

Benefice of BCMU: *One Church PCC Meeting by Zoom*

A Community of Spiritual Disciples Leading our Benefice through Worshipful Working

MINUTES

Held on: 23/11/20	Time: 7.30-9.30pm	Place: Zoom
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Present

Roles	St Andrew	✓	St Bartholomew	✓	St Michael	✓	Co-Opted	✓
Priest	Simon Lewis					✓		
Reader	Gene Joyner					✓		
Churchwarden	Margaret Speirs	✓	Judith Longhurst	✓	Kate Reynolds	✓		
Churchwarden			Diana Coles	✓	Jonathan Reynolds	✓		
Deanery Synod	Penny Crawford	✓	Nigel Crocker	✓	Jean Luckett	✓		
Deanery Synod	Helen Barnes	✓	Helen Fenn	✓				
Elected	Ben Wiggins	✓	Muriel Cole	L	Sue Owst	✓		
Elected	Lynsey Hatherall	✓	Gerald Coles	✓	Lucy Hemsley	L		
Elected			Charlie Fenn	✓	John Allen	Ap		
Elected					Gill Durbin	✓		
Notetaker							Laura Williams	✓
Secretary							Vacant	
Treasurer							Vacant	
Quorum	Y		Y		Y			

7.30pm / We Gather in God's Name

- Welcome** - Permission requested by Simon Lewis to record meeting. All Agreed.
 - Declaration of a Quorum for each PCC** - Meeting delcalred quorate in all three PCCS
- Worship

7.45pm / We Celebrate Our Past

3. Communication and Correspondence

- None

4. Approval of past Minutes (First One Church meeting - no previous minutes)

5. Matters Arising

6. Progress updates from last meeting

a. December and Christmas in the Benefice (PCC referred to documents circulated with the agenda)

- Laura Williams updated the PCCs about plans for worship after the end of lockdown on 2 Dec 2020.
- Separate notices have been placed in the parish magazines for regular church worship and special Christmas worship, including Christingle party via zoom, Midnight Mass at St Andrews and an outdoor church worship on 25th at each parish church.
- Helen Barnes asked what contingency plans were in place if the weather on Christmas Day was really awful.
- The community will be directed to an online worship for Christmas Day.

b. Money Matters

- Simon Lewis updated the PCCs on the situation regarding care of finance in the parishes.
- Helen Thorne (who lives in Blagdon and an Accountant) has agreed to take on the position of bookkeeper in all three parishes, beginning with St Andrew's and St Bartholomew's and then St Michael's.
- Claire Pearson has produced handover documents.
- Helen will be working one morning per fortnight in the parish offices. We will still need a 'Finance Director' for the Benefice (as Helen's role will be limited) and this needs to be in place before the APCM in May 2021.
- Cash handling will need to be undertaken in each parish with records passed to Helen.
- Penny Crawford will continue this role in St Andrew's.
- We need to appoint cash handlers at the next PCC meeting for St B and St M. Laura to notify Penny of Helen's contact details.

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8.00pm / We Dwell in God's Word

- Scripture reading: **Genesis 22.1-17** - Abraham and Issac

7. A Time of Learning

Theme: **Who are we? Worshipful Working: the nature and culture of this group -**

Simon shared a reflection on the Scripture reading (see Apx01 with these Minutes), the first of a number of reflections concerned with the culture and ethos of our PCCs, and how they are the model leadership that our Church will follow.

- We shared an affirmation of faith

8.25pm / We Take Refreshment

8.30pm / We Present Our Offering

Consent Agenda (Items requiring PCC action that the Standing Committee believes does not require discussion or debate.)

8. No item for this meeting

Discussion Agenda (This is an opportunity to ask specific questions about these items. Please read the reports before the meeting)

9. One Church One Family Project:

Path 1: 7 **Marks of Healthy Church** & Path 2: **One Church One Family Project:**Apx 03 of Agenda

The following resolution was unanimously passed.

