

**Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 20th July 2017
at 7.30pm in the Church**

Present:

Linda E Hunter (Chwdn, Chair)	Mike Collins (Chwdn)	Rev Julie Robson
Michael Rae	Monica Philbrick	Anne King – Lewis
Kate Jenkins	Suzette Milne	David Preece
Max Philbrick	Cliff Wright (Hon Treasurer)	
Jane Stephenson (Minutes Secretary)		

Linda Hunter welcomed everyone to the meeting and the Rev Julie Robson opened with a prayer.

2. Apologies: Jackie Webb, Warwick Milne, Jennifer Wright, Jennifer Herrmann.
3. Minutes: The minutes of the previous meeting held on 21st June 2017 were accepted as a true record and signed. Proposed: David Preece, Seconded: Anne King-Lewis. All present agreed and there were no abstentions.
 - a. There were no matters rising from the Minutes
4. **Information was highlighted from the following reports which members had received prior to the meeting**
 - a) **Fabric Report:** Mike Collins outlined various points. Discussion ensued re the level of lighting in church and a review of the settings used in order to reduce energy usage. The Church Maintenance team will look at options available and report back to PCC.
 - b) **Charities Sub- Committee Report:** Cliff Wright presented this report. Those on the group were thanked for the thought and care that had gone into the proposal. The charities proposed were: The West End Refugee Service, Christians Against Poverty and Reaching the Unreached.
Proposed by Cliff Wright, Seconded by Rev Julie Robson and all members present agreed with no abstentions.
 - c) **Heritage Lottery Funding Bid:** Linda Hunter informed the PCC that the Archdeacon, and Ian Bapty, Inspired North East think this is a really good proposal. The HLF Committee are meeting with Zelda Baveystock on 24th July after which the bid will be sent in via an electronic form. Thanks must be extended to the team and particularly Alistair Jenkins.
 - d) **Financial Report:** Cliff Wright distributed his financial chart & advised the PCC again that funds generated by planned giving were displaying a downward trend and that PCC needs to understand that this can't continue, as it is possible this year that we will begin eating into our reserves. A member asked for possible predictions but the Treasurer explained that it was not possible at the moment due to the fact that contributions come in at various intervals through the year. We will be paying over our requested amount for Diocesan share again this year in order to help the smaller parishes in our deanery. However, due to our decreasing income this may not be possible another year.
 - e) **Forthcoming Events:** Linda explained about the Heritage Weekend – Telling the Story of Corbridge and the activities that would take place, The Choir are planning

on singing a variety of music at both services and the evening service will be a Festive Choral Evensong.

The Calendar will be sent out at the end of the month.

5. **Vacancy information**

a) **Service Report July 2017**

Sunday services have been as normal with different clergy and readers officiating at the services. In addition to retired clergy from our parish we have welcomed Rev Nigel Warner, Rev Janet Jackson, Rev Audrey McCartan, Peter and Elaine Ryder. In addition the choir sang Choral Evensong on the Open Red Cross Gardens afternoon.

Baptisms	1	
Weddings	4	
Burial of Ashes	1	
Funerals	3	one being at Newton

We have a wedding this Saturday and 2 cremations followed by a Thanksgiving Service next week. (one being at Newton)

- b) **Vicarage:** Ian Beswick from the Diocese visited to make a plan of work, needed before it is let. (The Diocese benefits from the income , not the Parish) We are advised not to decorate before the new Vicar comes in as he / she will receive a decorating grant as well as a moving allowance. It is the responsibility of the parish to ensure that it looks 'lived in' by putting up curtains and maintaining the garden.

AFTER MEETING NOTE: Roger Jones has put up curtain poles and hung the curtains for us. A gardener has been engaged to cut the grass, weed the drive and cut back some shrubbery.

c) **Items from Meeting with Archdeacon**

Mike and Linda met with the Archdeacon and the Area Dean to discuss the Vacancy process.

The Archdeacon has asked that we make some amendments to our poster and these will be sent to Max so it can be altered and updated (completed)

Letter from the Bishop is being prepared and we will receive the Vacancy notice soon. Do not do anything when it comes. – need to wait. **AFTER MEETING NOTE** :It has arrived!

Parish Profile: The profile is a key document which has two aims

1. It is the first picture a possible new priest will get of the parish. 2. It is the our guidance note for the parish representatives considering a candidate.
2. The profile is sent to the Bishop, the Patron and the Arch deacons to help them look for the right vicar for our parish. It will also be read by anyone interested in applying for the role.

Notes about the Profile

- Not to start at the moment
- Needs to be much more succinct than the last one – it had too many variables in what we wanted in a new vicar, too wordy and not very clear.
- We need to make our profile like a brochure, using graphics, succinct descriptions and a very clear guide as to the key characteristics that the new incumbent will need. The Diocese will provide information for us too.
- We are not to look at other profiles and we will be given some information about how to write the profile. The suggestion is that we ask someone to come and facilitate an evening where we look at thoughts, suggestions to put it together.
- MAP – yes a good idea to get this reviewed / revised as this will form part of the profile. We need someone to fit where we want to go!

The Archdeacon of Lindisfarne will be coming to meet the PCC and that date has been set for Tuesday 12th September in the cottage at 7.30pm. This will not be a section 13 meeting, it will be informal and he will answer any questions.

We should aim to have the profile to the Bishop's Office by November.

The Archdeacon will preside & preach at the 8.00am and 9.30am service on Sunday 1st October.

- d) **Praying through the Vacancy:** Monica updated everyone re the planning meeting that the small group had held. The prayer is already on the bulletin, it will also be put onto card for the congregation to take home and use. Saturday morning between 9.15am and 9.30am will be set aside each week, commencing on 2nd September, to gather to pray.
- e) **Communications Working Group:** Max reported that a group had been set up and was yet to meet. The next issue of the Parish News is in progress. **AFTER MEETING NOTE:** The group has now met and the Parish News has gone out and the board has been updated

6 **MAP – our vision for Corbridge Church**

- a) **Reviewing:** It was agreed at the last meeting that the MAP would be reviewed. In readiness for this PCC were emailed the items from the Growing Church, Bringing Hope pack, the Children and Young People's Initiative : Growth and Fruitfulness and the Deanery Action Plan. Linda had prepared some thoughts for discussion with relation to this.

The PCC looked at the headings and then split into 4 discussion groups which fed back their discussion at the end of the meeting. Discussion was based round the following:

What does the future hold or look like for the Church in Corbridge over the next five years?

How can we play our part, both individually and as a community, in the shaping of the

life, worship and mission of our church?

Growing the Church

In what ways do we want our church to grow?
How might we set about this task?
What help and resources do we need?

Worship, Prayer and Learning

What do we want others to experience when they join with us for worship?
How might we develop our corporate worship and personal prayer?
What do we need in terms of learning about and growing in our Christian Faith?

Engaging with the Local Community

How might we enable some meaningful engagement with individuals and community groups within the Parish?
What is our attitude to the necessity of taking risks and the possibility of experiencing rejection and/or failure?

Buildings and Finance

How do we sustain our Christian presence in this Parish?
How do we make our buildings work for us and for the local community?
How can we generate income?

What are the key issues for the PCC and the parish as a whole?

The information discussed has been incorporated into the draft Action Plan, which is emailed with these minutes. Further work will need to take place with this.

- 7 **Any Urgent Information:**
 - a) **Health and Safety:** Margaret Preece fell in church in the Sanctuary and broke her shoulder and was badly bruised. A RIDDOR report has been sent.
8. **Correspondence:** A thank you note has been received from Al and Margaret Logan

The meeting ended with the Grace