

**The St. J's Group**  
**Parish of Wellow**

**Minutes of the PCC meeting held on Thursday, 30<sup>th</sup> November 2017**  
**In St. Julian's Church, Wellow**

**Present:-**

Matthew Street (Chairman), Colin Tremellen, Jonathan Wyld, Julia Wyld, Jane Rees. Stewart Cole, Pam Pike, Lyn Doman, Mary Wilkins, Tom Benyon, Rich Miles and Lynne Williams (secretary)

1. **Reflection and Prayer.**
2. **Apologies for Absence.** None as all members were present.
3. Minutes of the meeting held on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2017. The minutes were approved subject to an amendment to minute no. 4(a) to indicate that the income and expenditure report was for the period January to June 2017. The Chairman signed the minutes.
4. **Finance.**

**4a** **Actual expenditure for the period January to December 2017.** A report prepared by Ruth Brown was noted.

**4b** **On-Line Banking.** Jonathan Wyld (Treasurer) advised that as an increasing number of people are using on-line banking, it would be advisable and also helpful to our Book Keeper, Ruth Brown, for the PCC to do on-line banking in future. Jonathan said he believes the protections seem adequate. Only one person is required to approve payments (instead of two under the existing arrangement) and the sum would be unlimited. Jonathan recommended that this arrangement should apply to the Church's current account which the PCC can ensure contains not more than £10,000 at any one time. St. John's Church, Peasedown, has managed in this way without problems. Jonathan suggested Ruth Brown (Book Keeper) and he as Treasurer should be authorised for on-line banking so that either one of them has the ability to check and monitor the accounts and to make payments. The necessary form for the Nat West Bank would need to be completed. As a registered charity the existing authorised signatories are Colin Tremellen and Matthew Street and they were invited to sign the form for the Bank.

It was proposed by Julia Wyld, seconded by Jane Rees and **agreed that the PCC adopt on-line banking in respect of the Church's funds and that either Jonathan Wyld or Ruth Brown can independently authorise payments on behalf of the Church.**

It was noted that cheques issued will still require two signatures.

5. **Church Warden's Report.** Colin Tremellen's report was noted with thanks. Arising from that report, the following was noted:-

Mobile Phones Antenna. In relation to the huge disappointment that mobile phone antenna would not now be installed in the Church's bell tower, Matthew Street indicated that the Government's requirement that everybody should have 5g suggests that the mobile phone companies will need to put at least two masts in Wellow in due course.

6. **Friends of St. Julian's. Follow up to the DAC visit.**

Accessible Toilet and Kitchenette for the Church. Jane Rees advised on the meeting with the DAC on 26.10.17. at which it was acknowledged that the Tower option was preferred by the PCC. However, the DAC appear to believe there is one option for every church. That option would not give the PCC what it wants. It appears that the date of the Tower is one of the sticking points. Jane does not believe it is the same date as the Church. She very kindly undertook to research this. By implication, if the tower was built later than the Church, the DAC may be more sympathetic to putting a door in it. The Architect has been commissioned to prepare design drawings. Plans and elevations will not be measured elevations at this stage. The Church is committed to the resulting Architect's fees. Those fees should be paid by the PCC. The Friends will raise funds for the building costs. Up to £3,000 out of the fabric fund will be used for paying the Architect's fees. What the DAC decide heavily influences what Historic England decide.

The notes of the meeting held on 26.10.17. prepared by the DAC will be kept with the PCC minutes for record purposes.

The PCC expressed disappointment with the lack of sympathetic support from the DAC in this matter.

Matthew Street will invite the Arch Deacon to come to the St. J's Group Churches for a day.

7. **Vote on Rob Bubyer becoming a Foundation Governor for the Church Valley Schools.**

It was proposed by Julia Wyld, seconded by Colin Tremellen and **agreed unanimously** that Rob Bubyer should become a Foundation Governor for the Church Valley Schools.

8. **Deanery – Update.** The Bishop wants deaneries to become far more influential, work together and produce plans for the allocation of clergy. They are going to be doing things together. The Bishop now has 19 plans. The Midsomer Norton plan needs agreement by approximately 20 PCCs.

9. **Resident Organist.** It was noted that Pauline wishes to step down as resident organist and was to put that in writing. As that has not yet happened, Matthew Street advised her that he would raise this matter with the PCC. As resident organist, Pauline played at weddings and funerals and was paid for doing so. She was responsible for the organ and

for those other organists who came to the Church to play the organ. Pauline no longer wishes to be the default person for weddings etc. nor does she wish to co-ordinate other organists. This means that other people can now be asked to play the organ. Rotas are in place until the end of January 2018. From February 2018 that role will flow back to Rob. David, Bob, Steve and Pauline could come to play the organ and there are others who could do so. It was suggested that one person should be responsible for the organ.

The lock on the organ needs to be repaired to prevent uninvited persons from misusing the organ.

10. **Christmas Programme.** The Christmas programme, as now submitted, was approved subject to the timing of the Communion service on Christmas day being altered to 9.30am – 10.15am to enable Matthew Street to reach his next Church on time.

It was suggested that the Christmas Day Communion service could be changed to “Christmas Day Family Communion” which might attract young people as well as older people to attend. **It was agreed to try this.**

It was also suggested that in future there is a midnight mass on Christmas Eve. **It was agreed that when the PCC next has a review of services in preparation for Christmas, this suggestion will be considered.** In the meantime the opinion of Wellow residents will be sought regarding this suggestion to obtain feedback for the PCC.

Colin Tremellen advised that in the past, monies collected at the Christmas service have been given away to good causes. **It was agreed that in future the Church should retain those funds.**

11. **Sermon Series for 2018.** Matthew Street tabled details of a pop art style sheet produced by Rich Miles entitled “You are my Witness” which will be printed in different sizes.
12. **St. J’s Group Ministry Team – Update.** There was nothing to report to this meeting.
13. **Church Valley Schools Federation – Update.** Matthew Street advised that he stepped down as Chair of Governors last September. A great deal of work is involved in that role. At present Matthew is the Acting Chair but that role will end on 31.12.17. After that date he will be an ex-officio Governor. Matthew further advised that a new Head Teacher, namely, Ruth Noall, has been appointed. She is currently a Deputy head Teacher at a community school in inner-City Bristol. Ruth has been in teaching for 16 years and has taught in Asia. She starts her new job on 1.1.18. The Federation is in a statutory process to close Camerton School because there were only seven children on the roll and they are now being transported to Shoscombe School. Currently there are 107 children attending St. Julian’s School. Shoscombe School has had an Ofsted inspection and has been designated as “Good”.
14. **Safeguarding – Update.** Rob is the designated safeguarding officer. There was nothing to report to this meeting.

15. **Any Other Business.**

Christmas Bazaar. Pam Pike, Lyn Doman and the team were thanked by the PCC for all their hard work in organising, running and working at the Bazaar. Funds raised from this event will be equally divided between the Church and the Childrens' Hospice.

**Next PCC meeting -** 15<sup>th</sup> February 2018.

**Further meeting dates** - 17.5.18. 30.8.18. 29.11.18.