“As representatives of our respective parishes, we the PCCs of St Andrew, Blagdon with St Hugh Charterhouse, St Michael, Compton Martin and St Bartholomew, Ubley agree to the launch of the Pathways Projects that will result in the formation of One United Parish incorporating the current Parishes within our Benefice.”

Comments:

- SL updated the PCCs on the situation in the Harptrees.
- He has had conversations with two representatives from their Benefice: Guy Stobart (Chairman) and Mary Cookson (CW St Laurence EH) and also with the Archdeacon, regarding the vacancy in their united parish.
- The Diocese is currently exploring looking to restructure how the placement and use of priests within rural areas.
- Our group has many connection with Harptrees. Gerald and Diana lived there and Helen and Charlie Fenn live in WH. Several people know Guy.
- The question was raised whether Simon could help out there now. Suggestions included running a midweek Eucharist or Jean suggested support for the School - the Headship is shared with Ubley.
- We could also share online services.

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10. **Church Ministries:**

Contemplative Ministry - Please read Apx 04 of Agenda

The following resolution was unanimously passed

“As representatives of our respective parishes, we the PCCs of St Andrew, Blagdon with St Hugh Charterhouse, St Michael, Compton Martin and St Bartholomew, Ubley agree to accept the CMTs proposal and to embed its findings over the coming three years.”

Comments:

- The report on Contemplative Ministry had been written by the Revd. Alex Holmes, along with Lucy Hemsley, and Nick & Sarah Jarrett-Kerr.
- The report invited the PCCs to consider the reordering of prayer spaces in our buildings to embrace new and existing styles of contemplative worship, for example a Julien Group.
- SL explained that the report is the beginning of embedding a Contemplative Culture in our Benefice, perhaps including St Hugh's to extend it's wider use to the Diocese and other local church groups.
- SL asked the PCCs to support this direction: being mindful; giving space to ourselves and as a Church family to listening to God, and much much more.
- JL liked the practical ideas in the report and expressed enthusiasm for previous worship led by Lucy and Nick and Sarah Jarrett-Kerr.
- Gerald questioned whether our insurance allowed for lighting candles unsupervised. Simon confirmed. Diana suggested safety measures are checked and highlighted for visitors to our churches and ourselves.

Ordained Ministry - Please read Apx 05 of Agenda.

Gerald, Diana (his wife) and Lucy were asked to leave the meeting for this part

The following resolution was unanimously passed.

“As representatives of our respective parishes, we the PCCs of St Andrew, Blagdon with St Hugh Charterhouse, St Michael, Compton Martin and St Bartholomew, Ubley agree to support the re-licensing of Lucy Hemsley and Gerald Coles as Readers in our Benefice.”

Comments:

- KR expressed gratitude that others could be available to support SL in our churches.
- JR felt that this required support from Simon, the PCCs, safeguarding training.
- SL said that both LH and GC would be writing with him a Reader Ministry Specification - the readers' roles in the Benefice. It was mentioned that LH would be part of the growing and nurturing the Contemplative Ministry throughout the Benefice, and GC will be exploring the establishment of a healing ministry.
- Once this has been sorted or the relevant paperwork will be sent to Archdeacon Simon Hill, who oversees all Readers throughout the Diocese for ratification Gene Joyner explained that he will be moving soon but will continue to work in our Benefice. He welcomes the strengthening of the ministry team in our Benefice. “It is a challenging and rewarding role but also a privilege and a blessing.”

Diana, Gerald and Lucy re-entered the room following the vote.

9.20pm / We Give Thanks to God

Worship

9.28pm / We Go Out in God's Name

- *Blessing, Dismissal & Peace*

9.30pm / Home

Next meeting: *Tuesday 15th December 2020, 7:30pm, via Zoom*

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81903309369?pwd=NjU3S0t5RXNHSGVjWmMxcWdXWFQzQT09>

Meeting ID: 819 0330 9369

Passcode: 394394

Standing committee to meet to agree agenda on Tuesday 1st Dec 2020.