

# Minutes of St Aldhelm's DCC meeting

6<sup>th</sup> December 2017

PRESENT: Ian Chesters, George Turner, Rachel Wakeford, Carol Rowe, Rachel Ireland, Juliet Wynne, Edward Huxley, Ruth Fuller

## 1. WELCOME AND PRAYER

The meeting opened in prayer and some reflection on the following verses.

1 Corinthians 1:9: God, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, is faithful.

Isaiah 64:5: You come to the help of those who gladly do right, who remember your ways. Yet, O Lord, you are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter. We are all the work of your hand.

## 2. APPOINT CHAIR FOR THE MEETING

Ian was proposed and seconded as chair of the meeting.

## 3. APOLOGIES

Wendy Clarke, Rachel Huxley, Alan Baker, Mark Jones

## 4. PREVIOUS MINUTES

These were agreed as a true record.

## 5. MATTERS ARISING

Clarification of role of Ruth Coates is required – she remains Deanery Synod rep and as such is co-opted onto the DCC, even if she chooses not to attend. **Edward to let her know** that she is still welcome to come when she is able.

Parish share – it has been intimated that the request for a contribution from St Aldhelm's may be reassessed due to us being in vacancy. Our offer remains at £18,000 for 2018 as it stands.

Remembrance service – it was agreed that this went well and that it was good to have had representatives from the uniformed groups present.

It was agreed to hold open mornings for the church on some Saturday mornings – these will commence again in January.

Vicki has resigned from the DCC after many years of service. **Rachel W agreed to get a card and collection together** to thank her.

## 6. SAFEGUARDING, HEALTH AND SAFETY

It was noted that some photographs were taken by parents at the remembrance service – we need to make sure that a notice is given before next year's service to ensure that photos are only taken of their own children, or where parents have given express permission of all parents. Similarly for services and events through the year.

## 7. FINANCE

Not much change from the last report, except that the additional £18,000 has come through from Barbara's estate. Currently the total received from legacy money has been £150,000. £3,000 of this has been given to sponsor Zoe, hence the balance is £147,000. £100,000 is now held in a business account.

## 8. LEGACY MONEY - OPTIONS

Some options were discussed such as employment of a family / children's worker and the installation of a glass front door.

It was agreed that we need to consult with the wider congregation about how we should invest or spend the money. As a DCC, we will propose some ideas, and ask the congregation to rank these in terms of their priorities, and add their own ideas too. This will be carried out in January 2018.

See attached file for proposed questionnaire to go to the congregation in January – but **please do respond with comments** before then.

## 9. VACANCY

Bishop Lee has made a decision on the ongoing complaint since our last meeting, and this has been announced to church. We are now in a period of vacancy.

Christine Froude has called Ian to assure us that some meetings have happened already and that discussions are taking place about our vacancy. The initial legal process to beneficially separate us from St Francis has begun. This will then allow options for a future incumbent to share St Aldhelm's with another benefice.

Christine has also offered to get George Rendell (Diocesan Transition Manager) to be in touch.

In the meantime, Sue Gent has volunteered to assist with leading communion services for the next few months. She has also had discussions with Lee Barnes (Holy Trinity Hotwells), and it is possible that some of his staff (curates and Ordained Local Ministers) may be able to help out at other times.

Edward has received the old parish profile from Ruth Coates, and this can be used as a basis from which to put together a parish profile as and when we

need to. This has been mildly reformatted to focus on St Aldhelm's, and will be circulated with these minutes for consideration.

A core team will be needed to put together the parish profile. It was agreed that Ian would be on this team, along with Edward. Others are to be asked in church this coming Sunday (**Ian Chesters to do notice**).

It was decided that any further teams were not required at this stage as we have the DCC, Vision groups and worship planning team.

## 10. COMMUNICATIONS

Edward has set up the new website and noticeboard. New contact email addresses are in place. Many thanks were offered (and received!).

Ian has put together a church directory listing people's responsibilities in church, some of these were amended and clarified.

## 11. FABRIC

Installation of motion-sensitive outside light and inside light switch inside the rear door (basement) to be installed. All agreed, **George to follow up**.

## 12. VISION GROUP UPDATE

Juliet has tried to get in touch with The Noise, but hasn't had much response. She is awaiting a response about how to take this forward.

## 13. SUNDAY MORNINGS AND CHURCHWARDEN ROLE

Three people have spoken to Ian about assisting with Sunday morning roles. Jenny has taken on arriving early and sorting out service sheets and other things. Rachel Wakeford has offered to take over Sunday morning responsibilities that would normally fall to a churchwarden. **Rachel and Jenny to talk more with Ian about what needs doing.**

Another person has expressed potential interest in serving as churchwarden.

## 14. DIARY DATES

Christmas services are as advertised on the website and church rotas. Our Carol service is on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 7:30pm, Crib service is Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> at 4pm, Christmas day communion at 10am.

Next vision group: Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January, 8pm in the basement rooms.

Next DCC meeting: **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January, 7:45pm** at Edward and Rachel's house

The meeting concluded with prayer.