

Benefice of BCMU: *One Church PCC Meeting & Fabric and Finance PCC Meeting - Zoom*

A Community of Spiritual Disciples Leading our Benefice through Worshipful Working

Minutes

Date: 19 July

Time: 7.30pm

Venue: (Zoom)

Zoom ID:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4616809429?pwd=S01zRjl4Z3ltVWp5cmhDNXUycWIHUT09>

ID: 4616809429

Passcode: COMS2021

Who is Gathering

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 -Ap?	Jean Luckett late	
Deanery Synod	Helen Barnes -Ap	Helen Fenn -Ap?		
Elected	Ben Wiggins ✓	Muriel Cole ✓	Gill Durbin ✓	
Elected	Lynsey Hatherall	Gerald Coles ✓	Lucy Hemsley ✓	
Elected		Charlie Fenn -Ap	John Allen -Ap	
Notetaker				Laura Williams ✓
Secretary			Sue Owst ✓	vacancy
Treasurer				vacancy
Total PCC	4	5	6	
Majority				
Quorum (1/3)				
Total at Meeting				
Quorum	Y	Y	Y	

ONE CHURCH PCC MEETING

7.30pm: We Gather in God's Name

1. **Welcome** Chair
2. **Declaration of Quorum for each Parish**
3. *An evening prayer* SL

7.35pm: We Celebrate Our Past

4. **Communication and Correspondence** (Comments about pattern of worship noted separately prior to meeting. National Church guidance on lockdown to be discussed tomorrow.)
5. **Approval of past Minutes** (June Meeting)
Proposed Simon Lewis. Seconded Muriel Cole. Unanimously passed
CM minutes: Proposed Kate Reynolds. Seconded Jonathan Reynolds. Unanimously passed
6. **Matter arising Finances - about to be updated**
Pastoral - Peter Evans has been on Holiday. He will contact Nigel when he Returns
(from CM PCC minutes - fundraising to be discussed later - and Old School Room to be discussed later)

7. **Progress updates from last meeting**

Guidance from the National Church on Covid - a long update has been issued

Resolution from the PCC to delegate short-term decisions regarding Covid measures to the standing committee to enable us to act swiftly

Proposed Simon Lewis, Seconded Gerald Coles. Unanimously passed

8. Do we want an August meeting? Suggested date Monday 2nd August, for a PCC forum to share and discuss the following:
 - Focal Ministry - what it is (Simon Lewis)
 - Interim Priest to work between us and the Parish of East Harptree, West Harptree with Hinton Blewett, to grow and nurture the relationship between us; a two year post. (Simon Lewis)

Many people are away during August making a well attended meeting unlikely.
The PCCs were happy not to meet in August (and not to rush things).

7.45pm: We Dwell in God's Word

SL

- **Lectio Divina:** We hear the Good News - Scripture reading
We explore and share the word of God
Colossians 3:12-17

Ben - love binds us together in harmony - not unison. We all bring our own harmonies and they are all important in the creation of a song, or music.

Gerald - we must let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts, especially when we feel troubled

Margaret is looking forward to singing Psalms and Hymns! - now that we are finally allowed to do this again.

- We shared a prayer

9. **Consent Agenda**

Wedding Finances: The PCC is asked to amend two 'non-statutory fees' for weddings and to introduce a new non-statutory fee:

1. **The Standard Wedding Music Fee is increased from £80 to £100.** We have been encouraging the growth of weddings in our Benefice, through a successful Marriage Preparation Course run online, our Priest meeting with couples (on Zoom) two or three times before their wedding, and our couples consulting with our Musical Director Rachel. This has been done on Zoom during lockdown, and as this has now become a normal way of communicating it will continue, also over the phone and now resuming face-two-face, especially after worship on a Sunday. Music for weddings is not just about playing hymns on the piano or organ it involves a lot of preparation. We are suggesting charging a fee of £100 as the standard price for an organist for hymns and basic extras.

Standard Wedding Music Fee Resolution

“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 increase of The Standard Wedding Music Fee (a non-statutory fee) to £100.”

Proposed SL Seconded BW unanimously passed

The standard fee for a service or funeral is £80-£100

Penny felt that it was much too expensive and too much of an increase

KR felt that it was very good value for money given the time that Rachel spends on each wedding.

