



Minutes of the Parochial Church Council meeting held on Monday 4 June 2017 at 6.30pm at the Trevelyan Hall

Present: Fr Philip Chester, Jonathan Aitken, Melanie de Blank, Mary Brown, Katy Ginger, Fr Jamie Johnston, Jane Kennedy, Liz Lyle, Abi Omotoso, Eithne Risner, Margaret Robinson, Margaret Withers, Rachel Whittaker, Toby York.

In attendance: Nigel Groome (Director of Music), Claire Pinney (Administrator), Isaiah Atwiine, Ryan Williams (Pastoral Assistants).

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Fr Peter Hanaway, Simon Lello, Rachel Jewitt and Susan Lowson.

Fr Philip proposed that Chantal Masson be co-opted to the PCC after she had been placed on the church electoral roll and had been attending St Matthew's for six months as she had expressed interest in becoming a member. The co-option was agreed by the PCC.

2 Election of PCC officers

- Vice-Chair, Simon Lello, proposed by Jane Kennedy, seconded by Eithne Risner and elected.
- Secretary, Jane Kennedy, proposed by Rachel Whittaker, seconded by Margaret Withers and elected.
- Treasurer, Toby York, proposed by Jonathan Aitken, seconded by Abi Omotoso and elected.

The Standing Committee consisted of Fr Philip, Chair of the PCC, Churchwardens, and all the officers as elected.

3 Minutes of the Meeting held on 4 April 2017

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair, Fr Philip.

4 Matters arising not covered by the Agenda

- **Signage** Rachel Whittaker had remarked that there needed to be more indication outside the church that St Matthew's was an Anglican church. Fr



Philip reported that changes had been made to the signage which made this clear. He had also written to the Indonesian Embassy regarding the forecourt project and was awaiting a reply. This item would be kept on the agenda.

5 Report of the Parish Priest

5.1 Legilium Fr Philip and Toby York had visited Michael Leal, the designer of the legilium, who had also designed and made the music stand used by Nigel Groome. The new legilium would provide a focus for the Liturgy of the Word. The final design would be produced for the next meeting and agreed by the PCC so that a proposal to apply for an Archdeacon's certificate could be made.

5.2 Fr Jamie's ordination to the Priesthood Fr Jamie's ordination would be held on Saturday 17 June at Bethnal Green and his first Mass (Votive Mass of the Holy Spirit) would be held on Wednesday 21 June when the preacher would be the Dean of Canterbury Cathedral, the Very Revd Dr Robert Willis.

6 Finance

Toby York had circulated the draft management accounts for the first five months of the year and would produce a more detailed report for the first six months at the July meeting. The accounts were presented in three columns representing activity, rather than funds: church, house and conference centre. The church was running a deficit for the first five months of £40,889 as congregational giving has remained static against increasing costs; the house made a small surplus of £8,967 and the Conference Centre was doing exceptionally well with a surplus of £31,250. The potential profit for conference centre for the year could be as much as £100,000 based on current occupancy. The overall deficit for all activities was just £672, against a surplus for the same period last year of £15,656.

Jane Kennedy reported that Simon Lello would run another Stewardship Campaign in November.

7 Review of safeguarding

Fr Philip announced that Margaret Withers would be the new Safeguarding Officer following the resignation of Maria Gayle-Rogers from this position. Further details about safeguarding would be presented at a future meeting.



8 School report

Fr Philip presented the school report on behalf of Rachel Jewitt:

- Number of pupils on roll remains stable, currently 215 (171 in September 2015) Numbers for our new Reception Class in September look very healthy.
- The recent Science Week went well and was kindly financially supported by the Chemical Industries Association. Every class had a workshop with the Science Museum and a Science Teacher from Westminster School visited and spoke to the children during an assembly.
- The Choir attended Prom Praise in the Royal Albert Hall along with many other schools in the London Diocese. The children thoroughly enjoyed the event.
- Summer Fair was being held on Saturday 10th June, 11am-2pm in the school playground. This was the first summer fair in many years.
- Year 5 pupils have just enjoyed a wonderful week in Sayers Croft. The children enjoyed learning more about science and geography in a contrasting locality to Westminster.
- SATs for both Year 6 and Year 2 went smoothly.
- Mass was held every Wednesday 9.10am-9.45am in the school hall. PCC members were always welcome, but were asked to notify the school office in advance if they wished to attend.

9 The Mission of St Matthew's

Fr Philip explained that Fr Jamie had originally been licensed to St Mary-le-Strand in 2016. Fr Jamie was licensed to St Matthew's, Westminster at The Old Deanery by the Associate Archdeacon, the Venerable Rosemary Lane-Priestley recently. He would be continuing to work at St Mary-le-Strand.

At the previous meeting, Fr Jamie had asked for ideas of activities as to how St Matthew's could develop its mission, focussing particularly on those who live and work in the parish but did not currently attend church services. Fr Jamie had classified the suggestions under a series of headings (building community, faith based activities, outreach to parish institutions/charities etc, social action, spiritual/liturgical life, communications, pastoral ministry, general) and asked the PCC to indicate if they were high, medium or low priorities at this meeting. The feedback from the PCC on the suggestions was very positive and enthusiastic.



St Matthew's Westminster

Fr Jamie would review all the individual feedback sheets and propose three or four activities from the list for the autumn. Fr Jamie asked PCC members to send any further ideas to him.

10 Music Report

Nigel Groome reported that he had started planning some midweek services for the autumn, including more sung services at 12.30pm /6.30pm. He had taken the choir to sing at St Stephen's, Bournemouth, St Mary's Swanage and the choir would be singing at All Hallows by the Tower and Salisbury Cathedral in the future; this was also a means of promoting St Matthew's name outside London. A sacred music festival was also suggested which required much planning.

11 Any Other Business

Fr Philip reminded the PCC that the patronal festival was on 21 September at 6.30pm and the preacher would be the Bishop of Manchester.

Fr Philip welcomed Katie Ginger to her first meeting and several other members who had returned to the PCC.

12 Date of Future Meetings

Monday 17 July

Tuesday 12 September,

November meeting – date to be confirmed in September.