



# PCC MINUTES

Minutes of the meetings held at 7.20pm on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November and continuing on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023

<b>STATUS</b>
Approved
29/01/24
(Public)

<b>Present 27<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Chris Brown, Barny Collins, Mark Ellis, Mei Yen Furey, Andrea Jeanneret, Janet Lee, Paul Langham, Susannah Mason, Philip Miles, Di Noon, Mark Orriss, Mark Parsons, Tavi Price, Jack Reed, Chris Shaddick, Dave Vernon, Kamran Zahid
<b>Apologies 27<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Danish Gill, Cluff Noon, Hannah Rodgers
<b>Present 4<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Chris Brown, John Butler, Barny Collins, Mark Ellis, Mei Yen Furey, Danish Gill, Andrea Jeanneret, Janet Lee, Paul Langham, Susannah Mason, Philip Miles, Di Noon, Mark Orriss, Mark Parsons, Tavi Price, Jack Reed, Hannah Rodgers, Chris Shaddick, Dave Vernon, Kamran Zahid
<b>Apologies 4<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Cluff Noon, Chris Shaddick
<b>Minutes of both meetings</b>	Tavi Price

A	INTRODUCTORY ITEMS
<b>A1 - Apologies &amp; Conflicts of interest</b>	<p><b>27<sup>th</sup> November</b> - Apologies noted as above CofI – JL mentioned whether the clergy may have a conflict of interest regarding PLF and so it was noted.</p> <p><b>4<sup>th</sup> December</b> - Apologies noted as above CofI – Finance paper (MP) / 7CC (KZ)</p>
<b>A2 - Prayer and Worship</b>	<p><b>27<sup>th</sup> November</b> - CB read through the values of the PCC as a reminder to all of us on how we should conduct ourselves particularly when dealing with such a sensitive subject as Prayers of Love and Faith (PLF).</p> <p>JL led us in worship first, reading from 2 Thessalonians Ch 2 v13 to Ch 3 v5. We then all spent some time in prayer.</p> <p><b>4<sup>th</sup> December</b> - As an act of thanksgiving worship, Emelye Chanot gave some feedback on her role as Interim Youth Pastor.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current focus is on discipleship and leadership.</li> <li>• Some young people exploring leadership arrive before Meeting Point to have food and to pray and are part of the team leading that week.</li> <li>• The invitation into leadership has been given to everyone – and young people from all ages are putting themselves forward, not just the older ones.</li> <li>• They are experiencing a little bit of growth on a Friday.</li> <li>• Pathfinders on Sunday mornings – the group is quite disjointed – so the aim is to become more cohesive as a team of young people. This term they have watched a movie, had a fire etc – numbers fluctuate but are growing slightly.</li> <li>• Involvement in school Christian Unions is one of the most exciting areas this term.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Emelye is running a CU at Clifton High – alongside a year 8 girl.</li> <li>○ Elliot Mocharrafie was supporting QEH CU – Emelye is able to continue that.</li> <li>○ CU at BGS – Emelye hoping to start that soon as well.</li> <li>● Mentoring – working on getting some girls into Meeting Point – need more mentors particularly for the boys.</li> <li>● JR mentioned that he could ask the guys in the 20’s to 30’s group about mentoring.</li> <li>● Specific prayer – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ praise God that the ones who are coming are ready to share their faith journey.</li> <li>○ Incredible opportunity to be in CUs and within the teams.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>The meeting spent some time in prayer, praying for Emelye, the young people as well as those coming along to the Junior Youth Club.</p> <p>The meeting also spent time praying for Graham &amp; Maggie Stuart, for Cluff Noon and for Paul.</p>
<b>B</b>	
<p><b>B1 - PCC’s Response to Living in Love and Faith (LLF)</b> (Papers 1 &amp; 2)</p>	<p><b>Prayers of Love and Faith (PLF) – Part 1 (27<sup>th</sup> November)</b></p> <p>PL recapped on what had happened at General Synod and each member had the opportunity to ask questions which PL and CB answered as best as they could at this point.</p> <p>The meeting then divided into three groups with each clergy (PL, CB &amp; JL) speaking to each group in turn about their feelings and personal convictions on this matter.</p> <p>Following these group discussions CB took the members through the suggested policy statements for approval on 4<sup>th</sup> December. Many more questions were asked, and the general feeling was that the PCC will not all be ready to make a decision on the 4<sup>th</sup> December. SLT agreed to issue some further reading options during the week between the two meetings and all are welcome to send through questions either before or after reading the further materials.</p>
	<p><b>Prayers of Love and Faith (PLF) – Part 2 (4<sup>th</sup> December)</b></p> <p>CB read through the PCC values again.</p> <p>PL thanked AJ for sending round some information about unconscious bias and good listening and added that the clergy are very open to individual conversations or in small groups going forward.</p> <p>PL then talked through some of the theological questions about why some topics in the Bible are treated differently to others. He reflected on the type of literature throughout the bible (history, prophecy, poetry etc), the personal emotions of the writers, and that not everything recorded in the bible was intended as doctrine, an example to follow, or to be taken literally. He noted that some things in the bible changed over time (eg dietary laws) and some things were unclear (eg role of women).</p> <p>With regard to human sexuality, PL’s view is that the bible is univocal (although PL noted that some may disagree with this). There is one word used in the bible for sexual sin or sexual failing “<i>Porneia</i>” and in the 400 years between 200BC to 200AD there is not a single Jewish or Christian text that has any variation on what this word means – sexual intimacy outside heterosexual marriage covenant. PL expanded on Genesis 1 and Matthew 19 to clarify this.</p>

