

ST MARY'S CHURCH, WEST ACKLAM, PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 9th November 2016 at 7.30pm in church

- 54 The meeting opened with prayers led by Rev. Norma Rao
- 55 Present: Rev Norma Rao (Chairperson) and 15 elected members
J Carr, B Livingstone, M Morrell, A Carr, G Dorman-Smith, D Dorman-Smith,
W Hirst, P Crane. N Crane, J Walters, H Grant, V Crooks, R Willis, J Lomas
and C Marchant.
- 56 Apologies: R Lowes
- 57 The minutes of the meeting held on 14th September 2016 were accepted as a true record .
with the following amendments: Matters arising 41, 29 Green Lane school assemblies should read
Green Lane Scripture Club on a weekly basis over lunch time,
43 Child Protection third line from end of report Children's Policy should read
Child protection's policy. 50 AOB: PCC meeting was with Jo & Andy Bowden.
Proposed by Christine Marchant and seconded by Jill Carr. Approved unanimously.

The minutes of the extra ordinary meeting held on 19th October 2016 were accepted as a true record
with the following amendment.: 53 Renewal of Church Path Lighting, third line after first reference to lights
add on the south side.

Proposed by Tony Carr and seconded by Margaret Morrell. Approved unanimously.

58 Matters arising

5,117, 095, 081, 072,25,41

Acklam Hall access path from church : The entrance sign outside church has been deferred until the
gate & path are opened into the new housing estate. In addition Bob Willis had updated members by email
(copy in minutes book) of the new work about to commence near the church on The Medical Centre.

29,41 Green Lane Scripture Club : Margaret Morrell reported that the group meetings over lunchtime
are going well with 24 attending including different cultures.

33,41 Church Vestry safes: Bob Willis confirmed that he has applied for a faculty to York

45 War Graves : The plaque should be erected by the middle of next year.

46 Mission Group: David Dorman Smith reported that he had purchased a projector, screen & speakers
for use in church.

50 AOB : Dementia-Singing for the brain- The first meeting was held last week very successful with 27
people Michael Crooks and Norma Crane had provided refreshments. Meetings will now be held every two
weeks on a Tuesday afternoon. Volunteers needed to help. It was hoped to arrange a special event
possibly a Carol Service. **Vicar**

59 FINANCIAL MATTERS

Peter Crane had circulated the accounts for September & October prior to the meeting (copies in the
Minutes book). He advised we are managing to hold our own with help from the Gift Aid claim now in our
bank account. As a result .we are £800 in excess for October.

60 CHILD PROTECTION / SAFEGUARDING REPORT

Gillian Dorman-Smith advised that Child protection is now classed as part of Safeguarding by York.
The third bulletin from David Finan is now on our church notice board. Gillian will continue to give updates
in our Parish News. Pastoral carers have to complete a declaration in order to visit people.
Youth leaders training course she is still waiting to be given dates for next year.

61 PASTORAL GROUP REPORT

The Vicar advised that the group had held a meeting, members are Tony & Jill Carr, Wyn Hirst, Vicar
(Chairperson) They had discussed visiting the existing congregation. The Vicar does home communions.
and will put in writing a summary of the groups aims. **Vicar**

62 BUILDINGS COMMITTEE REPORT

The minutes of the meeting on 12th October had been circulated by Brian Livingstone (copy in minutes book). Church; Outside lighting Bob Willis advised that before a faculty can be applied for we require more information from the chosen contractor Nigel Young. **Bob Willis**

Churchyard boundary wall: Taylor Wimpey have stated that the wall is a shared one between the church and Taylor Wimpey. However the wall has now been rebuilt by them so hopefully no costs should be incurred for some time. Water is dripping from the church roof and Nigel Denton has been asked to investigate. Church internal lighting, waiting for Nigel Young to provide more information.

Church Hall: Kitchen water boiler has now been repaired.

Hall letting fees to be reviewed for increase in January 2017, then approved by PCC

Churchwardens

63 INTERNAL LIGHTING IN CHURCH

A proposal was made by Victoria Crooks and seconded by Christine Marchant to replace the existing floodlights above the altar and choir was agreed unanimously. the cost of approx £1,500 would be funded by The Friends of St Mary's but still waiting for more information on the changing of fittings from Nigel Young

64 MISSION GROUP

The Vicar advised that in the last few months there had been three mission events in the Diocese and our Deanery. The Leading your church into growth (LYCIG) conference, the Diocese Road Show and the Middlesbrough Deanery Conference. They were all on the same subject – how to grow the church.

The LYCIG shows the keys to church growth are

1. Consciously and strategically planning. Only those churches with mission plans grow.
2. Contextual planning. The mission plan must be rooted in local contexts.
3. To establish "presence" positively to build friendships.
4. To invite people to church events.
5. Finally, to identify the "inquirers" those who are interested in the Christian message, and to start an inquirers study course.

