

## St. J's Group with Wellow

### Minutes of the PCC meeting held on Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> February 2024

#### At 7.30pm in St. Julian's Church

Present: Matthew Street (Chairman), Jonathan Wyld, Pam Pike, Jane Rees, Pat Caudle, Jane Isaac, Rachel Kotchie and Lynne Williams.

1. **Time of reflection and prayer.** Members of the PCC read from Proverbs, Psalms and Philipians

2. **Apologies for Absence** were received from Caroline Thomas.

**Any Other Business.** 2024 on-line Audit of Children, Youth and Families Work across the Diocese of Bath and Wells.

3. **Minutes of the last PCC meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2023.** Approved and signed by the Chairman.

4. **Finance:-**

2023 Year End Actuals - approved.

2024 Budget – approved.

Approval of Audited Accounts. It was moved by Pat Caudle, seconded by Jane Isaac and unanimously agreed to approve the Audited Accounts as now submitted.

The PCC members were pleased to note that finances are healthy at present and expressed grateful thanks to Jonathan Wyld (Treasurer) and Ruth Brown (Bookkeeper) for all their hard work.

5. **Declaration of Membership and Category for Common Fund 2025.**

The PCC considered the current proposal by the Diocese of Bath & Wells to revise the method for allocating contributions to the Common Fund from churches within the Diocese. The PCC were deeply concerned that under this proposal they face a huge increase in the contribution to be made by St. Julian's Church. This would total £21,509.00 in 2025. These proposals are currently the subject of consultation within the Diocese. Some members of this PCC will be attending a consultation meeting on 14.2.24.

It was moved by Jane Isaac, seconded by Jonathan Wyld and unanimously agreed that the PCC does not see that the proposed new system is feasible or sustainable for Wellow.

Declaration of Membership. It was moved by Lynne Williams, seconded by Pam Pike and unanimously agreed to declare 22 as the Church membership number.

6. **Plans for APCM on Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> March 2024.** There is currently one vacancy on the PCC. The members noted that where there is more than one expression of interest in filling a vacancy on the PCC, it is necessary to hold a ballot.

The timetable for the APCM was approved by the PCC.

7. **Implications of new Parish Share system currently on consultation.** Discussed under minute no.5 above.
8. **Review of monthly All Age Worship (AAW).** The PCC noted with pleasure that AAW will continue.
9. **Prayers of Love and Faith.** The PCC considered the Bishop of Bath & Wells letter dated the 13.12.23. regarding this liturgy. Matthew Street advised that Same Sex couples who marry in a Registry Office cannot at the moment ask the church to bless their marriage. The Prayers of Love and Faith can be used in a principal Sunday service. The default in the Diocese of Bath & Wells is that the liturgy will not be used unless a parish opts-in. To opt in a parish will need to seek the permission not only of the incumbent but also the PCC.

The PCC noted the position.

10. **Church Warden's Report.** The PCC noted Pam Pikes report with grateful thanks.
11. **Friends of St. Julian's - Update from Pat Caudle.** Pat had nothing to report at present.
12. **Church Building and Grounds: -**

Prior to this meeting Jane Rees had kindly circulated her written report up-dating members on (a) the application to the DAC for a Faculty; (b) the approach to the Chancellor; and (c) the required Archaeological Investigation for which we have a licence. On the latter (c) Jane had obtained quotes for the necessary works. Keith Faxon, recommended by one of the archaeological advisors to the DAC, had quoted the sum of £1,350 (no VAT payable) for 3 days on site and 2 days for producing a written report. If fewer days are necessary we will be charged accordingly. If any human remains are discovered these will be recorded, stored appropriately, and reinterred during the proposed building project. The quote from Keith Faxon was the lowest received. David Craddock will provide a digger and driver.

It was moved by Jonathan Wyld, seconded by Pam Pike and unanimously agreed by the PCC that the quote from Keith Faxon be accepted.

Keys to the Church. Given the considerable number of keys currently in circulation, arrangements have been made to put a new padlock on the main (south) entrance door with a combination lock. The combination will be changed monthly. Arrangements have also been made to replace the lock on the external entrance door to the Vestry to which there will be 12 numbered keys so that control can be maintained over keys circulation. The PCC noted these arrangements.

CCTV. The PCC noted that Pam Pike is currently seeking quotes for CCTV to help deter vandalism to the Church.

Replacement lighting. The PCC noted that a project is necessary to replace the existing light bulbs in the Church with energy efficient LED ones.

13. **Review of Christmas 2023 plus proposed 2024 programme** attached to the agenda for this meeting. The PCC approved the 2024 programme.
14. **Safeguarding – Policies and Procedures.** Referring to the Safeguarding report to the PCC produced by Rob Bubyer, Parish Safeguarding Officer, it was moved by Jonathan Wyld, seconded by Pat Caudle and unanimously agreed to again adopt the Safeguarding Statement and Policies referred to in that report.
15. **Up-date from Midsomer Norton Deanery.** Matthew Street advised that his six-year term is ending but he has indicated that he is prepared to continue.
16. **Proposed Easter Programme 2024.** The proposed programme set out on the agenda for this meeting was approved.

17. **AOB: –**

2024 on-line Audit of Children, Youth and Families Work across the Diocese of Bath and Wells.

\* It was agreed to request Julia Wyld to kindly complete this on-line Audit for St. Julians Church.

\* (Note: Following this meeting Bob Bubyer confirmed that he had completed this Audit form as a Benefice.)

Jonathan and Julia Wyld. The PCC noted that Jonathan and Julia will be unavailable for the whole month of December 2024 and early January 2025.

Signed: .....

Dated: **9<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

**Chairman**

**Dates of further meetings in 2024:-**

**9<sup>th</sup> May**

**22<sup>nd</sup> August**

**21<sup>st</sup> November**