



**The Minutes of a Meeting of the Minster PCC**  
**Held in the Parish Hall**  
**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2023, commencing at 7-30**

Present were :- Rev'd Canon Jonathan Baker, Tim Carlisle, Jane Chipperton, Paul Collins, Eric Doyle, Jane Ewbank, Sandra King, Rod McPhee, Sarah Merrell, Hugh Meyer, Marjorie Neaum, Dawn Pollard, Richard Powell, Sue Robson, Joyce Shaw. (15)

Also present were :- Chris Chipperton, David James and Martin Eldred. (3)

Rod McPhee, in the Chair, welcomed everyone and the Vicar opened the meeting with prayer.

**27/23 : Apologies were received from** Meg Choules, Mike Dent, Catherine Drake, Andrew Hancock, Naomi Merriweather, Marian Snowden and Kevin Wheeldon. (7)

**28/23 Possible conflict of interests.** There were none, other than those in the Register of Interests.

**29/23 Matters arising.** (i) The question of thanking regular givers was raised and the Treasurer will pursue. (ii) The question of informing the Congregation of the very considerable contribution made by the shop was also raised. SR agreed to explore some way of doing this with the Vicar and action it.

**30/23 Finance :** The Treasurer presented three papers to the meeting, A Profit and Loss statement for the full year 2022, a Balance Sheet for the full year 2022 and his report. He spoke to each stressing –

1. These figures should be considered in the light of the halving of the Free Will Offer
2. The profit and loss statement applies only to the Minster and does not include the daughter churches
3. Having made considerable cuts, including not heating the Minster Church since Christmas, there is still a need to seek ways of making further savings.
4. There is still work to do on various funds. The sums of money are not in question, rather their names and restrictions or designations.
5. The importance of the Free Will Offer (FWO) was stressed. The Minster is considered an exemplar within the Deanery / Diocese. The projection is towards restoring our full share by 2026.
6. It was pointed out that there are no arrears with the FWO and that the Daughter Churches contributed 33% of the 2022 FWO.

**The Profit and Loss Accountant and Balance Sheet for the full year 2022 were recommended to the PCC and approved by the meeting.**

**The Finance Committee's recommendation of an increase in the Free Will Offer from £65k in 2022 to £79k in 2023 was unanimously agreed by the meeting.**

It was noted that the first 4 months would be paid now and then the remainder on a monthly basis. This is working towards the hope of the Diocese of at least covering the cost of the Vicar and an Associate Vicar i.e. £106k by 2026.

**31/23 : Vision Strategy :** The Vicar remarked that DK, carrying responsibility for the oversight and coordination of the Vision Strategy, is "a real gem". It was observed that through the Vision Strategy the Minster now has revamped Prayer and Pastoral Groups, the "new" services at 9-15 and 4-00 are established as are the Taize Services and Quiet Mornings. Four schools are now involved in weekly worship, services are live-streamed, there is a monthly informal deanery service, Hope into Action now has its first house and an appointed worker, the Experience Easter for Primary Schools had met with considerable success, there is a mother and baby group, wedding preparation is now on line resulting in greater involvement and the work of Eco-Church goes confidently on. The meeting acknowledged its huge debt of gratitude to Derek.

A report on the Prayer Group – as part of the Vision Strategy - had been previously circulated and to this was added "have formed close ties with Ali Doolan, the leader of the Pastoral Team, as we realise there are links in our ministries. Also, it is in my diary to speak to her team in May about the work of the Prayer team.

Sincere thanks were expressed to Catherine for her report and all her work with the Prayer Group.

**32/23 Safeguarding :** A report and three documents from the Safeguarding Officer had previously been circulated. The documents were "A Policy Statement on the recruitment of ex-offenders", The Safeguarding Development Plan and The Safeguarding Policy. The first of these required to be adopted by the Trustees. The second two required annual confirmation.

The Safeguarding Development Plan and the Safeguarding Policy were approved by the meeting. There was considerable discussion and a number of questions around The Policy Statement on the Recruitment of ex-offenders, particularly how training for those involved in recruitment is to be delivered. It was, therefore, approved in principle, subject to the Safeguarding Officer explaining the implementation and implications further at the next PCC meeting.

**33/23 Premises :** PC made his report about premises, remarking that the Parish Hall remains the top priority – see below \*

He updated the meeting on heating making the following points :-

- There is a need to look at alternatives to gas as a faculty would not be granted for such
- The trustees may have to commission professionals to investigate alternatives to gas
- Another winter without heat in the Minster Church was not an option
- Electric heating may be a possibility. Concerns about self generated electricity do not have to be immediately addressed. A "Green Energy" grid based supplier could be used initially.
- The guiding principle is to invest in a system that is "future proof"

**PC was asked to ensure that The Old Fund makes no commitment to specific boilers at this stage.**

**The Parish Hall \* :** DJ presented his paper (previously circulated) He acknowledged that a considerable number of people had been consulted about and contributed to the report and that it

was informed by the Minster's Vision Strategy. He outlined the four options in the paper, which, in very simple terms were (i) do nothing (ii) focus on the Minster Building, selling the hall and No 38 (iii) Restore and refigure the existing Parish Hall funded by the sale of No 38 and the Peter Harrison Room (iv) Rebuild a purpose-designed Parish Hall, retaining the Peter Harrison Room and selling No 38.