At St Mary's we have Mission Action Planning in which we have identified children/youth mission as one of our mission tasks. So far, we have only managed to invite the Diocesan Children/Youth Ministry advisors Andy & Jo Bowden to help us review our child ministry. There are not any specific plans on child ministry, nor do we have human resources apart from Margaret Morrell, but hoped to have a meeting with interested people in the new year.

For future planning:

Making the church presence felt: sign post outside of the church. Notice board in the church porch and in the church hall. What kind of events we can do to make St Mary's presence felt.

How can we use the occasions of baptism ?

What forms of children/youth ministry are we able to develop ?

Better use of publicity in church

The PCC had little time for discussion about the questionnaire "Transforming our diocese" however several PCC members had completed it on line to York.

65 DEANERY SYNOD REPORT

A report on the Deanery Synod meeting on 20th October together with details of the last York Diocese and General Synod meetings had been circulated prior to the meeting by Jill Carr (copy in minutes book)

Deanery Synod are to given more importance with a new appointment of a Lay Dean ,who will be given more responsibilities, also the title of the Rural Dean will be changed to be Area Dean who will work closely with the Lay Dean..

Jill also advised of the important change regarding the Charity Commissioners financial support which will be reduced substantially. Each Diocese is expected to apply for funding on mission work and every Deanery should target a grant for mission within their deanery.

66 DEANERY CONFERENCE REPORT

We had five representatives including the Vicar attended the conference held at The Trinity Centre, North Ormesby on 3rd November entitled "Renew & Inspire"

The main address was given by The Bishop of Burnley Rt Rev. Philip North

who gave a forthright inspiring speech highlighting the need for clergy to have more training in urban area's Interregnums to be avoided by moving Vicars before the previous one leaves the parish. He also stated the need for an Anglican church in each of our estates in the Middlesbrough area which is well known to him as he worked in it earlier in his ministry

After several people spoke in the morning the afternoon was devoted to breaking into groups to discuss three aspects. Reach the people we currently don't, Move to growth and Resourcing the future.

In addition at lunchtime several spaces were set out to provide idea's on "Prayer spaces" with some very interesting material available.

After the group sessions It was agreed for St Chads/St Oswalds Vicar to approach our Vicar to try and link our adjacent parishes to help support each other in growth. The Cafe Church idea working successfully at St Cuthbert's Ormesby, our reps thought it a good idea to investigate further to see if it might work at our church

Margaret Morrell & Wyn Hirst

67 FUND RAISING REPORT

Jenny Lomas reported that The Autumn Fayre on 29th October had made over £700 for church funds despite small numbers attending on the afternoon. She thanked all those who had put a lot of hard work into the event

After the Christmas Tree Festival on 3rd/4th December the next event will be on 17th February a quiz evening with a pie & pea supper in the church hall.

68 BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY

Although a lot of publicity had been done especially by the Vicar the turn out had been disappointing.

Suggestions for next time: 10.00 am could be a better time especially in trying to attract older people.

A series of events to lead up to the day to prepare people.

69 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Acklam Old Boys Remembrance service 11th November

Remembrance Day Sunday 13th November (Parade Service at 11 am)

Advent Sunday 27th November (carol service at 6.30 pm)

Advent Lunches 23rd,30th November & 7th December

Christmas Tree Festival 3rd/4th December

Christmas services all details are in Parish news & on pew sheets

Dementia Friendly course on 8th February (open to all church members)

70 Sub committee meetings

Standing committee 22nd November

71 Any other business

Carol Singing : After a number of idea's discussed it was agreed to ask Teesside Hospice if we could sing carols in the Hospice. **Margaret Morrell**

Sign outside church: The Vicar asked for volunteers to meet to discuss, several people put their names forward. Vicar will arrange a meeting . **Vicar**

Laminator: Gillian Dorman Smith suggested that to improve our notices a laminator would be a useful purchase. However several members offered their own for church use. It was also suggested that larger print would be helpful to make reading easier .

Sunday Rota; After several attempts a correct one was issued last week only errors been on service times over Christmas

Pantomime: Brian Livingstone advised he had received an email from Mike Crooks stating that due to a shortage in cast members he had decided not to hold one this year. Mike hoped to try again next year. It was agreed that the secretary send Mike a letter of thanks for all his hard work in the past. **Secretary**

Resignations: John Walters & Hannah Grant (Walters) both handed in their resignations from the PCC advising that as some of their family and friends had decided to not come to the 11 am service their need to represent them was now no longer needed. Copies of their letters of resignation in minutes book) The Secretary was asked to send them both a letter of thanks for their services and hoped they would continue to worship at St Mary's. **Secretary**

Visit by The Archbishop of York: The Vicar advised that Dr. Sentamu is coming to celebrate St Barnabas's centenary on 10/12th November 2017 and all are welcome to join with him.

Diary Dates 2017

It was agreed not to issue a schedule as meetings are held on an as and when needed basis

The Vicar closed the meeting with prayers at 9.15 pm