jane Dalton, Marilyn Greenway, Malcolm Macnaghten, Deanne Ward, Hugh Chissell, Richard Myers and Belinda Barfoot

Opening Prayer

Apologies: Ady Blizzard and Darren Paine.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the PCC meeting held on Thursday 14th November 2019 were approved and signed by Yann.

Matters Arising

Church Path and Lighting – The new path looks fantastic! When the weather allows, the electrician will install the lights. **Steve** is regularly following this up.

Live@5 Youth Work – **Yann** apologised for not thanking Cheryl and Claire for organising the children's breakout sessions.

Baptism Preparation Policy – This has been approved by all 3 PCC's.

bMAP – **Yann** suggested a meeting with the standing committee to reproduce the bMAP.

Lockable enclosure for the audio-visual equipment – in Ady's absence this will be carried forward to the next meeting.

Review of Christmas Services

The Christingle Service was very well attended, standing room only. All the feedback received was extremely positive.

The Midnight Service led by Zoe, with communion by extension was excellent and again well attended, with many visitors.

Christmas Day Service was less well attended than in previous years.

The absence of the Road to the Stable was discussed. Yann thought it relieved people of work at a particularly busy time and suggested the idea of a journey up to the church at the Christingle service with stations along the way could be considered for next Christmas. Yann also spoke about the Live Advent Calendar in Binsted and how this could work in Bentley. These will be discussed in September when planning the Christmas 2020 Services.

The PCC agreed, the collection of £230 will be donated to the Bishops Christmas Appeal.

Finance Report for the month of December 2019

The last report presented was up to September 2019, so this report covers the last three months of the year. Whilst this report is for the full year accounts, these will be subject to further adjustments for accruals and prepayments as part of the annual audit.

As for the last few months, regular income remains static bar one regular donor leaving the Parish Giving Scheme. In addition, in November one of our regular donors made a one-off donation of £2,500 plus gift aid but will now cease regular donations for the foreseeable future. In November we had a further ad-hoc additional donation of £2,000 towards the path works in November, income of £135 from a visit by Milford U3A and just over £1,200 profit from the Jonathan Veira concert.

Likewise, regular costs remain in line with budget and the seasonality for heating costs. We had the exceptional costs of the organ transformer, for which we had to pay £300 for the new transformer plus we have just received the electricians invoice for a further £200.

The path costs for the work completed so far have still to be fully processed. We have just had to pay for the path materials at just over £1,000. In addition, which Robert Croft has just billed us for the excavation of the path, at a very generous price of £400. Our thanks to Robert for this gesture.

Looking on a month by month basis, in October costs were higher than normal due to a retrospective adjustment of tithings, the annual fire extinguisher service and the last legal fees for the transfer of the car park land from John Coke. In addition, we now have to pay over £2,000 per month for the salaries of our two pastoral assistants. The total deficit was just over £5,400, but excluding the magazine and the worship funds, we had a deficit of £3,164.

In November our costs were higher than normal due to a quarterly printer invoice, the annual CCLI licence of £541 and the organ transformer but were more than offset by higher income from one-off donations and the concert. The total deficit for November was just £22, but excluding the magazine and the worship funds, we had a surplus of £4,316.

In December, the only exception cost was the payment of the last two years donation to the Royal British Legion, half of the Remembrance Sunday collection. The Christmas service collections of just under £1,000, including £230 from the Christingle service, resulted in a surplus of £632 for December, excluding the magazine and the worship funds.

For the full year we are still running at an overall deficit on our regular income and expenditure. However, our overall position is one of a surplus of around £4,500, thanks largely to the generous response we have had to our appeals for funds, a response which continues with a further £1,000 received and another £1,000 promised in January. So, the overall 2019 position, before the audit adjustments, is as follows:

INCOME	
Regular income:	£ 84,551
Exceptional donations:	£ 21,173
Pastoral Assistants donations:	£ 40,525
Magazine income:	£ 6,513
TOTAL:	£152,762
EXPENDITURE	
Regular costs:	£ 96,861
Exceptional costs:	£ 4,326
Pastoral Assistants costs:	£ 9,269
Magazine costs:	£ 9,423
TOTAL:	£119,879
SURPLUS / DEFICIT	
Regular:	£ 10,365
Exceptional:	£ 16,847
Pastoral Assistants:	£ 31,206
Magazine costs:	£ 2,910
OVERALL SURPLUS:	£ 32,883
SURPLUS EXCLUDING PAs & Mag:	£ 4,587

Based on my calculations before any audit adjustments, the General Fund at the end of 2019 is just in the positive, at £636. The Fabric Fund has barely changed in the year so remains in a healthy position of just over £34,000. The balance of the Worship Fund, which now includes the Pastoral Assistants, is at just over £32,000.

As previously mentioned, the balance in the Church Hall Fund will be reduced to a nominal amount in 2020 when the new path lights are installed. This fund will then be rolled up into the Fabric Fund. The

Eggar Graves Trust will be approximately halved when the two headstones that were moved to accommodate the new path are put in their new positions when the winter rains cease.

Action required following the report - **Steve** plans to discuss with Yann and Lora increasing the number of adverts in the Parish magazine.

Yann suggested asking Colin Harbidge, Head of Operations at Winchester Diocesan Board of Finance to give a Parrish Share Presentation.

Steve advised the PCC that the licence to broadcast TV had been paid.

Yann thanked Steve for his great work.

Benefice Structure – At the Joint PCC on Monday 27th January Guest Speaker Revd Alex Pease will be speaking and sharing his results of the single parish, multi church benefice. Yann encouraged all to attend.

Service Schedule – Yann spoke about Sam and Gemma’s suggestion to lead a family focused and family led service, on the fourth Sunday of the month at Binsted. This will be trialled through to the summer.

Deanery Synod Report – No meeting has been held since the last PCC.

Yann asked if anyone would like to be, or knew anyone who might like to be, involved with working on the project for deployment for the deanery.

AOB:

- **Rotas will now be on iKnow Church**, church management software.
- **LED lights in church** – Steve has received a quote for £1500 from the electrician to replace non-LED lights with LED ones. The PCC approved.
- The **apple mac** in the upstairs office needs to be replaced. The quotes for a new apple mac are £1300 and £800 for a Dell. Approval is needed from the 3 PCC’s. Bentley PCC agreed the apple mac and Christopher kindly offered to pay the balance if agreement wasn’t met in Froyle and Binsted.
- Steve advised the PCC that the cost of the **internet service supplier** will be higher as we are changing from plusnet to bt.
- A **review of the online banking provider** was discussed and suggested as Nat West haven’t provided a very efficient service recently.
- It had been brought to the attention of the PCC that the bell tower was rather damp and dingey. The cause of the damp needs to be found. **Nick** to action and contact Nick Carey-Thomas.
- It was asked if the pews in the chapel could be rotated to allow those sat here to participate fully in the service. Yann spoke of getting an Archdeacons faculty to admit temporary change or as a short-term solution, a television screen could be installed. Yann suggested finding a way of cabling into the network.

Yann closed with a prayer at 9.00 pm.

Next PCC Meeting
Thursday 19th March 2020 in the Church Hall