

# Benefice of BCMU: One Church PCC Meeting - Zoom

A Community of Spiritual Disciples Leading our Benefice through Worshipful Working

## MINUTES

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Time:</b> 7.30-9.30pm	<b>Place:</b> Zoom
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### Present

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

### We Gathered in God's Name

	Led By
1 <b>Welcome</b>	Chair
2 <b>Declaration of a Quorum for each PCC</b>	
3 <b>Gathering Worship</b>	SL/Ano

### We Celebrated Our Past

4 <b>Communication and Correspondence</b> a. Apart from that mentioned on the Agenda there was no further correspondence	Chair
5 <b>Approval of Past Minutes</b> Meeting held on Tuesday 15 December - Proposed by SL, seconded by NG. Past	Chair
6 <b>Matters Arising</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Item 6a/bullet 2: there was a grammatical error; 2 'placed'</li> <li>Item 6b/bullet 6: Naomi Lyons names needs to be added after Penny Crawford.</li> </ul>	Chair
7 <b>Progress Updates from Last Meeting</b> <p>a. Margaret Speirs updated the meeting about the Archdeacon's visitation (via zoom) with the churchwardens on 24/11/30. Adrian Youngs met with over 270 churchwardens and other participants in the diocese. The new churchwardens were commissioned. He said 'New Church membership feels daunting. We are delivering the new ministry of hope and heart, even amidst the pandemic'.</p> <p>b. Deanery Synod: Penny and Nigel shared the work of the new pioneer in Keynsham and his outreach ministry through their local football club. Pioneers are happy to come and discuss ideas with local PCCs. A report has also been sent out. (Please see Apx01 'Report of the Deanery Synod, Autumn Report')</p>	Chair MS

### We Dwelt in God's Word

8 <b>Dwelling in the Word</b> Scripture reading was Colossians 3.12-17. This will be the same reading for the PCC over the coming year. Dwelling on this particular passage of Scripture is something the Bishops are asking the whole Diocese to do. (Please see Apx02, <i>Dwelling in the Word 2021</i> , which will explain more fully what we will be doing)	SL/HF
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9	<p><b>A Time of Learning</b> Reflections on the passage of scripture:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GJ discussed the liberation given to us when we forgive. We forgive of our own free will but there is also a benefit to us when we forgive. Just as Christ forgives us, we in turn must forgive.</li> <li>LH and SO both considered the need for kindness. It is easy for us to extend unconditional love towards our children or close family, but this should be broadened to include all those we meet.</li> <li>MS spoke of 'clothing ourselves in God's love'.</li> <li>A nationwide reformulation is to define what church 'is'. The church must find its identity whilst preserving its roots. We should not feel worried or burned out by this, This is a time when we need to be fresh. We must care for one another and act as a model for the wider church. The PCC is the voice of the church and must seek God's will; working towards God's agenda as a community of spiritual leaders</li> </ul>	SL
10	<p><b>Sharing an Affirmation of Faith</b></p>	SL/Ano

### We Took Refreshment

### We Presented Our Future Offering

11	<p><b>Consent Agenda</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Appointment of Helen Thorne as bookkeeper for the Benefice. Proposed by SL, seconded by GJ, unanimously agreed.</li> <li>Helen Torne to be given the authority to act on the banking mandate and signatories agreed for the accounts. Proposed by SL, seconded by GJ, unanimously agreed.</li> </ul>	Chair
12	<p><b>Discussion Agenda</b></p> <p><b>1. One Church One Family Project:</b> In the absence of Helen Fenn, Nigel Crocker updated provided an update:</p> <p><b>Path 1: 7 Marks of Healthy Church</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NC emphasised the importance of <i>listening to God</i> and <i>listening to one another</i> in an effort to move beyond our current state. This is underpinned by three streams:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engaging – both with those in the church family and the wider community</li> <li>Exploring – the 5 Marks of Mission and 7 Marks of a Healthy Church - creating a new culture; a new model of being Church</li> <li>Enacting – putting into practice those things that help us to be 'outward looking' – Telling the Story, Living the Story</li> </ul> </li> <li>We should both learn the lessons of Covid-19 and focus on growing the benefits of the situation.</li> <li>We need to find a new model for being church in our community, becoming more outward looking and more missional. "How can we, as a church family, live out the Christian story in our community.</li> </ul> <p><b>Path 2: One Church One Family Project</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NC has been in discussion with the Diocese concerning the legal paperwork. We must put together a document to explain the MISSIONAL context of our proposal to become one parish. This must be examined and passed by the following groups:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A document will be brought to the PCC Meeting on <b>15<sup>th</sup> February</b> for approval, which will set out our rationale for wishing to embark on this transition particularly focusing on the missional focus.</li> <li>This will then be passed to the Chew Magna Deanery Mission and Pastoral Group (DMPG) for their approval.</li> <li>DMPG will report to the Bath Archdeaconry MPG (AMPG) for their meeting on <b>4<sup>th</sup> May</b>.</li> <li>AMPG, will report to Diocesan MPG (DMPG) (sitting as the Bishop's Council) for their meeting on <b>15<sup>th</sup> June</b>.</li> <li>Thereafter two rounds of consultation and discussion will take place with the Church Commissioners (handled by the Diocese).</li> <li>The process could then conclude to enable the formal transition to take place at the end of 2021 or beginning of 2022 to coincide with the end of the church's financial and reporting year.</li> </ol> </li> <li>Furthermore, we need a new name for our one parish and NC asked that any suggestions should be sent to him for consideration ahead of the <b>15<sup>th</sup> February</b>.</li> </ul>	