MS - who would choose who whether the premium applied. Resolution amended, as below:

Diana - please could we also discuss bell ringers fees

SL agreed, yes at CW meeting and later.

2. **A Premium Wedding Music Fee is established at £50.** What is also happening is that more couples are asking for popular modern music - from singers and bands and musicals - to be arranged and played live either as an instrumental or sung. Rachel Branston is a very caring person who wants to offer our couples the best and being a professional musician she can. Therefore, she is offering a further level of work, that of arranging particular pieces of music for organ, piano and singing, and sometimes needing to purchase it. We suggest charging a fee of £50 as the premium fee for extra work. (This is a local fee for professional work on top of what is the norm.)

Rachel now offers a more personalised musical experience for our wedding couples and we want to reflect this further level of her commitment, therefore we ask the PCCs to pass the following resolution:

Premium Wedding Music Fee Resolution

“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 establish a Premium Wedding Music Fee of £50.” (levied at the discretion of the Music Director with the agreement of the Incumbent).

Proposed: SL seconded: Gerald Coles, unanimously passed

3. **A Wedding Steward Fee of £20 per ceremony is established.** This is also a non-statutory fee, as laid out by the General Synod and covers the preparation of the church for the marriage ceremony, including arrangement of chairs, kneelers, collection plate, sweeping, etc. It is non-statutory because the couple could choose to ask their ushers to do this prior to their

rehearsal. As there are a lot of weddings at St Andrew's it is sometimes difficult to cover the position of steward, especially during 2021/22 when there is a back-log of ceremonies due to covid restrictions. We would like to advertise for a person/s to regularly steward the weddings. There are two options: Either the Steward could donate the fee back to St Andrew's, in which case a younger person could use towards the voluntary component of their DofE Award, or they could keep the money.

Wedding Steward Fee Resolution

"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 establish a Wedding Steward Fee (a non-statutory fee) of £20 to be paid to the Wedding Steward."

Note concerning Wedding Stewards:

1. The fee will be introduced from November 2021.
2. We need Wedding Stewards and someone to work with Laura, on running the Wedding Stewards rota. Please either offer yourselves, as some of you have or think of others who you think might like to offer themselves to this ministry. Talk with them and invite them to talk with Laura or Simon.

Comments: Why delay until November? LW: unfair to introduce a new charge for the 2021 couples

No weddings from October 2021 to Feb 2022

Would this make it complicated for Tax - people could possibly donate it back to the church

GD - would this be another thing that had to be paid in cash -

LW - no. We are hoping to move things all to BACS

Proposed SL seconded KR unanimously passed

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

1. **Presentation of the final New Pattern of Worship**

- a. PCC members were asked to read the Worship Steering Team's report prior to this meeting.
This was sent separate from this Agenda

b.

New Pattern of Worship Resolution

"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, a) the establishment of the New Pattern of Worship for the Benefice to start in September of this year (2021); b) that as stated in the Worship Steering Teams presentation, evidence will be collected for the next 12 months, analysed and any proposed revisions to the pattern of worship will be presented to the PCC for ratification in January 2023."

Proposed SL, Seconded GC, Unanimously passed.

Comments:

PC: Noted that changes had been made as a result of feedback at the forum and via email. She felt that this was a good thing

SO: Timing of the services - on the second Sunday - people could not join the next service after refreshments as they are at different buildings - BCP 9am at St M, Eucharist at St B

SL - yes you are right this now only applies to Sundays 1 and 3.

JLockett joined the meeting at 20:23

MS - Emmaus - 3 groups all in different places. Is it worth having 3 Emmaus Groups - could we have fewer.

SL - other people also lead the Emmaus groups. It worked well moving around. It allowed others to come in if they missed a session elsewhere.

JL - something implied but not written - the worship group were clear that the most important thing was to do things well, not to do too many things. Some of our services take a lot of practical planning - messy church. We do not wish to spread ourselves too thinly.

JL - readers will also have roles during the week, not just on Sundays - they will be busy

BW - is keen to get something up and running. There is opportunity here for everyone and lots of people have expressed opinions and the revised pattern of worship reflects many of their views. It is time to give it a view and revise in 12 months if we need to.

MS - will this document be released to the congregation? There are a couple of feedback comments that need to be made sense of - context and thoughts explained.

SO - please correct point 7 date!

Simon asked people to think and pray about getting teams together to support and nurture each type of worship.