	<p>PL ended with John 1:14. He regularly prays with this verse in mind that he does not just want to be grace, which can downplay the need for repentance, but also not just to be truth (be like a pharisee). How do we get the balance right?</p> <p>Everyone in attendance then had the opportunity to ask a question on anything related to PLF or on PL's presentation.</p> <p>Some of the points coming out from the questions and discussions are below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The CofE process in the way this has landed has been appalling – a complete lack of thought and care for the impact despite the warnings clergy had given.</li> <li>• We need a strategy and plan of engagement with the church family.</li> <li>• PCC members need clearer guidance from SLT on what can and can't be shared about this topic.</li> <li>• Language and how this topic is communicated is key.</li> <li>• What are the consequences of any decisions we make?</li> <li>• What are the positives outcomes that allow us to introduce everyone to Jesus?</li> <li>• Some church leaderships have already been facing some intimidation – if anyone at CC receives anything that feels like that please inform the PCC.</li> </ul> <p>So much more was said and discussed but the overarching concern across all the members and throughout all the discussions and questions was how can CCC welcome everybody? And for every person to feel they are a valued and love member the church family.</p> <p>The members were then asked if they were ready to make a decision on the proposal below.</p> <p><b>Proposal:</b> The PCC of Christ Church Clifton supports the right of its clergy to act according to individual conscience with regard to the General Synod's decision to introduce prayers for the blessing of same-sex relationships.</p> <p><i>The above was a unanimous yes.</i></p>
<b>C</b>	<b>OTHER ITEMS</b>
<p><b>C1 - Approval of 2024 Budget</b> Paper 03</p>	<p>The Finance Team presented the draft budget for 2024 for PCC approval. MP gave a high-level overview of the paper that has been issued (Paper 03).</p> <p><b>2023 Position</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Estimate for year end: £522k income vs £494k expenditure - £28k surplus</li> <li>• Two significant gifts totaling £30k has made this surplus possible</li> <li>• General Fund reserves would increase from £124k to £152k</li> </ul> <p><b>2024 Proposed Budget – First Draft</b></p> <p>£31k budget deficit, adjusted to a £19k surplus following the inclusion of income from Oakfield Road</p> <p>Assumptions made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mission giving remains the same</li> <li>• Parish share 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of income</li> <li>• Staff costs as current + increase hours for Interim Youth Pastor</li> <li>• No allowance for inflationary pay rise</li> <li>• Planned Giving as per Sept 2023 with £2k per month for ad hoc gifts</li> <li>• No allowance for significant one-off gifts</li> <li>• Full occupancy of the Linden Gate rentals assumed</li> </ul>

	<p>Risks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delay or change in the DBF’s decision to transfer quarterly interest payments to us from the funds they are holding from the sale of Oakfield Road.</li> <li>• Oakfield Road sale income isn’t transferred to us during 2024, or isn’t received early enough to earn a significant amount of interest direct or to plug the deficit that exists without it</li> <li>• Giving income remains volatile</li> <li>• Wider issues within the Church of England impact our finances or stability</li> </ul> <p><b>Proposal:</b> Approve the adjusted 2024 draft budget with a parish share pledge of £150k</p> <p><b>Proposed:</b> SM <b>Seconded:</b> DV</p> <p><b>Carried unanimously</b></p> <p><b>Additional decisions for PCC to vote on</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £25k additional Parish Share to be given upon receipt of capital income from Oakfield Road – this would be an “in principle” conditional on receipt – <b>All in favour</b></li> <li>• Consider an inflationary 2024 pay award – Personnel Team &amp; Finance Team to work up a proposal – <b>All in favour</b></li> <li>• Due to uncertainties review the budget at agreed points during 2024 – <b>All in favour</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>C2 - Interim Youth Pastor</b> Paper 04</p>	<p><b>Proposal:</b> to increase and extend the Interim Youth Pastor role until 31st August 2024 and to increase the hours from 3.5 to 4 days per week.</p> <p><b>Proposed:</b> CB <b>Seconded:</b> DG</p> <p><b>Carried unanimously</b></p> <p>It was considered unlikely that we would secure a permanent Youth Pastor before 31<sup>st</sup> August. We would like to record our grateful thanks to Emelye on agreeing to the above.</p>
<p><b>C3 – Approval Minutes</b> Paper 05</p>	<p>Minutes of the meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> October were approved.</p>
<p><b>C4 - Safeguarding</b></p>	<p>Update on our status for safeguarding training – 4 PCC members still remain to complete theirs. This must be done before the end of the year.</p>
<p><b>Review of the meeting / actions / confidentiality</b></p>	<p><b>Actions:</b></p> <p>C1: Inform Diocese of Parish Share Pledge (MP)</p> <p>C1: Consider 2024 Inflationary Pay Award (Finance Team and Personnel Team)</p> <p>C2: Implement increase in hours for Interim Youth Pastor (MP)</p> <p>C4: All PCC members to complete mandatory Safeguarding Training by 31<sup>st</sup> December</p> <p><b>PCC Christmas Social</b> on 11<sup>th</sup> December</p> <p><b>Next meeting:</b> Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2024, 7.30pm (Detail)</p>

**Future Meetings:**

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> Feb (Big Agenda) 7.30pm, Monday 18<sup>th</sup> Mar (Big Agenda) 7.30pm, Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April (Detail), Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May (APCM)