

**St. Mary's Sprotbrough Parochial Church Council**  
**Minutes of Meeting held in the Stable**  
**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at 7.30 pm**

The meeting opened with a prayer by Amanda.

**1. Attendance:**

**Present:** Amanda Barraclough (Chair), Derek Barraclough, Robert Heaton, Angela Hudson, James Inglis, Alison Lumby, Roland Lumby, Andrea Offord, Robert Paskell, Therese Paskell, Janet Scott and Rachel Towers (12)

**Apologies:** Betty Brockman, Lyn Hopson & Barbara Perry (3)

**2. Approval of the Minutes of 9<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

**Amendments** – Item 11, line 4 to reflect that Roland, James and Rachel offered to help Robert with practicalities of the Treasurer role. *Proposed by Andrea Offord and seconded by Roland Lumby. Agreed unanimously by all those present at that meeting.* Minutes signed by Amanda.

**3. Matters Arising**

- **Health & Safety Officer** – No person identified. It was agreed to put out a request to the Church congregation via the weekly newsletter.
- **Health & Safety Policy** – The document was tabled and various amendments discussed. To be updated as necessary and displayed.
- **Events & Fundraising Team** – Seven volunteers to meet this week to discuss way forward. Amanda confirmed that expectations are primarily to have events that connect with the community and are enjoyable. Fundraising is a secondary priority and not the driver.
- **Post Office** – Email correspondence has been exchanged between Amanda, the Parish Council and Local Councillor, David Glover. The Church could not identify any practical solution from its own perspective to help re-establish this service in the Old Village. Other options in the wider Parish were being considered with established businesses and going forward it was agreed that the Church could only provide a supportive voice.

**4. Fabric Update – aka Redevelopment Project Progress – Update**

A Task Force meeting had been held earlier in the day and Roland was able to report that a costing for every aspect of the re-ordering of the Church was in the region of £123,000 plus VAT. This figure is expected to fluctuate with savings hopefully being identified but also unexpected costs may be incurred. The Faculty application is almost ready for submission. The samples of Church appropriate furniture are awaited and the information of the preferred choice is required to support the application.

The temporary Faculty application for removal of pews immediately, to provide the relevant space for people to be able to begin to appreciate the re-ordering process, is still outstanding. Amanda confirmed that she has applied to the Archdeacon of Doncaster for a resolution to this delay and his response is awaited.

## 5. Christians Together

- **Platinum Jubilee** – Sadly the weather was disappointing but there was a good attendance of SMC, St Mary's and non-church goers from the Parish. Though money was raised by St Mary's and SMC through ticket sales, an anonymous local donor gifted monies to cover the event. St Mary's were pleased to be the supplier of plenty of baked goods.

The time capsule commemorating the Jubilee is to be buried at St Mary's (Archdeacon approval has been given) and the location was considered. It was agreed that it could be buried under where there is already disturbance from the placement of the wooden cross. The 'cross pocket' which is currently not used could be reinstated covering the spot. A small plaque will be laid to identify the place.

Working with the SMC to deliver the Jubilee event Amanda considered had strengthened our working relationship and was appreciative of being invited to attend the SMC Leadership meeting earlier in June. As a consequence, going forward there is to be another meeting to discuss a joint initiative for the Lent 2023 course.

- 6. Christians Together AGM – 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022** – The meeting is scheduled to be held in the Stable at 7.30pm. Amanda would encourage other members of the PCC and wider congregation to attend and continue building on the Christians Together ethos in Sprotbrough which is a valuable partnership.

## 7. Treasurers Report

Robert tabled a report of the Churches finances at June 2022. The key points identified were discussed in more detail. Reductions in 'giving' was identified as a concern. The main income streams that can actually be influenced are giving and fundraising. The effect of gift aid on giving was discussed and the ability of the Church to reclaim GASDS was identified as a part of giving that could effectively maximise income if monies were given without the giver identifying their tax position but just putting the money in the basket (the GASDS cap is £8,000 pa). It was agreed that the importance of giving and should be communicated to parishioners and a detailed explanation provided in the newsletter.

Robert was able to confirm that the handover from Ray Ekins, retired Treasurer, was complete. However, the issues of access to bank accounts especially the current account with Santander was not as straight forward as hoped. As a current signatory Roland had been able to get access to the account online and an ID card to be able to pay in monies.

Going forward it is important to identify the three signatories who are to be on the account and they have been identified by the members of the PCC as:

- 1 Robert Paskell – Treasurer & new Trustee
- 2 Amanda Barraclough – Rector
- 3 Roland Lumby – Churchwarden

It was understood that the above three signatories would be given the access code and be provided an ID card to the Santander account. It was also ratified that Mr Ray Ekins retired Treasurer and retired Trustee be removed from the Santander account and the bank also notified of the retirement of other Trustees, Mrs Heather Mears, Mrs Hilary Downs and Mrs Margaret Anne Smith. *Proposed by Therese Paskell and seconded by Alison Lumby. Agreed unanimously by all those present at that meeting.*

As a consequence of the above resolution an Extraordinary Meeting of the PCC will be held on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> June immediately after the Church Service to approve the Minutes of the

meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2022. These can then be presented to the Santander with the appropriate paperwork already prepared.

Robert confirmed that after a discussion with Libby from the Diocese several accounts packages had been identified as suitable for use. He will be exploring their capabilities in more detail and was grateful to Libby who had offered practical support in implementing a chosen package.

Finally, Amanda thank Robert for taking on the Treasurer role and Roland for being able to provide the day to information needed from the current account whilst changes are implemented.

## **8. Policy Review – Equality Policy**

No amendments required. *Proposed by Roland Lumby, seconded by Janet Scott and agreed unanimously by all those present.*

## **9. Centenary Project Worker (CPW)**

Disappointingly no applications received. Apparently this is not unusual and the CPW Team at the Diocese are to provide guidance on how to proceed with re-advertisement.

## **10. Buildings & Grounds Committee**

Dissemination of the Minutes tabled is to be deferred until the July meeting. However, Roland did briefly explain the quote for the cost re-polishing the Hall floor was still awaited.

## **11. Annual Charity Fundraiser by Hirer's (Hall & Stable)**

It was established that to date in 2022 only two regular users of the venues, the Women's Institute and Mothers' Union had taken advantage of holding an event at no cost for hiring the Hall. Rachel explained that she had understood from the original conception of the idea that the prospective fundraising event would be on the proviso that the organisation/group or person already used the Hall or was prolific in the wider community and it was capped at one event a year. Also, that the fundraising endeavours were for 'charity fundraising' and not self promotion/monetary gain. It was agreed that Rachel would write up a brief summary/criteria of expectations regards the booking of such events. It was also confirmed that the annual total of non chargeable events in either the Stable or Hall for fundraising is capped at twelve.

## **12. Update on Grants Work**

Deferred until July meeting.

## **13. Admissions of Churchwardens – 20<sup>th</sup> June 7.30pm at Doncaster Minster**

Roland and Janet would appreciate the support of other PCC members if they are able to attend the service.

## **14. AOB**

**1. Plastic Brown Chairs** –Rusted and ugly chairs to be disposed of. It was agreed they would be offered to the general public via social media etc.

- 2. Sanctuary Weekend at Home** – The cancellation of the May weekend due to illness has been rescheduled for the weekend of 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> October. Attendees who have already paid will be advised of new date and those unable to attend will be offered a refund.

**The meeting closed with the Grace at 9.10pm.**

**Date of Extraordinary Meeting of the PCC – Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at approx 11.30 am in the Church.**

**Date of next meeting – Monday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2022 at 7.30 pm in the Stable.**