

St Mary's Sprotbrough Parochial Church Council

Minutes

Monday 13th December 2021.

7.30pm in the Church Hall

The meeting opened with a prayer by Amanda

1. Attendance

Present Revd Amanda Barraclough, Revd Robert Heaton, Derek Barraclough, Betty Brockman, Hilary Downs, Ray Ekins, Lyn Hopson, Angela Hudson, James Inglis, Alison Lumby, Heather Mears, Andrea Offord, Barbara Perry, Janet Scott, Anne Smith, Rachel Towers. 16

Apologies Roland Lumby, Therese Paskell 2

2. Approval of the Minutes of the meeting 8th November 2021

Item 7. "produce" amended to "complete"

Proposed by Andrea, seconded by James. Approved unanimously.

3. Matters Arising

a. Christmas Lights The extension has been fitted and the lights are shining brightly.

b. Re-Development Consultation The additional weeks' consultation produced 3 more responses. Amanda said we have now done all we can and will consider what to do next. Details will need to be discussed with the architect as the project progresses. Amanda thanked Roger Offord for all he has done **Amanda**

c. Canon Lyth Memorial Plaque Ray said repair is not necessary, re-painting is being done. **Ray**

d. Centenary Project Worker Update

Amanda said that further work to complete the application will be done after Christmas. She emphasised that the primary objective is not growing the Sunday congregation. Spring is the optimum time for the advertisement; the application will need to be submitted by the end of February. **Amanda**

4. Review of Covid Restrictions

It is at present a legal requirement to wear masks in places of public worship, a new supply of face masks has been ordered for use in church. It was pointed out that Bishop Pete's directive was that congregations should not mingle, it was decided that refreshments after services will be suspended for the rest of the year and will be reviewed in January. Crib services will go ahead with restrictions and limited numbers as planned. **Amanda**

5. Correspondence none

6. Safeguarding People who help with Exploring Christmas should be asked to complete a DBS declaration. **Amanda. Janet**

7. Committee Reports

a. Church Building and Grounds

Amanda thanked the SMITE team for completing many jobs. Repointing the paths from the north door and west door needs to be done to prevent a trip hazard by heels being caught in the gaps between the stones. Proposed dates for next year's meetings will be confirmed later.

8. Vision Committee. Lights for Christ

The Lights for Christ course has now concluded and Amanda provided a list of points to focus on imagining our church in 5 years time. Also ensuring one week of the month is free of meetings to allow time for House Groups. Amanda encouraged use of the ReSource ARM website for many good Vlogs.

9. Memorial Plaques.

PCC had been told that memorial plaques were not allowed for cremated remains and on this basis approved numbers inscribed at the side of the path. When Amanda told this to a bereaved family, on a funeral visit, they were very distressed. Amanda expressed her concerns to the Archdeacon and it was suggested that plaques could be put on the wall behind the cremated remains area. A change of staff at DAC may mean a different decision to an application for a new faculty. Actioning the inscription of numbers will be paused.

10. Deanery Gathering Summary

Bishop Pete led the Gathering at Goole which was attended by Amanda, Derek and Ray. Signs of encouragement and concerns were shared. Issues of viability/sustainability of buildings were discussed.

11. Treasurer's Report

Predicted yearend balance in the current account is £12,000. Payments are up to date. £8,000 has been transferred to SDBF as agreed last month.

A draft budget was drawn up by Ray and Libby Culmer, the Diocesan Generosity & Giving Officer. Ray felt this was not satisfactory and needed input from PCC to prepare a budget. He will prepare a budget in the next 4 weeks and he is available for scrutiny and comments from PCC. He said there is a £26,000 deficit in our Common Fund pledge which needs to be met by fund raising/ community events.

The Christmas Tree Festival raised £1,600. Trees cost £300. Vouchers for £600 will be given to the Doncaster Childcare Trust to be given to teenagers at Christmas. There were 700 visitors to church. Amanda thanked Andrea and Roger Offord, Viv and Ian Jenkinson for organising the event.

12. Crib Service Collections

Collections will be split between *Embrace* for families in the Middle East and St. Mary's. Card readers could be provided for people who do not have cash.

13. Church Fees Update

Most fees are set by the C of E, fees set by St Mary's need approval of PCC.

Approval of increases proposed by Rachel, seconded by Alison, agreed unanimously

14. Authorisation of Spending

The cost of repairs for the Hall boiler was above the £250 limit which PCC set for unauthorised spending. As this was an emergency situation permission was given by the Standing Committee by email.

15. St Peter's College PCC Training

A virtual meeting which will benefit PCC members will be held in February.

16. AOB

Amanda said the Living in Love and Faith Course will start on Tuesday 18th January for 5 weeks and asked for names of those interested.

Betty read a draft letter to Liz and Terry Bramall, updating them on changes at the Barn which is now let to the Theatre Company. There will be further discussion at the January meeting.

The meeting closed with the Grace at 9.25pm

Date of Next Meeting: Monday 10th January 2022