

St Peter and St Paul, Blandford Forum

Our Mission: **Transforming our Community, one life at a time.**
Our Vision: **Growing and Nurturing Disciples who are confident,
Connected and Compassionate.**

Minutes

- 1) **Opening Prayers:**
- 2) **Apologies:** BC, CT, HS, SL,
- 3) **Minutes of Last PCC:** (See attached)
- 4) **Matters arising from the minutes:**

JT reported that the new photocopier was now in place.

JT thanked RS for organising the new rota.

- Service Times - Following the last PCC JT informed the meeting of Langton's decision to move their service time to 11.30. This had been greatly appreciated by JT and he was already feeling the benefit of it.
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- Family Film Night - This has been moved to the 9th Oct. Flyers have been sent to ABW, Milldown & Blandford St Mary. Baptism families will also be invited.
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- Fun Day & Abseil - It was felt that the Fun Day had been a successful event. Comment was made about the length of time the abseil took and a sense of the Fun Day being overtaken towards the end.

5) **Correspondence:**

- Letter from Val Dennis. Val Dennis has resigned from the PCC. JT had written a note of thanks to Val. The PCC decided against seeking a replacement for Val at this time.
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- Bishop's directive on APCM's 2017 - The Bishop of Salisbury has written to Parishes to inform them that due to the lateness of Easter in 2017, the deadline for APCM's has been extended to May. JT reported that it was his intention for our APCM to take place early April
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- JT Reported that he had received a complaint via email from a local resident regarding the chiming and ringing of the church bells throughout the night. Sara had explored the possibility of having a programmable timer put on the clock, however, this would be at the cost of approx £2500 (inc. VAT) The PCC felt that at this time this would not be the best use of our resources

6) **AOB:**

- JT informed the PCC that Pippa Rossiter, Blandford Area Schools Development Worker has resigned her post and her final day will be the 5th Oct. The Trustees met today to discuss the way forward and it was agreed that Pippa will not be replaced and the Trust will be

"mothballed." A wide ranging conversation followed about the potential gaps that would emerge from this decision and concern was expressed that the Church should not lose its connection and presence in the schools. CN encouraged the meeting to see look for the potential of what may emerge as a result.

- It was agreed that we should invite donations for a leaving gift for Pippa and that a presentation be made during a Sunday morning service.
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- Christmas - JT informed the PCC that he intended to plan a Christingle service on the 27th Nov.
- Christmas Tree Festival - this would run from the 10th - 18th Dec. Gail will be co-ordinating this and will be writing to various local schools and organisations inviting them to participate. Gail would also like to build a "life-sized" crib to be placed at the front of church with a possible angel suspended above. The PCC agreed to this.
- Carols on the Green will take place on the 11th Dec. Following a wide conversation it was agreed that BFPC should continue to proactively support this event.
- JT also noted comments made about the Parish Church hosting its own Christmas Carol Service and he was very happy to consider this if someone was willing to co-ordinate this event.
- Christmas Day - JT requested that the PCC approve the moving of the Christmas Day service from 10am to 9.30am with Langton moving from 11.30am to 10.30pm as a one-off. The PCC were happy to support this.
- Langton Long have requested the possibility of their being more joint social events between the two churches, both to help build community and relationships as well as being possible fundraisers to support the work and ministry of both churches.

7) **Safeguarding:**

- Church security - JT informed the PCC of incident that had been reported to the police regarding security. This matter has now been dealt with

8) **Reports:**

- **Financial Report:** HS had previously submitted her apologies and forwarded the financial reports prior to the meeting. A question was raised about the General Fund and what was behind the increase from the starting balance of £13,740 closing at £27,861. JT informed the PCC that we need to write and adopt a Reserves Policy. A wider conversation was had about finance and the confidence of the PCC to read and understand the financial reporting structuring. It was suggested that a running narrative should accompany future financial reports.
- **Wardens Report:** Nothing to Report
- **Centre Management Group:** (attached) DR outlined some of the particular challenges around the Parish Centre at present in relation to booking and the availability of the centre for church use along. Concern was also raised about the upkeep and the building and the general care of the environment which it was felt had deteriorated significantly since the church no longer used the building on a weekly basis. A wide ranging conversation followed in which a number of potential options were aired. JT will follow these through with the Churchwardens.

- **Cupola Project:** (attached) JT highlighted SL's email regarding the possible recruitment of an events / fundraiser. JT also raised the possibility of hosting an event in which key organisation such as HLF, Georgian Group, Historic Churches etc are invited to see the finishes Cupola and begin to discuss the next phase.

9) **Next PCC Meeting:** 20 October

10) **Closing Prayer:**

2016 Meetings: 24 November