

## **CROMER PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of a meeting of the Parochial Church Council held on 23 May 2024 at 7.30 at St Martin's**

**Those present:**

Revd W Warren	Revd J Haywood	Mr D Loades
Mr D Tuthill	Mrs M Howard	Miss A Cottingham
Mr D Orsborne	Mr D Anderson	Mr J Hodgkinson
Mrs J Anderson	Mr D Broughton	Mrs S McCandlish
Mrs A Orsborne	Mrs M Pallister	Mr G Purland
Mrs E Woodfield		

### **1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

The meeting was chaired by the Vicar, Revd W Warren, who welcomed members, whether newly elected or returning, to the first meeting of the new PCC year.

Apologies were received from Revd Julia Chamberlin and Ivan Kimble..

### **2. HOLY COMMUNION AND OPENING WORSHIP**

The meeting began with Holy Communion and a reflection by the Vicar on John 15.:

Verses 4 – 5 give the pattern for effective living as a Christian. (“Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.”) This should be our key priority as individuals and as a church. That’s why PCC meetings always begin with a Bible reflection and prayer.

A time of prayer followed.

### **Opening Business**

### **3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST NOT PREVIOUSLY RECORDED**

None.

#### 4. PCC CODE OF CONDUCT

- a) The document presents a set of guidelines that, in our experience, are helpful.
- b) PCC members must keep confidentiality.
- c) We are here to represent the whole church. Decisions and minutes belong to the whole church. PCC members have a responsibility to communicate them effectively.
- d) If a member is unable to attend a meeting, they can email any point they wish to make on the agenda to the Vicar or PCC Secretary.
- e) Members have a responsibility to own decisions made by PCC.

#### 5. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

It was **AGREED** to elect the following for the year 2024 – 2025:

- a) PCC Secretary: **Mary Howard**
- b) PCC Treasurer: **Doug Tuthill**.
- c) Lay Vice Chair: **David Loades**.
- d) Electoral Roll Officer: **Glyn Purland**
- e) PCC members of Standing Committee: **Anne Cottingham** and **David Orsborne**.
- f) It was **AGREED** to co-opt **Doug Tuthill** and **Simon Purslow** to PCC.

#### 6. MINUTES OF THE PCC MEETING OF 21 March 2024

The minutes of the PCC meeting of 21 March 2024 were agreed as a correct record.

#### 7. MINUTES OF THE STANDING AND FINANCE COMMITTEE 8 MAY 2024

- a) Hope into Action: David Loades has had talks with the Champion and others about what happens next and how Cromer Church might support it. This item will go on the PCC agenda for July and the Champion will be invited to attend. Standing and Finance had been prompted to consider if PCC should have greater involvement in the Mission Partner selection process.

- b) Headlights: :this activity comes under the umbrella of Glide Surf School. This should be made clear in the publicity. However, we have concerns about safeguarding issues and need to ensure that the appropriate people have DBS checks.

## **8. REPORT FROM GENERAL SYNOD, FEBRUARY SESSION**

The report was received. It was noted that the e Bishop of Leicester promised that he was committed to implementing what had already been agreed and to explore minimal structural provision. He is drawing together working groups with the hope that some more substantial proposals can be put before Synod in July. We should pray into this.

## **9. NOTES FROM MISSION LEADERSHIP TEAM (MLT) 13 MARCH 2024**

- a) Item 2 (f); the family who comprised most of the Youth Group has moved to Holt. There is provision for young people on Monday afternoons at St Martin's.
- b) Letter from Ken Nash: It was **AGREED to accept Ken's generous offer and to use it in the context of Building Up and in Roots, and when people need the books.** The Vicar will speak to Ken.

## **10. MINUTES OF THE APCM 25 APRIL 2024**

- a) The minutes are an accurate record. They will be signed off at the 2025 APCM.
- b) As only 2 out of 3 PCC places were filled, there is now a casual vacancy for someone to serve for 3 years. It will be advertised in the usual manner and, if a ballot is necessary, be decided by PCC. It would be good to have some younger people on PCC and someone else from St Martin's.

## **11. REPORT FROM DIOCESAN SYNOD 23 MARCH 2024**

The report was received.

## **12. FINANCE**

- a) The Treasurer has been in contact with the Ephesians Fund. Our payment will be made by Standing Order.

- b) The VAT from the work on the church has been received.
- c) Barclays have set a limit on the amount of cash that can be paid into an account in a year. It won't affect our finances.
- d) Because the Parish Church was closed, donations via the wall safe etc are down.
- e) We can claim £8,000 in Gift Aid from loose change collections. If we could claim on all the loose change collections, we could claim significantly more. We need to think of ways to encourage people to use the Parish Giving Scheme.
- f) It was AGREED that the Digital Giving Machine should be set up for the Parish Giving Scheme so that Gift Aid can be claimed.**
- g) The Treasurer will talk to Terry Draper about a Mother's Union scheme that benefits people with learning difficulties.
- h) Mustard Seed has been signed up for Tesco's Fair Share scheme.

## **12. PCC CALENDAR 2024 - 2025**

- a) The PCC Calendar 2024 – 2025 was approved.
- b) Business for PCC should be sent to the PCC Secretary in time to go on the agenda of Standing and Finance.

## **13. ACTION POINTS FROM THE VICAR'S APCM REFLECTIONS**

PCC broke into 4 groups to discuss each heading.

