

St James's Church Bramley

Parochial Church Council

Meeting: 18 January 2018

Minutes

Final 14th March 2018

Present:

John Lenton (Chair), Karen Bentall, Ian Evett (Secretary), Sarah Hodnett, Ranil Jayawardena, Alison Jones, Jeremy Masson, Sarah Mitchell, Ruth Saunders, Robert Stober

Apologies:

Stephen Ball, Nairn Glen, Malcolm Knowles, Wren Vaughan, Colin Simmons, Jerry Adams, John Williams, Jonathan Large

Welcome and prayer

The reading was from Isaiah, Chapter 43.

Actions

Minutes of last meeting (previously circulated)

Approved and signed by John

18/01 Matters arising

17/36: Welcome packs (AJ). There has been some discussion with Rhydian Vaughan about identifying new arrivals to the village. Ranil said that he would be able to help with this.

17/36: Cross house kitchen: Ian has written to Alex Marianos to thank him

17/36: Clift Meadow fete: John said that Peter Hayes had stood down from the committee. However, Tom Treble has agreed to become involved.

17/37: Data protection (IWE) see 18/02

17/38: Pothole dangers. John reported that he had bought some movement activated, battery powered, security lights which he hopes to place within the grounds of Grey's House and Church Farm, to illuminate the parking area.

17/39: Quinquennial inspection (SH). Sarah has talked to Jonathan Barclay-Smith, who has promised to take care of the gaps in the bird mesh in the bell chamber and the cleaning of the gutters at the top of the tower.

17/39: Sarah has also contacted a roofer to attend to the missing tiles on the church roof: agreed nem con that Sarah should have authority to pay him for the work.

17/39: Sarah has organised a working party to sort out the office in Cross House. A heavy gang is needed to get the old photocopier down from the store room. Sarah has spoken to the recycling centre at Wade Road – and they will take the photocopier. It was suggested that Sarah M might ask Tom Treble if he could use his trailer to transport the photocopier to Wade Road

SH

17/41: Bell ringing for school: The bells were rung for the school services. Angela Adams, Chair of Governors, has written to Ian to pass on thanks to Terry Cooper and all of the ringers.

17/41: Presentation from Chair of Governors: Ian has written to Angela Adams and she was pleased to accept the invitation. See 18/05.

17/42 (a): Welcome packs at Christmas (JL, SM): Sarah organised the packs and confirmed that the distribution went well.

17/42 (b): Notice for Sunday@Nine (JL): John undertook to arrange notices for the porch and for Cross House. JL

Other items:

John and Sarah (M) talked about the magnificent response from the parishioners to the plea from Foodbank, Basingstoke for food and grocery items for needy families over the Christmas period. We have received a most appreciative letter from the Foodbank, which has been displayed in the church porch. It was generally agreed that we should continue to support this charity. Sarah (M) will arrange for a labelled box for collection of provisions to be placed at the back of the church; John to arrange for a call to go into Church Family News. John also reported he and Ann arranged, through the school, for a Christmas hamper to be delivered to a particularly needed single-parent family in Bramley. SM
JL

18/02 **Data protection (IWE)**

Ian is attending a Diocesan workshop on the new legislation on 20th Jan. In the meantime, he reported that the paper records of the Electoral roll are now kept in a locked filing cabinet in the office at Cross House. The Gift Aid envelopes which must be kept for several years will also be stored under lock and key. Ian will report further at the March meeting. IWE

18/03 **Bishops commission for Mission (paper from JL)**

John spoke to his memo, which is at Appendix 1. One of the two people that John wrote about as possible candidates for the BCM programme is not at the present time able to take up the opportunity. However, John was able to report that Alison would be pleased to take it up. Agreed unanimously that Alison's name should be put forward for BCM training.

18/04 **APCM 2018**

Ian said that contributions for the 2017 Annual Report should be sent to him before 28th February in order that the report could be completed for distribution among Electoral Roll members in good time for the APCM. Some discussion led to the following provisional list of contributors:

Ministers report, John
Treasurers report, Colin
Cross House, Pam Luck
pMap Jeremy
Flower team Joyce Rawlinson
Magazine Rachel Barclay-Smith
Bell ringers Terry Cooper
Bramley School: Angela Adams (?)
Sunday at Nine: Sarah M
Sunday at 10.30: Sarah H
Little London services: Robert
Home Groups: Ken Payne; Ann Lenton; Malcolm Knowles

Children's work: Alison Jones
Quinquennial inspection: Sarah H

It was suggested that a photograph of each contributor would be a nice touch.

18/05 ***The School***

John welcomed Angela Adams, who was present in her capacity of Chair to the Board of Governors of Bramley Church of England Primary School.

Angela gave a presentation, the main points of which were as follows.

Introduction

The school is a 2 form entry Primary School. We have 14 classes with an average class size of 27. We currently have 377 children on roll. We are part of a collaboration with the Bishopswood Schools Federation – Executive Head Glen Golding, Head of School Steve Moore. We benefit financially from the collaboration and also from the sharing of resources and expertise. As a Church of England School we aim to create a whole school ethos based on the Christian values of Love, Courage and Respect.

School results 2017

OFSTED inspected the school in March 2016 and graded the school as Good in all areas. Since then standards of attainment have improved steadily:

- In 2017 Key Stage 2 (KS2) results improved by 20% combined and are now above national averages.
- Year 1 Phonics Screening achieved above national for the first time in 5 years.
- Foundation Stage has been achieving above national and Hampshire averages for 5 years.

We have seen significant investment in teacher and support staff training, in ICT (laptops and I-Pads) and in improving our library. We have introduced a programme of redecoration, with over 50% of the school having been refurbished. We have introduced new leadership roles to improve standards and increase capacity. We have supported several other schools with a variety of school improvement areas, including outstanding schools. We have improved communication with parents through our newly constructed web site and school prospectus.

