

PARISH OF ST. ANDREW, ENFIELD

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held
on 13 January 2015
at 7.30 p.m. in Room 2 of the Parish Centre

Present: Revd. Dr. Steve Griffiths, Revd. Olive Cope, Richard Berndes, Felicity Cox, Barrie Lane, Diana Lane, Jacky Parnell, Claire Reilly, Jeremy Taylor, Mark Thebridge, Victoria Wiggins, Patience Wilson. John Tanner (Secretary).

1. Opening Prayer

1.1. The Revd. Dr. Steve Griffiths opened the meeting with a prayer.

2. Apologies for Absence

2.1. Apologies for absence were received from: Rex Bourne, Sarah Hargreaves, Stephanie Lane, Kitty Malleson

2.2. It was noted that Barbara Campbell had resigned for the PCC with immediate effect on 8 January 2015.

3. Minutes of the Last Meeting

3.1. The minutes of the meeting of 17 December 2014 were approved.

4. Matters Arising

4.1. Para. 6.1 – A further Trust Fund has been approached and may contribute up to £90,000.

4.2. Para. 7.1 – The quote the work is £23,000 but further detail as to the works are required. The Council had declined to agree a grant. The choir vestry option has been discounted because longevity cannot be guaranteed and on grounds of cost.

5. Mission Action Plan

5.1. Steve Griffiths introduced the paper he had drafted on this, noting that it is an aspirational document against which the future work of the church would be determined. Ultimately it would be for PCCs not and in the future to decide on specific issues and actions. The discussion was on a section by section basis. The following points were made:

5.1.1. **Foreword:**

5.1.1.1. The importance of celebrating diversity;

5.1.1.2. The need to celebrate both history and the future ahead;

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- 5.1.1.3. The endorsement should reflect the input of the PCC, and those who had supported reflection on the questionnaires and the Listening Exercise;
- 5.1.1.4. The paper is a strategic document but does not provide detailed objectives and actions. These might be drawn out in presenting the content, but clarity might be needed over the next stage and specific actions. This and how the new governance arrangements, in particular the Reference Groups, would operate to support and deliver the MAP, under the authority of the PCC;
- 5.1.1.5. While the Vicar or the PCC might decide on specific objectives it was important that the congregation should own those areas where there was the most energy and drive, which would allow bottom-up development. The PCC should not seek to constrain the energy and drive. The detail would be worked out over the coming years;
- 5.1.1.6. There should be a commitment to review and develop the document. Alternatively, covering each Mark of Mission in each PCC meeting and as part of regular communication to the congregation would provide engagement. There was a risk that without the intention as to how delivery would develop being set out, the congregation would wait to be told what to do;
- 5.1.1.7. A sense of creative chaos needed to be accepted to allow the Holy Spirit to speak through whoever it wished and for that then to be channelled through the appropriate reference group which would hold the chaos but not stifle it;
- 5.1.1.8. A sense of humour and sense of playfulness is important and we need an acceptance of testing, failing and trying again.

5.1.2. **Mark 1: 'Tell the Good News of the Kingdom'**

- 5.1.2.1. Welcome the reference to engaging more deeply with our Anglican heritage as the basis from which we can then be hospitable, playful and fun;
- 5.1.2.2. More was needed to make the church more attractive and come towards the beauty and light that people were used to in their daily lives and home. The need to clean and de-clutter was supported;
- 5.1.2.3. Use should be made of the history and artefacts in the Church to link with the community and the local schools (not just those with whom we are formally linked). The latter should be engaged and brought in more widely, through the Youth and Family workers when in place;
- 5.1.2.4. The Choir should be engaged in the "review of hymn and song usage";

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5.1.2.5. Viewing and managing the Church building and the Parish Centre as one and as part of telling the Good News was important;

5.1.2.6. Church worship as a series of services at particular times, which people would either like or not, did not necessarily reflect the liturgical year and the way it goes through a yearly cycle. There is also the cycle from birth through to death – coming from God and going back to God. Within that there is the cycle of services over the month and the cycle of services on each Sunday. There are liturgical options within the service which can be used to educate people in the ways of God. Using the breadth of liturgy would enable the teaching of faith through the various aspects of Anglicanism. Explaining and communicating how things were changing would be important, whether through pew-sheets or otherwise.

5.1.2.7. Different means of disseminating and explain the Mission Action Plan would need to be explored and used, including the web and social media..

5.1.3. **Mark 2: 'Teach and nurture disciples'**

5.1.3.1. New patterns of learning could be linked to the cycle of liturgy, and this needed to feature in adult learning. This might include linking daily readings through the website and accessing diocesan and other resources in doing that;

5.1.3.2. It would be important to ensure that different parts of the community had access to resources and learning opportunities at different times and in different locations so as to engage as widely as possible;

5.1.3.3. More could be made of baptism and enabling the preparation, service and follow-up to be more integrated into the life of the Church. Baptism should be celebrated by the church community and those coming for baptism be linked into and made to feel part of St Andrews;

5.1.3.4. Authorised ministry is not the sum total of the church's ministry and all have a part to play.

5.1.4. **Mark 3: 'Tend and care for those in need'**

5.1.4.1. The title sums up the many aspects of tending and caring and it is important to ensure that there are adequate resources and focus to ensure that all the diverse groups within the broad scope of pastoral care are addressed and that it is not narrowed down;

5.1.4.2. There is an opportunity here to use diocesan training and other resources;

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5.1.4.3. We also need to consider how we cater for the needs of all and acknowledge the existence of those needs;

5.1.4.4. How do we provide opportunities for people to pray or listen and provide support?

5.1.4.5. This is the Mark which is most likely to make people uncomfortable, but it is where we should demonstrate our need to move beyond toleration and to celebration of diversity;

5.1.4.6. Intergenerational mentoring and the setting up of formal links between different groups is important;

5.1.4.7. Pastoral care needs to be who we are as a church and not just be reactive to crises or problems.

5.1.5. **Mark 4: 'Transform the unjust structures in society'**

5.1.5.1. There are three things which can be difficult in this: a realisation that we can't change the world and not feeling guilty about that; the need for a coherent and logical engagement strategy, which recognises that and creates a dialogue – what are the things we can engage with effectively and make a difference to; and in terms of partnership development we need to consider how we work with those of other faiths.

5.1.5.2. The authority remains with the PCC but the reference groups will be taking forward thinking and present proposals to the PCC.

5.1.6. **Mark 5: 'Treasure God's creation'**

5.1.6.1. There are many opportunities here to both engage with the local authority and partners, and also to link into schools and the uniformed organisations.

5.2. Summing up Steve Griffiths said that this was an extensive document and would not all be delivered at the same time. How did the PCC wish to proceed with ratification? Every PCC would be reviewing progress on each of the Marks and considering priorities and the balance of resources and efforts between each one.

5.3. There is a need for a formal document but there need to be ways of presenting the information in engaging ways which enable the launch on 1 March to be effective. There will be a building process.

5.4. **DECISION:** The PCC, proposed by John Tanner, seconded by Fliss Cox, unanimously ratified the draft Mission Action Plan, subject to amendments to the Foreword: widening the endorsement to include the PCC and those who had supported development from the Listening Exercise; and an addition contextualising its delivery the new governance arrangements).

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6. AOB – Numbers attending Bishop Peter's farewell service on 25 January at St Pauls to be notified to Jacky Parnell
7. Date of Next Meeting – 10 February 2015 at 7:30pm and APM 18 April 2015 at 10:00am.