

Treasurer

Mr Derek Harbottle, 31 Green Street,
Brockworth, GL3 4LU

Parish Priest

Rev. Mike Smith, The Vicarage
Court Road, Brockworth, GL3 4ET

Secretary Elaine Marsh

Minutes of the PCC meeting held Monday 16th September 2024 7pm - Church Centre

In Attendance:

Mike Smith (Chair), Pat Hartwell, Derek Harbottle (Treasurer), Liz Ashenden, Louisa Messenger, Linda Vogwell, John Mayne, Tom Poulton, Sarah Smith, Claire Otter, Rachel Green, Elaine Marsh (12)

1 - The meeting opened with prayer

2 - Apologies: Dave Hopkins, Liz Hopkins, Ally Morgan (3)

3 - Approval of minutes from PCC Monday 15th of July 2024:

Proposed - John Mayne

Seconded - Pat Hartwell

Updates -

Hibiscus grant money can be kept and used for a children's event; excess funds were received and we are waiting for the information re: keeping these additional funds. Derek noted there are still bills to arrive. There are meetings underway re 2025. We await the stats for 2024.

Sarah Smith is still chasing the Diocese re the old vicarage.

4 - Land Development:

Liz A has another contact re mowing **ACTION: Liz to contact**

The proposal is nearly done and can be submitted well before the December deadline.

Derek is questioning the figure involved, Mike confirms that this is a ballpark figure only.

5 - Actions/Ongoing Projects and Events

Christmas Fair – Saturday 30th November 2pm-5pm

Ally has started working on some ideas and has a small team.

Mike asked the PCC to assist delivery.

John - perhaps we need new ideas and new people in case the usual volunteers have had enough.

Liz - offered to do Bric a Brac and help coordinate.

John - offered to be Santa. Grace and Liz are doing the Grotto.

Ideas welcome to events@stgeorgesbrockworth.org

Christmas TreeFest 2024 - Friday 6th December 2024 6.30pm

Linda has spoken to the flower ladies, who have done this for 11 years and are very keen to do it again. Linda will organise with the help of Liz A and Louisa.

Need to set up from Wednesday the 4th.

Need 4 men to do the floodlights. **ACTION: Simon Green, John Boulton to be asked - plus 2 more.**

ACTION: Linda to contact Karen to book the church and arrange advertising

ACTION: Linda to start sending letters next week.

Mike talked about the 400 that come at Christmas only - how do we connect with these folk during the year?

Lists of events were given out at the Tree Fest last year: all info is handed out regarding connecting.

Louisa and Cathy are helping a lady in the parish at the moment.

John - something could be done after Christmas each year.

Rachel - lets invite everyone to everything; some folk find it difficult to come to a service but would come to a meal share. Should be all about relationships.

Louisa - everything is on the pew sheet; we do offer and advertise these things.

Mike - it is all about the personal invite.

Mike will arrange a meeting soon. Pat H, Sarah S, John Mayne and Claire O offered to explore options.

Claire - is there an Alpha? What about the men meeting up (not just breakfast).

Tom - ideas list/calendar? **ACTION: Tom to come up with a Mens Meeting ideas list.**

Stopped to pray.

6 – Finance:

- Local Impact Fund (LIF) - the details of this were emailed previously.

Mike explained that some folk don't want to put their tithe into the "general" fund - they have said that they want to acknowledge they don't want their money going where they don't want it to. So the LIF is a different avenue of how to give, essentially it will be a restricted fund .

It is a new fund that will have a remit to grow the Kingdom in Brockworth.

100% of the donation goes to St George's (restricted)

25% Gift Aid would go to St George's (general fund) - this acknowledges the role of the parish vicar in the local community.

Many questions ensued.

Rachel - who will choose where it goes; will there be a team set up; is there a downside; will it affect the parish share?

Tom - will there be a different bank account?

Replies to the above -

The team decides where it goes and then this comes to the PCC to ratify, in line with the Trustees Charter.

There is no downside as currently we receive nothing.

Parish Share won't be affected as at the moment it is not dependent on income.

Comments.

Liz - sounds like a "Friends of" Association, any money donated as a "Friend" can be used with PCC approval for anything but is not to be part of parish share. These "Friends" can raise money - kind of overlaps with LIF. We have previously raised money this way for other groups.

Mike - it is a small few people that won't currently give that will use the LIF, it is more about discipleship than money. Anyone can go to this team.

Tom- this is a compassionate system.

"To grow through faith, prayer, and worship in Brockworth; to make committed followers of Jesus"

Many more comments but mostly people thought that they did not want to see divisions caused with different ways of giving. Mike responded that all should be well, with good teaching.

Mike also said that we did not need to vote as it was not a proposal, but did need a consensus.

As some members of the PCC were against this and some did not know, the consensus was:

For	5
Against	3
Abstained	3

We stopped to pray.

Derek presented the following financial information (all docs previously circulated).

Parish Share

Information has come from the Area Dean and Archdeacons re 2025 Parish Share. Figures have been distributed. They are re-looking at 2023 and 2024 and recalculating, to give an overall increase of 14%. £65,426 is a 10% increase over our commitment for 2024 - but on their formula it would be an 18.5 increase for us.

We are being asked to consider our commitment for 2025 - the treasurers and Area Deans need a reply by next Tuesday (24th).

Derek explained what the parish share is based on.

(Sarah - should Derek and Tom come up with a figure as they know more?)

If we increased our current commitment by 5% it would be £62,000. Derek suggests the rate of inflation which is 2.3% of half of what they are asking which is 5%.

Our commitment for 2024 is 7% over 2023.

As we have to give two figures Derek suggests realistic 2.3% and challenging 5% offers.

Proposed - Derek

Seconded - Rachel

ACTION: Derek to send Parish Share Offer to Jackie Hyde and Derek Wright.

Kitchen Redevelopment Finances

The final figures show minus £1,111.76 - will be charged to the Church Centre Maintenance Fund.

Mike thanked Derek for his additional work.

Derek talked about the General Fund. No unknown expenditure, income is down, but Church collections are up. We have £3,614 fundraising to date. The fund is not too far from expectations at the moment. A more comprehensive report will be available at the November meeting, for the final Parish Share decision.

Charities Commission registration - ongoing. Tom is to begin to work on this. (Info - all PCC's will have to register for this by 2031 and so certain wordings are already in place, which should assist our own application, because our income has exceeded £100K we need to complete the charity registration this year)

Insurance - this is about to be arranged (1st of October) at £2,900 for the composite policy. Ecclesiastical do give £130 to Church if people buy house insurance from them - this is to be advertised. **ACTION: Notice to go up, Derek has one.**

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7 - Buildings & Infrastructure:

Church Centre - with the new kitchen - how do we maintain cleanliness? Could we raise the hiring rate, or a hirer deposit. Something to think about.

Churchyard wall - meetings have taken place :-

Tim Wiltshire: vegetation removed and re-pointed walls.

Steve Babbage (builder) - good advice in that probably nothing to worry about, just keep watch.

Structural Engineer - is coming out to meet Claire O and Ally.

ACTION: Note - we have to take down the branches from the cherry tree.

Linda - noted the list on the Agenda re the QQ 2021 report - have people seen it? A lot has not been addressed. Linda asked the PCC to go around church to look at the issues, as these things must stay on the radar.

Derek has a digital copy of the QQ report and will email it to Elaine. **ACTION: EM to distribute**

8 - Safeguarding: nothing to report.

9 - Deanery Synod Report: meeting 9th of October

10 - AOB: none

Meeting finished at - 8.55 pm in prayer.

Date of Next Meeting: 18th November 2024 - 7pm Church Centre