

ST MARY MAGDALEN, KNIGHTON

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting held at 7:30pm on
Tuesday 30 July 2024**

Present: Revd Adrian Jones (Chairman), Revd Cecilia Adadje, Kate Adams, Amanda Beck, Beryl Bonfield, Sian Howard, David Palmer and Ida Stanyer; Nigel Siesage (Secretary, present via Zoom).

Also present: Judith Rudd (for discussion of Minster Communities)

Apologies for absence were received from Michael Gasper and Tabitha Fogg.

24.37 MINSTER COMMUNITIES

The meeting had been called with the specific purpose of considering the parish's approach to the development of Minster Communities.

The PCC considered updates from Parish Representatives on the meetings for the wider City & suburbs group of parishes; and on the recent meeting of Parish Representatives with representatives of St Guthlac's.

The meeting then discussed a paper by the Vicar exploring possible options for St Mary's, taking as starting points:

- that we were not simply trying to find 'churches like us'
- that we were not simply choosing 'churches I like'
- that physical proximity would be an important factor
- that we would seek to discern prayerfully and so would be open to God's 'surprising possibilities'

The following possible combinations/approaches were noted:

- i. A Minster Community based around the churches of the former Southern Edge Mission Partnership (total 6 churches)
- ii. A Minster Community that recognises a shared suburban identity (6 or 7 churches)
- iii. A Minster Community that aims for diversity of tradition, within our most immediate neighbours (6 churches)
- iv. A Minster Community that recognises the ethnic and religious diversity of our communities and the possibilities of intercultural worship (6 churches)
- v. A Minster Community that specifically values music and young people (7 or 8 churches)

It was noted that there might be some parishes with inflexible positions which it would be difficult to accommodate alongside existing policy and practice at St Mary's.

The PCC found this discussion helpful. Members were encouraged to continue to make their own enquiries on the basis of these options, and the Vicar would hold separate conversations with a number of clergy.

It was agreed that members would feed back to the Vicar any specific opinions or suggestions by the end of 8 September.

Chairman