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12	<p><b>Comments by members</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>John Allen asked that discussion papers could be circulated prior to the meeting on 15th February.</li> <li>Judith Longhurst emphasised the importance of the February meeting.</li> <li>Nigel asked us all to pray as we move forward</li> </ul> <p><b>I. Church Ministries:</b></p> <p><u>Contemplative Ministry</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Reader (Nikki Burns) has been to visit the Benefice with a view to expanding the contemplative ministry in the Benefice, particularly with a view to working at St Hugh's.</li> <li>She is putting a document together suggesting a ministry &amp; business model for developing St Hugh's as the space we offer for contemplative courses - day/s.</li> <li>She will be looking at grants and planning permissions needed. SL is to circulate the document once complete.</li> <li>Penny asked if she would be made aware of existing groups already using St Hugh's. Simon said yes, she would be looking to connect with Nick and Sarah and to re-engaging with established groups as well as reaching out to people in our community and in the diocese.</li> </ul> <p><u>Ordained Ministries</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nikki Burns (see above) will join our ministry team as a Reader hopefully in April, subject to Diocesan agreement and the situation with the pandemic.</li> </ul> <p><u>Serving Ministry</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SL and KR have been looking at The Old Schoolroom in CM, as a facility for families and working with parents in the Benefice and to the Harptree's/Hinton Blewett Benefice.</li> <li>This offers a space where we could have a toddler group, parenting classes and support groups for families.</li> <li>LH mentioned that we need to look at parking.</li> <li>MS asked if this was designed as a means of generating income. Simon said it is both.</li> <li>We need to look for opportunities to become more sustainable and reimagine the use of our buildings whilst putting people at the heart of our ministry. Helen Barnes said that we should all be focussed on the spiritual and emotional needs of people.</li> <li>She said that many are crying out for direction and support and it is essential that we serve their needs above the needs of buildings.</li> <li>FUSE (Work with young people aged 10-16) GL. This is still a project that we hope to progress when circumstances permit.</li> <li>PC asked whether we should be providing an occasional family service, as at the moment our ministry seems concentrated around older people and wedding couples. Simon felt that we should also be encouraging families to attend the Baptist worship on Sunday mornings. Churchwardens to discuss - perhaps not a Sunday service</li> </ul>	Mix
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### We Gave Thanks to God

13	<b>The Awareness Examen</b>	SL/Ano
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### We Went Out in God's Name

14	<p><b>Concluding Prayer</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>The Blessing or The Grace</i></li> </ul>	SL/Ano
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All that is spoken about during our meetings please hold in the strictest confidence until the Minutes for the meeting have been approved at the next meeting. That is unless particular issues of discussion are held to be 'Not for Discussion'.

### One Church' PCC Partnership Timetable - 2020/2021

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
<b>Meeting Date</b>	18	15	15	19	17 - StA 18 - StB 19 - StM
<b>Meeting Theme</b>	Church Management Mtg(1)	One Church Mtg (3)	One Church Mtg (4)	Church Management (2) with Presentation of Accounts	Parish Mtg/ APCM/ PCC Role Mtg

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### St Andrew's PCC

#### Minutes of Extra item for discussion for members of St Andrew's PCC

##### Item: Blagdon Parish Magazine

The PCC did not want to cause financial damage by returning all fees and subscription costs but felt it important to offer to do so.

Penny was concerned about the loss of readership during the period of only having electronic copies and felt we were losing the missional role of the magazine. Speaking to people when delivering the Magazine is an ideal way of staying in touch with the village community and reaching out to newcomers. Ben suggested that a paper copy could be supplied for new people as part of a welcome pack. Margaret thought that a welcome pack would be a great idea and Simon said it would be a useful way of being able to direct people to online resources.