Parental perceptions

In our most recent parent survey we had 269 responses out of 273 families: a 98.5% return. The vast majority of families took the time to share their views and on the whole they were very positive.

School improvement plan objectives

Our aim is to create reflective, resilient learners ready for the future. We maintain a relentless focus on the continuing improvement of the standard of teaching and learning. We are further developing the use of our outdoor spaces to enrich our children's learning experiences. Staff are undertaking a range of training to help further improve the standard of reading, writing and maths

across the school. We are looking to broaden and enrich our wider curriculum in the non-core subjects. We will continue to support and collaborate with other schools across Hampshire in order to further enhance our own practice. And we have four objectives specifically linked to the school's Christian identity and ethos:

1. Ensure that our curriculum promotes the learning behaviours of resilience and resourcefulness and our core Christian values;
2. Equip children with strategies to enable them to reflect in greater depth so that their understanding of core Christian values makes a positive impact on their lives;
3. Establish what our school's Christian Identity is and communicate this to the school community through the school environment, collective worship and curriculum planning;
4. Create opportunities for children to have greater ownership of how themes in collective worship are explored.

How the church can be further involved

What the church does already: e.g. Special services – Christmas, Leavers' service, 'Open the Book' dramatizations of Bible Stories, Bibles for leavers. These are all greatly appreciated by the school.

What the school would welcome going forward:

1. Greater involvement of the church in collective worship – giving talks at whole school, Key Stage or class level (clergy or other church members)
2. Support for planning for collective worship – a church member to meet once a term with the Senior lead for RE and our Christian values/identity
3. A church member attending school Council meetings (perhaps once a term) to discuss issues linked to the school's Christian ethos with children – for example how to make their indoor and outdoor reflection areas more meaningful.

A free-ranging discussion followed Angela's talk. Among the points that were made were:

Jeremy suggested that the Church could become more involved in meeting new young families that come to live in the village

Sarah H suggested that we could consider creating a new Welcome Pack specifically aimed at the families of new children coming into the school

Many of the children from Bramley School go on to The Hurst School for their secondary education and there was some discussion about how contact could be maintained with the children and their families. John undertook to discuss possibilities with the vicar at Tadley.

JL

18/06 **Reports**

Deanery Mission Action Plan

John said that the DMAP was up for discussion and finalising at next week's Deanery Synod meeting.

18/07 **Any other business**

(a) Ian had received an e-mail from Arthur concerning the organ. A relatively small fault has developed and Arthur would like approval from the PCC to invite the organ repairers to look at the fault and, if necessary, provide an estimate for carrying out the appropriate work. Approved nem con. Ian to speak to Arthur IWE

(b) Ian drew attention to the Diocesan Funding Newsletter which he circulated on 22nd December.

(c) Ranil reported that the Parish Council would like to copy our Welcome Pack. As a counter suggestion, Rhydian Vaughan (our County Councillor) proposes that we include something about the Parish Council in our Welcome Pack. John said that he would speak to Tony Durrant, Chairman of the Parish Council JL

(d) Sarah M pointed out that the Treasurer's role had grown over the years and it was now a very demanding post. She wondered whether we could think about ways in which we as a group could give greater support to the Treasurer. John replied that he is forming a small group to look at ways of achieving this. JL

(e) Jeremy asked if it would be a good time to review the 10.30 service. Numbers appear to have fallen somewhat. Should we look at the service formats? John is collecting data. This will be an agenda item at the next meeting. JL IWE

(f) Ruth asked that safeguarding be made an agenda item at the next meeting IWE

(g) Ian said that Arthur Rawlinson had asked approval to call someone out from the organ repairers to advise on a problem with one of the footpedals. Agreed.

(h) John spoke about the young lady, Cecilia Valdiviezo, who visited our Church last Sunday. She spoke in the 9.00 and 10.30 services movingly of her work as a missionary with the South American Missionary Society (SAMS) in Argentina. John proposed that the Church should donate £200 to SAMS – carried nem con. John will also invite church members this coming Sunday to donate individually via the collection

(i) It was agreed that a notice should be displayed in the porch and Cross House noticeboards advertising the Sunday@nine services. (JL) JL

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm with the saying of the Grace.

Next meeting

14th March

Appendix 1: Bishop's Commission for Mission (BCM)

Date: 30 December 2017

To: The PCC

From: John Lenton

Subject: Bishop's Commission for Mission

The Diocese of Winchester's School of Mission has developed and is continuing to develop a number of short courses (2-3 months) which equip lay people to serve in a variety of different ways in the local church. At the end of the course, they are awarded the Bishop's Commission for Mission (BCM). The note which accompanies this memo (www.winchester.anglican.org/bcm/) will give you more details about the BCM.

It is my hope that over the next year or two, our parish/benefice will send a number of people on these courses who are spiritually mature, who feel that God is calling them to serve Him in our church and who are willing to commit the time and energy that these courses require.

As you will see from the note, the PCC needs to approve the recommendations I put forward for BCM training prior to individual applications being made to the School of Mission, and to agree to fund their training (generally about £90 each, plus travel expenses where applicable).

This note is to ask the PCC's approval to my recommendation that we put forward two members of the congregation for BCM training in the Worship Leading course: XXX and XXX. I have spent time with both of them discussing this possibility and have seen them in action, when they have served as MC at Sunday@nine. Both have great leadership qualities, and have prayed and thought about this training, and I believe they would gain from it. As a church, we would also gain from having people trained and commissioned by the Bishop for this work.

I have asked Ian Evett to put this matter on the agenda for discussion and decision at our January PCC meeting. Please give it your prayerful consideration over the next week or two.

With Christian greetings

John Lenton