There were many comments and questions which might be summarised thus :-

- The practicalities of concentrating everything within the Minster building
- Funding streams
- Comparisons were drawn with Hull, Holy Trinity (Hull Minster)
- Ownership of the Parish Hall, which is uncertain
- Commercial value of No 38 (estimates having been given in the range of £550,000 down to £300,000) in a falling property market
- The need to make the Minster Congregation and Community aware of the situation at the APCM
- The need to convene a meeting of the PCC with this as the sole agenda item.
- **An informal show of hands indicated no support for option 2 above**

DJ was asked to contact Simon Delaney and secure the most up-to-date and realistic figures for options 3 and 4 above and an indication of timescales for these different options.

The Treasurer is in contact with the Diocese seeking clarification about the ownership of the Parish Hall.

**34/23 Enterprise :-** CC spoke to his previously circulated report. Additional points made or stressed were :-

(i) the work with schools had been successful and, mindful of the restraints on schools' budgets, it is hoped to expand this work (ii) the lack of heating has restricted hiring of the minster (iii) the Town Council will be organising informal events within the Minster on the Coronation Bank Holiday with an emphasis on volunteering in the community which is a Buckingham palace initiative (iv) an artist has asked to exhibit his work in the future using the Nave North Aisle arcades.

**This last item (use of the Nave North Aisle arcades) was approved by the meeting.**

**35/23 Staffing :-** It was reported that the Staffing Committee is awaiting confirmation of the budget before its next meeting to discuss salaries.

**36/23 Faculty update :-** Presented by DP. St Peter's design drawings – Terms of engagement and a letter of acceptance have been signed for architect Jonathan Smith to produce technical drawings for level access, toilet, kitchen and pew re-ordering. Cost circa £4,500

**[A]** PCC approval was required to raise a faculty that would cover a phased programme of work at St Peter's for level access, toilets, kitchen and pew reordering

**This was unanimously approved by the meeting : In favour 14 : against 0 : abstaining 0.**

**[B]** PCC approval was required to raise a faculty that would cover work over a number of years – covering the refurbishment of 8 of the original wrought iron clappers, a new clapper in the 8th bell and a wooden shafted clapper for the tenor bell. Also the removal of the gate end of the bell frame

for bell pits, treble, second and third, cleaning, removal and treating of rust, and repainting the gate ends and the frame it sits on.

**This was unanimously approved by the meeting : In favour 14 : against 0 : abstaining 0.**

[C] Great John's strike hammer - Great John's strike hammer is in need of restoration after 50 years of chiming the hour This has been put before the last Friends meeting and they have agreed in principle to pay for the work but require a written proposal from the PCC asking them if they would consider covering the cost of the work.

**B and C above were approved subject to the obtaining of costs which will be required for the faculty application. DP to pursue. In favour 14 : against 0 : abstaining 0.**

**35/23 Reflection and the Vicar's Report :** The Vicar invited the meeting to reflect upon a passage from Jeremiah where the prophet writes to the Israelites already in exile encouraging them to put down roots and integrate with the society in which they found themselves. This was likened to the Church in the 21<sup>st</sup> century which might be seen, by some as being in cultural exile. Perhaps we could learn from Jeremiah's message to connect more readily with the wider community.

In his report the Vicar spoke of the departure of Rev'd Wendy Wale. A job description has been prepared. He expressed concern about the possible narrowness of any field of applicants resulting from the title "Associate Vicar" which some might view as playing "second fiddle". This could not be further from the actual situation. It is a senior leadership role. The post will be advertised after Easter, almost certainly with a different title and it is hoped an appointment can be made to commence in September. The Vicar commented on the success of Experience Easter with local schools and the Jonah Man Jazz concert which had engaged with families not normally to be found in the Minster. During Holy Week there will be a joint service with, and hosted by, Toll Gavel Methodist Church. On Good Friday the 2-00pm meditation will be led by the Bishop of Hull. Hope into Action now has its first house and the tenants will be supported not just by the identified Empowerment Worker but by the whole Minster Congregation. The Lent Course has gone well. The 9-15 service will move back into the nave the Sunday after Easter. Charlie Shefford, our assistant curate designate, and his wife have been blessed with the birth of their first child – a boy! The Vicar will present his paper on capital works at the next PCC meeting. This was sent some time ago to the Friends of Beverley Minster. The PCC will be asked to ratify it and send it afresh to "The Friends"

**36/23 Shop Report :** Again a comprehensive report was received from the manager of the Minster Shop and again the trustees expressed their gratitude for the ministry of the shop and its volunteers. The meeting felt that the contribution made by the shop should be more widely known.

**37/23 Old Fund Report** was gratefully received by the trustees with thanks for all the work undertaken by The Old Fund.

**38/23 : Electoral Roll.** The Electoral Roll Officer reported no change in numbers and informed the meeting of the arrangements for the forthcoming revision of the roll. This will commence on Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> April, conclude on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> April and a revised roll will be "published" on 26<sup>th</sup> April.

The Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and contributions and the meeting closed with The Grace at 9-45pm.

Approved .....

Dated .....

**The next ordinary meeting of the PCC is scheduled for 9<sup>th</sup> May**

NB : The Annual Parochial Church Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> May.

Reports, covering January to December 2022, and other materials for inclusion in the report booklet should be with the clerk before Sunday, 30<sup>th</sup> April