Lynsey felt that people enjoyed the magazine most when it reported on local events and news - of course at the moment there is not much happening - but she thought it would be a good idea to reinstate people to subscribe when things are looking brighter. Ben felt that we need to celebrate our choice to move to an online magazine, rather than apologise for a lack of paper copy. Ben and Lynsey offered to produce a poster with a QR code to help people sign up. Simon is very keen for the magazine to be free at the point of access to reach as many in the village as possible - figures suggest that the readership has increased with the move to an online platform. It is envisaged that c. 15 copies would be produced each month for those without online access.

- 1. *Subscribers should be approached via a note in the magazine and asked if they would like a refund for 2020 subscription (of which only 2 were printed before the magazine was forced to go online) - All Agreed***
- 2. *Advertisers should be approached in person and offered a refund for their advertising fees for 2020 - All Agreed***

***There was very little enthusiasm for a return to a printed magazine, except for those unable to access the online version.***

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***Following the meeting the letter below was sent to Ken Parsons, editor.***

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Dear Ken,

At Tuesday's St Andrew's PCC, in line with your's, Colin's and Jane's recommendation, the PCC past the following resolution: "As the PCC of St Andrew, Blagdon we agree to the production of the magazine in it's current electronic version, with a limited number of paper copies, for those known to be unable or unwilling to use the electronic version"

Along with this we also passed two amendments:

1. "That subscribers are approached regarding recompense and offering a refund"; and
2. "That advertisers are approached regarding recompense and offering either a refund or the opportunity to use the money for payment to cover entry into the directory for two years."

So as from January we produce an electronic version and a limited number of paper copies. This is good news, as they followed your recommendation, and will no doubt settle some of your anxiety.

With regard the advertisers and previous subscribers.

**First the advertisers.** Please will you contact directly all who have paid for advertising from the beginning of 2020, writing to the effect that:

- we owe them a refund for when we moved to an online newsletter;
- we are remaining online rather than printed
- we are altering the way advertisers advertise
- it will be in the form of a 'Directory' (yes, as you said in your email, like The Link?) and it will cost ... £1 or £2 or £3 per month, for 12 months.
- and if they want to continue to advertise then perhaps, again as you suggested) we can keep the money and keep advertising.

If refunds are required then please make a list of their contact and payment details and we will arrange to recompense them.

Please would you maintain a list of who is advertising and the necessary information we need to keep a record of their payments and for how long.

The absolute intention of the advertising revenue is cover all the printing costs for those who want a hardcopy version of the Blagdon Newsletter.

The cost to print a 16 page colour magazine is £0.85 (paper, ink, machine use) - if to include a person to print we would incur extra costs.

**Second the previous subscribers.** It was felt by the PCC that those who subscribed should be asked if they would like refund. A notice should be placed in next month's newsletter asking them to make contact with the St Andrew's Bookkeeper ([treasurer.bcmu@gmail.com](mailto:treasurer.bcmu@gmail.com)), so that a refund can be processed. All monies not refunded will go towards future Newsletter production costs. Ken, if you know of anyone unable to access the internet, please let us know who and their address and we will arrange to hand deliver a message to them.

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As we move forward to this permanent arrangement of production there is some initial work to be done, namely establishing two lists:

- those who *need* a printed copy - no access to internet or means to read online - **The Need List**.
- those who *want* a printed copy - **The Want List**.

This will no doubt include some of the original subscribers to the printed version.

With these two lists we will be able to organise a new way of distributing the hardcopy Newsletter: for example hand delivered; by post; or people picking it up from a specific place.

Ken, I wonder whether you'd write an editorial explain to the permanent change to the production of the Newsletter. Perhaps we could encourage people to print a copy for their neighbours - this is something Rachel is saying in The Link and I know people are doing. Then after your editorial please put the following piece from me in.

Dear Reader,

As you now know from reading Ken's editorial, The Blagdon Newsletter is now an *online free community magazine publication*. Its aim is to be a portal for **Conversations in the Community** with and for the people of Blagdon with Charterhouse and surrounding areas. It is produced on behalf of the community by the Church family of St Andrew's, Blagdon and St Hugh's Charterhouse. The name "Newsletter" like its sister version that serves Ubley and Compton Martin and their surrounding area, reflects two concepts - *relationship* and *connection*. The Newsletter provides a **relationship** between the community and the Church family in which it lives. The relationship is in the form of providing for the local community, a professional style online magazine that can *affect* people's lives by providing something new in what they read; and information (when someone or something is needed). Our hope is that the Newsletter also provides a **connection** between the different aspects of community life that exist in our community and surrounding area thus fostering relationships throughout the community. Both the editors of the Blagdon Newsletter and The Link, work closely together sharing content, ideas, resources and good practice to ensure our aims are met. We hope you enjoy your read.

Please do let us know of possible ways in which we can develop our Newsletter.

**The Revd. Simon Lewis**

Priest & Rector of the Benefice of  
Blagdon with Charterhouse, Compton Martin and Ubley.