



## Church of the Holy Saviour, Tynemouth Priory

### Minutes of the PCC Meeting held on Thursday 17 Oct 2019

**Present:** Steve Dixon, Vicar and Chair (SD); Malcolm Railton, curate (MR); David Bilton (DB) Churchwarden; Janice Torpy (JT) Churchwarden; Debbie Baird (DBa), Michael Bayley (MB); Karen Bilton (KB) Treasurer; Chris Benneworth (CB); Linda Benneworth (LB); Rob Blake (RB); Ian Buxton (IB); Gerald Keeling (GK); Liz Parr (LP); John Pearce (JP); Liz Shipway (LS).

Stuart Crozier (SC) – Minute taker.

Item	Subject	Action
1.	<b>Welcome &amp; Opening Prayer:</b> SD welcomed all and led the meeting in prayer.	
2.	<b>Apologies:</b> Julian Brown, Dan Entwisle and Gareth Ruddle.	
3.	<b>What are the PCC responsible for in the life of the Parish?</b> SD invited all to express their thoughts on this. The main thread of consensus was to ensure communication, and working in three ways (1) to the congregation (2) to the community (whole parish) and (3) within a clear charitable framework to conduct Church business properly and equitably. PCC has to be outward focussed in sharing our mission parish wide, noting that the current crop of church goers make up at most 2 to 3% of the parish.	
4.	<b>Minutes:</b> After noting an amendment of CB to LB in para 11.1, the previous minutes were accepted as a true and correct record.	
5.	<b>Matters Arising:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ JB remains in the process of sourcing a suitable garden seat for the church grounds in memory of Elizabeth Brown.</li> <li>○ A donation of £750 towards Scouts outstanding rent was received.</li> <li>○ SD had written to Bishop Christine asking for LS and Elena Rose to be licensed for home communions.</li> <li>○ HIVES are now installed throughout the church premises at a cost of c£500.</li> <li>○ The RCT Veterans Association passed in a cheque for £50 towards road closure costs on Remembrance Sunday. SD hoped that the Scouts may donate as well, and fixed the time of morning service at 9.45am.</li> </ul>	Ongoing - JB
6.	<b>Vicar's Report:</b> SD had circulated his report prior to the meeting. He confirmed that the church Christmas card competition would take in KPS, uniformed organisations and the congregation. PCC would prefer a definite religious theme to be portrayed on the card.	Competition to be held w/c 4 Nov
7.	<b>Churchwardens' Report:</b> A report from the Churchwardens had been circulated prior to the meeting. The porch works now had a revised finish date of 1 Nov, albeit with concerns as to availability of stone masons. The contractors will provide for a deep clean of both the church and church yard on completion. Heavy rain had been noted in the font area again. Part of the hall boundary wall has been replaced by a fence (at the resident's expense).	
8.	<b>Social sub-committee report.</b> This broadcast events for next year; Sat 25 Jan – musical night; Sat 8 Feb – culture kitchen, with refugees / asylum seekers cooking a native meal (this will need to be ticketed to plan for numbers, but at no cost, whilst welcoming donations); Fri 27 Mar – jigsaw competition. A 500 piece jigsaw to be compiled by a team of 2 to 4. £10 entry; Sun 11 Oct – Harvest lunch after the Harvest festival; Sat 14 Nov – Autumn Fair 2020.	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A potential VE Day function (w/e 8/10 May) was raised but as yet there has been no direction (or funding) from Central Govt to local authorities.</li> </ul>	
9.	<p><b>Planning Ahead</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Leading Your Church into Growth.</b> There were 4 attendees, taking in 2 ½ days of training. MR emphasised that a positive attitude is needed and key to spreading good news. JT felt pleased that we already do much that is proposed, and that it is achievable. LP advocated this is a last chance to do something. People do not seem to want what is currently offered. We need to adapt for the Church to be relevant, survive and take it forward.</li> <li>○ <b>Away Day.</b> SD then set out the context of the Away Day – to evaluate the ‘Growth’ learning and apply it to look at what we do, rethink what we are doing well and how to use that to grow. It is the start of a process of ‘growth’ requiring work on all parts – simply doing nothing is not an option. Car share and logistic arrangements were also confirmed.</li> </ul>	
10.	<p><b>Standing Items:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Finance.</b> The Sept accounts were circulated to PCC members. Gift aid of £3K is being reclaimed. The outlook for running costs looks positive.</li> <li>○ <b>Investment.</b> There had been a meeting earlier in the day at which Brewin Dolphin provided a 3 year review, with a 21% total return. The target return is 2 ½ to 3% per annum. Current valuation was £329,454, with annual income at £8,615 giving a 2.6% return.</li> <li>○ <b>Rent review for 2020.</b> To be set at some 2% above current charges to account for inflation. DB proposed, MB seconded and PCC agreed unanimously.</li> <li>○ <b>Parish Share.</b> It was noted that the Area Dean has advised all parishes in the Deanery to budget for a 2% increase in Parish Share. There was also discussion on a proposal from the Diocesan Synod that the Diocese increases its budget by 2%. DB proposed, LB seconded, and PCC accepted with one abstention. This decision will be fed back to Diocesan Synod as it determines which budget option to take for next year. SD was asked to include PCC feelings on the return to the Diocese.</li> <li>○ <b>Health and Safety</b> – MB reported that there is no fire risk assessment for Sunday service or trained fire wardens. He has a short ‘Fire Warden DVD’ which achieves the required training. Consensus indicated that sides persons could double up as fire wardens. A trained first aider (1 day training course) should also be in attendance for the Autumn Fair.</li> <li>○ <b>Fabric</b> – covered elsewhere (see Churchwardens’ report).</li> <li>○ <b>Safeguarding</b> – nothing to report.</li> <li>○ <b>Deanery and Diocesan Synods.</b> A long and lively discussion ensued, drawing on JB’s email and papers circulated beforehand. Information was noted on a Diocesan wide review of the Parish Share system which could result in some major changes in how Parish Share is allocated to each parish. MR reported that our recent HIVE initiative chimed with proposed ecological improvements, and that Deanery had two contactless machines for donations which could be lent out to and utilised by churches as required.</li> </ul>	<p>Letters to follow - SD/SC</p> <p>Return due to Church House by 6 Nov</p>
10.	<p><b>Correspondence:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ SC broadcast the Tree Lighting on the Green. Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> Nov at 7pm.</li> <li>○ Copyright infringement of use of a cartoon in the News was noted.</li> </ul>	SD to officiate
11.	<p><b>Any Other Business:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ JP repeated his plea for photographs of PCC members in their youth.</li> </ul>	To JP 24 Oct
12.	<b>Dates of Future Meetings:</b> Monday 2 Dec 2019 in the Parish Centre at 7.30pm.	
	<b>Grace:</b> The meeting concluded with the Grace at 9.20pm.	