2. New Pandemic Protocols for worship and use of our buildings (including opening times for our church buildings) (as above)

3. Potential New Structure of One Parish PCC.

Please see separate attachment 'One Parish One PCC Discussion Paper'

Summary of comments made as part of the PCC discussion

GC - 2 representatives should be on the PCC for each village - either 2 CWs or other members

SL - we await Peter Evans response about how many CWs we will have

KR - is concerned that the workload for CWs would become immense

JR is also concerned about the legal duties and accountabilities of the CWs

Also important that each village church feels that it has representation

Asked for clarity of wording

JL - 9 elected lay representatives? Is this a fixed equation

SL - 6 lay reps for 50 on electoral roll, 9 for 100, 12 for 150

35 Ubley, 43 Blagdon, CM - 38.

Total 116

BW - Would we actually have 12 lay representatives

BW - diversity and inclusivity - please add 'sexuality' to mark 6 of our Healthy Church

MS - areas of responsibility - please could we add in pastoral care

Where would this important issue fit in?

JL - wondered if it came into communities? However she would like to see it directly referred to.

SL - we need to understand what we mean by the word 'pastoral'.

MS - Eco-church - is this fabric more than mission?

SL - no this about our attitude as stewards of creation and the importance of creation and how this expressed on our faith. Not just about buildings. A paper is being prepared on our vision for Eco-church. It's about climate change, how we use our buildings, how we care for God's creation. Envisages community involvement and talks and lectures, events and teaching. Nikki is also working on her vision for contemplative culture.

BW - what do we need to do with this?

SL - how will we as a PCC and the structure of the PCC lead our vision for serving, worshipping and growing. What is our role in guiding this? What will our areas of responsibility be.

BW - what outcome would you like from this foundation document?

SL - We need to add in the legal accountability

I wanted a discussion from the PCC to be involved in moving forward in our Pathways.

How will the PCC facilitate our vision for our church?

Who will take responsibilities for different roles.

BW - will we share this with our Parishioners as a foundation document.

SL - I hope so. I think we need to work on it to include other ideas expressed in this meeting.

GC - there is only a small reference to the Holy Spirit. We should be working in the fruit of the Holy Spirit. We should be looking at the gifts of the Holy Spirit and how we can use our own gifts from God to serve the church.

SL - Nikki's paper will build on us serving.

GC - We do need to have a thirst for evangelism, even if we do not use that phrase - it's difficult for some people to get to grips with.

Simon agreed to provide more substance to the paper. To help people understand how the new PCC would work differently.

FABRIC & FINANCE PCC MEETING

9.00pm: We split into our three separate PCCs

Chair

Compton Martin PCC to meet afterward the end of the main meeting

Jonathan Reynolds (CW) to chair

In attendance: JR, KR, JL, GD, LH, SO.

Apologies: JA

1. Finance: Update on last year's accounts

GD stated that the accounts had now been done, and would be submitted to the Auditors shortly. The General Fund had a deficit of just under £8,500, which was to be expected as no fundraising, such as at the Fete or Bridge Tournament, was possible. The Fund has just under £14,000, which means funds will be tight next January.

The Fabric Fund has just over £12,000. KR to write to Parish Council re £500 for maintenance of the churchyard.

GD asked for the numbered envelopes for giving.

Update Planned Giving letter to those who give: Standing Order or envelope

The letter is still with Simon. It was suggested that rather than asking parishioners for contributions, we should think of ideas of events that could raise money. There will be no Fete this year, so various suggestions included a Cake stall in the Old School Room for Takeaways, tea on the lawn, Trail for children in the church, including the Bats. The history of the church was mentioned, a scenario has already been written.

Also possibility of a Carol Party near Christmas. Will Rachel be restarting the monthly concerts etc.?

It has been agreed that a meeting is held on Monday, 9th August at 10.00am to discuss this.

It was also suggested that forms for people to fill in Standing orders for donations could be put in the church.

2. Fabric: Update on a couple of building issues

The flashing on the church roof has been repaired, and the finial has been removed from the OSR porch. JR to ascertain where it now is, and when it will be replaced. Ellis & Co to be paid £640.

JR, SL and Andrew Owst to look at state of windows on OSR. The building needs airing, JR/KR will open window daily.

Use of Old School Room: Thinking about its use and how it can be used for the local and Benefice community

To be discussed at a future meeting.