

Parish of Cirencester with Watermoor and St Lawrence

Minutes of the Parochial Church Council meeting held on Tuesday 19th June 2018 at the Parish Centre at 7.30pm

Present: Dr R Dolton (Chair), Mr H Kennard, Mr P Bontoft, Mr J Lawrence, Mr D Henson, Mrs D Miller, Mrs J Godsell, Revd Canon H Gilbert, Mrs B Springate, Mrs M Austin, Miss P Phillips, Mr R Marlowe, Miss A Anderson, Mrs J Ivison, Mr H Gray (Hon Sec).

1. Fr Howard opened the meeting with **prayer**.
2. **Apologies for Absence** had been received from Mr P Cottey, Mrs S Beck, Revd K Richardson, Mr S Smith, Mrs H Hammond, Mr M Stratton, Mr R Williams, Ms C Luck, Revd J Wilson, Mrs J Henson, Mr J Light, Mr J Bathurst, Mrs E Ellis.
3. **Povah Artwork:** Dr Dolton, at this point, welcomed Mrs Deidre Waddell to the meeting. In a cupboard in the Parish Church Mr Lawrence had discovered an amount of artwork drawn and painted by the late Mr Kenneth Povah which related to the Abbey. He had passed this to Mrs Waddell who had displayed it, prior to the meeting, for members to view. Since the collection was of sufficient interest to be kept, there was a discussion as where best to house it. The most appropriate place, it was agreed, would be with the Bingham Library Trust. Mr David Viner had already viewed the material and felt it would be appropriate but that he would need the owner's consent. In view of the fact that it was discovered after many years in the Parish Church, then the PCC needed to give permission for it to be given or loaned to the Trust. Members expressed a wish that the material could, once transferred, be loaned out by the Trust, provided it was well cared for while on loan. Maybe it could first be displayed in the Parish Church alongside the existing Abbey 900 exhibits.
Mr Marlowe proposed that the Povah artwork be given to the Bingham Library Trust. This was seconded by Mr Bontoft. An amendment was made to the proposal that the material could be borrowed back if needed. 13 members voted in favour of the proposal with 2 abstentions. Dr Dolton said that the Wardens would be contacting the Bingham Library Trust with the PCC's decision and will keep Mrs Waddell informed as to progress. Dr Dolton then thanked Mrs Waddell for her presentation of the artwork.
4. **Sailboat Church:** Members discussed Chapter 3 including such aspects as setting a course; spiritual guidance working with human leadership leading to the freedom to sail; relationship with Jesus through prayer, scripture and meditation; prayer and practical work within the community; links with hospices and care homes and support for the dying and their families.
5. **Minutes of the May 2018 meeting:** These were signed as true record with one minor typing amendment.
6. **Matters Arising from these Minutes:** None
7. **Finance Report:** None
8. **Reports from Sub-Committees**
 - a) **Personnel Committee:** Deferred
 - b) **Finance Committee:** No report as the Committee had not met.
9. **Chairman's Notices:**

Dr Dolton advised that the date for the Vicar's licensing was 22nd September at 4pm followed by refreshments in church.
10. **Secretary's Notices:** Members were asked to sign the circulated trustee declaration form.

11. Matters for report from Churches and Halls:

1) Parish Church:

- a) Mr Smith is meeting with the architect to progress the display cabinet for the crosses. The DAC has requested more detailed drawings.
- b) Coats of Arms: A re-application for renovation and display is in hand.
- c) Kitchen: A simple, low-level version is preferable. Wicks have given an estimate of of £5384.00. Members agreed that a smooth, uninterrupted work surface would be appropriate, maybe with fold down taps. Positioning of the kitchen was difficult due to the lack of a water supply. Miss Phillips said that the Chapter House in Glos. Cathedral possessed a low level kitchen which would be worth viewing; also St Lawrence Lechlade. Mrs Springate said that since Revd Paul would be visiting that church soon, he could be asked to take some photographs to aid members' decision.

Mr Bontoft urged that we wait until the Vicar is in post but it was felt that research into possibilities for the best and most appropriate installation would be wise so that an informed decision can be made. As we progress as a church for the community then such on-site facilities were becoming more necessary. Fr Howard recommended Fiona Price as a useful contact at the Cathedral. Mrs Miller proposed the formation of a small working party from the Parish Church congregation to look into the feasibility of kitchen provision.

2) Holy Trinity: Mrs Springate reported that the quinquennial inspection had been completed and that there were some urgent matters to address and some more long term. Mr Hopegood had been gathering the necessary hardware for the lighting installation and his son would be carrying out the work (the best quotation). Altogether, Mrs Springate added, the report was a good one and the wardens would be meeting soon with Mr Hopegood.

3) St Lawrence: Mrs Austin said that they, too, had received their quinquennial inspection. The major need was for an electrical inspection which was overdue. She added that this would cost £588.00. Mrs Austin also mentioned that the side doors were a problem but that Mr Hopegood had this in hand and the matter would soon be addressed.

It was agreed that the Secretary would write to Mr Hopegood, on behalf of the PCC, thanking him for his hard work on behalf of Holy Trinity and St Lawrence.

4) With regard to office space for the Vicar within our current properties, it was felt that it was too premature to make any decision.

12. Matters for Report from Churches Together in Cirencester: No report

13. Matters for Report from Deanery and Diocesan Synods: No report

14. Special Items for Discussion/Information

- a) **GDPR update.** It was agreed to adopt the policy as set out in the booklet circulated at the last meeting.
- b) **Watermoor Churchyard Biodiversity:** Fr Howard reported that as part of their Wild Town's project Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust are currently applying for funding from the European Regional Development Fund and would like to include Holy Trinity as an intervention area and carry out £700 worth of work. This would include planting wildflowers and pollinator-friendly shrubs to complement the work already begun. It is a three-year project which is likely to start in October, depending on the funders).

If the PCC was happy to progress this then we would need to sign a simple agreement so that GWT has proof that they have permission from all landowners for the biodiversity work they plan to carry out.

Fr Howard proposed that we accept the offer from GWT. This was seconded by Mrs Miller and agreed unanimously.

15. Any Other Business: Three items had been notified prior to the meeting.

a) Mr Kennard advised that he would be taking a group of children away to Cranham Scout Centre for a few days in July as part of the Parish Youth work. (25 – 27 July)

Fr Howard also advised that there would be a family camp away (13-15 July)

b) Miss Anderson said that David Viner had expressed an interest in looking through the parish archives kept on the top floor of 1, Coxwell Street. She mentioned that Ailsa O'Connor had made a list of what was there. Mr Viner is asking whether the PCC would give him permission to inspect them and report back to the PCC on items of historic interest.

Mr Smith had also mentioned that Richard Rees had offered to peruse the archives. Miss Anderson said she would email Mr Viner and tell him that Mr Rees was interested too. Dr Dolton and Miss Anderson will discuss how to progress both offers.

c) Miss Phillips enquired whether the brass plate still on display outside the old Vicarage in Dollar Street could now be taken down. Mr Lawrence promised to remove it.

The meeting closed at 8.35pm