### **Re-launch of BeachFest**

- a) There were lots of ideas and a structure for each morning, starting together before games on the beach. Ruth Anderson from Sports Factory is able to come every day and run the games. We've got a sound system.
- b) There will be 5 morning and 1 evening session. Planning of themes and stories is still at an early stage.
- c) From 11 June, a small core group will be recruiting lots of volunteers.
- d) Follow-up is important. CCKids will have BeachFest themes on the Sunday before and the Sunday after.
- e) Perhaps we could have a family event in the Parish Hall the week after?
- f) We should re-visit the elements of BeachFest throughout the year.
- g) Necessary information needs to be collected from those attending BeachFest and this would help us stay in touch.

## **Buildings**

- a) The Buildings project group has met twice. Simon Purslow has done a lot of work on this and a report will come back to PCC.
- b) The project group considered St Martin's and the needs of Mustard Seed.

## **Welcome**

- a) We are good at the initial welcome, but not so good at integrating people into the life of the church.
- b) Welcome Meals are being reinstated..
- c) Could we have regular, informal gatherings for new people, e.g. a monthly gathering in the Lounge?
- d) The Welcome packs were very helpful. However we should be aiming to reduce paper.
- e) It's important that new people are encouraged to join Small Groups. We need some new groups and leaders.
- f) Sunday welcome: could we have training in the art of welcome? Visitors, locals, people recently moved to Cromer – they all need different approaches.
- g) It would be good if groups, e.g CCKids, engaged new families.
- h) CLT meets on 5 June and will be working on Welcome.

## **Prayer**

- a) Nothing will work unless we pray.
- b) The refurbishment of the Prayer Chapel should move forward.
- c) Prayer is organic but there are things we can do to engage people in prayer.
- d) An online prayer course is very helpful.
- e) One-to-one healing prayer is important. But we have to be careful because of Safeguarding issues.
- f) We have a Prayer Policy that hasn't been implemented.
- g) If we want to see peoples' lives changed, we need to be structured and intentional about prayer.
- h) We could try a daytime prayer meeting.
- i) Prayer triplets: are they for praying for each other or praying for the wider church etc?

**To go to Standing and Finance for further discussion.**

## **14. SAFEGUARDING**

- i) A number of people haven't completed the training. Face to face training is now available..
- j) Alison is compiling a portfolio of policies relevant to Safeguarding.

- k) DBS checks have been received for Janet Barlow, Elizabeth Bridger and Rosemary Harber.

## **15. HEALTH AND SAFETY**

The report was received.

## **16. ELECTORAL ROLL UPDATE**

The roll stands at 297.

## **17. CORRESPONDENCE AND DATES**

- a) Christmas Tree Festival: it was **AGREED that The Tree Festival in the Parish Church from: Monday 2nd December to Saturday 7th December, with set up on the afternoon of Sunday 1st December and taking it down on the afternoon of Sunday 8th December is an official church activity for insurance purposes.**

It was noted that Jackie Austin will step down as co-ordinator of this activity and that someone will be needed to take on the role in 2025.

- b) Carnival Float: it was **AGREED that the Carnival Float on the following days is an official church activity for insurance purposes.**

### **Build Dates**

**Monday 3rd June to Friday 29th September 2024**

### **Parade Dates**

**Cromer Main parade – Wednesday 16th August 2023**

**Cromer Illuminated Parade – Thursday 17th August 2023**

**North Walsham Parade – Saturday 24th June 2023**

**Sheringham Parade - Wednesday 2nd August 2023**

- c) Coronation Bench: it was **AGREED to approve the coronation bench which the Town Council wants to install in the Churchyard.**
- d) Chairs for St Martin's: It was **AGREED to purchase 10 armed chairs for St Martin's Worship area.**
- e) **A letter and certificate have been received from the Diocese, thanking us for paying our Parish Share in full.**

- f) Mother's Union activity: the following had been received from Eileen Woodfield on behalf of Mother's Union:

On behalf of Mothers Union, I am requesting we promote their 2024 international campaign to raise awareness of domestic abuse; known as RISE. (Respond; Inform; Support; Empower) With an accompanying display for a short period of time in both churches entitled 'Souls of their Shoes'.

Norwich Diocese branch of MU are very keen that Cromer promotes this campaign due to our large numbers of visitors and reputation for welcoming, and I think it is important that St. Martin's is also a venue.

Commitment from us:

Display posters

Arrange times/ weeks for the displays.

Arrange a rota of DBS checked volunteers; at least one of whom at any time should have completed basic safeguarding training. Their role is to listen as appropriate and signpost to leaflets and helplines. Not to give advice.

Publicise through local press

Going forward:

To agree in principle to support this worthwhile campaign

To convene a working group, with the aim of bringing a full proposal back to the next PCC meeting.

**PCC AGREED this in principle.**

- g) The following had been received from John and Anne Attfield:

We feel that our Vicar, Will, has a very heavy work load and that the provision of a part time Church Administrator is very inadequate. Before David Court left, we believe the Diocese instructed him to appoint a full time administrator because such a large church would need one. Although the membership has reduced for a number of reasons from those days, it is growing again and the number of church groups has increased. The overall responsibility for this church plus Will's other responsibilities in the parish is larger now in a number of ways.

PCC considered that a lot of people would support this view. The Vicar advised that this merited further thought and discussion by Staff Team.

- h) Date of next meeting: **Thursday 27 June at 7.30, at St Martin's.**

The meeting closed with the Grace at 10.02 p pm.