

ST MARY MAGDALEN, KNIGHTON

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting held at 7:30pm on
24 November 2022**

Present: Revd Adrian Jones (Chairman), Kate Adams, Amanda Beck, Sian Howard, David Palmer, Lorna Pollard, and Nigel Siesage (Secretary).

Apologies for absence were received from Beryl Bonfield, Judith Rudd and Ida Stanyer

The meeting opened with a discussion of Isaiah 41 and the theme for advent and Christmas services of 'Do not be afraid'.

22/96 PLACE OF PEACE

With reference to minute 22/87, the Vicar reported that he had now had a meeting with Tanya Willis about plans to adapt the original proposals for two areas within the churchyard.

For the area of the memorial garden, the ground had now been assessed to establish whether any burials might be disturbed. There was no conclusive evidence, but it had been decided to avoid hard finishes, without paving and retaining grass with a low hedge to distinguish the area. Improved seating would be provided and the proposed sculpture would be put in another area. Tanya would develop some further ideas for planting, aiming for low maintenance throughout, and would provide a month-by-month maintenance schedule. The area would not be maintained by the City Council.

The original plans for the area to the south-west of the church near the brook were not affected by the hardcore near the surface as the poor soil had been taken into account in the design. Existing flood drainage systems would not be disturbed.

Revised designs would be finalised by early January so that a detailed specification for the brookside area could go to tender. Tanya herself would take responsibility for planting the memorial garden area during February.

The PCC welcomed these developments.

22/97 AUTHORISED MINISTRY

The PCC received a paper explaining a new way of thinking about and authorising different types of ministry within parishes in the diocese, specifically lay ministry. The new structure identified 3 categories: local ministers, associate ministers and ordained ministers. Local ministers incorporated a wide range of often informal roles, including pastoral visitors, welcome and hospitality roles and the usual parish officers. Associate ministers were those who lead particular areas of mission and ministry and who work closely with an incumbent and other ordained ministers. Training in these latter roles was provided and lasted up to 18 months followed by a diocesan licensing service.

22/98 FEES AND EXPENSES

The PCC reviewed a range of fees and approved the recommendations presented by the Treasurer. The existing legacy policy was also reviewed and adopted without amendment. The PCC agreed to consider the reserves policy in January.

22/99 PARISH CENTRE

The PCC considered a paper by the Vicar on the review of issues relating to the parish centre, in particular aiming to establish a long-term vision for the buildings. It was confirmed

that the building and land were the property of the Parish, though nominally held by the Diocese. Any improvements and developments were therefore a matter for the Parish, subject of course to planning permission and any other required consents. Members of the PCC would continue to consider options.

Meanwhile, arrangements to improve the Cottage Room to make it suitable as a 'warm room' and for other gatherings were continuing. It was hoped that it would soon be available and volunteers would be needed to operate the warm room on at least one afternoon a week.

22/100 SAFEGUARDING

The PCC conducted the annual review of safeguarding and approved:

The 2022 checklist, with three appendices listing personnel, for report to the Diocesan Office.

The Action Plan for 2022, with completed actions noted.

The Action Plan for 2023.

22/101 WIFI

It was noted that there was now Wi-Fi provision in the Church, based on a router in the kitchen with a booster near the pulpit. This would be able to support contactless payments/donations. The cost was £20/month.

22/102 SOUND SYSTEM

Minute 22/91 refers. Ms Howard reported that the application for a faculty for the new sound system was nearly ready. Stocks of the equipment were low, so delivery would be delayed.

22/103 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 25 October 2022 were taken as read and approved.

22/104 HEALTH AND SAFETY

The PCC noted that the Free Church did not have a defibrillator and the nearest was at the Cradock Arms. In addition to the purchase price, there were recurrent costs of about £50 a year. The Vicar agreed to look into whether any permissions were required for installation. The availability of grants should also be considered.

Action: AJ

22/105 FUTURE MEETINGS

1. Reserves Policy (at January 2023 meeting)
2. Receipt and use of a recent legacy of £1000.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm with Grace.

Chairman