

# **AFFPUDDLE with TURNERSPUDDLE PCC**

## **Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday**

**22 January 2020 at 7PM at Bladentye, Briantspuddle**

Present: The Ven A Macrow-Wood (Archdeacon of Dorset), Revd Sandra Williams, Mr Sanderson (Churchwarden and Chairperson), Mrs Whatley (Churchwarden), Mr Haigh (LM), Mr Buck (Treasurer), Mrs Moriarty (LPA), Mr Killer, Lady Coates, Mrs Grindrod, Mrs Wood, Mr Parker and Mrs Hogger (Secretary).

Apologies: Dr Hall

1. Opening prayer.

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 9 October 2019. Matters arising. Para 7 (a). Mr Sanderson reported that all immediate tasks from the Quinquennial Review 2018 had been addressed. Para 10 (c). Audrey's boxes! This has been addressed and boxes with Dukes for auction. All PCC members gave their consent for the Minutes to be sent to the Parish website. **Action: Mrs Hogger to send the Minutes to the Parish website.** Acceptance of the Minutes was proposed by Mrs Whatley and seconded by Mrs Grindrod.

3. Treasurer's Report. Mr Buck reported as follows:-

Current A/C: £1,265

Deposit A/C: £4,082

Fabric Fund: £16,622

Share: £19,098. Deficit of £6,252.87 in 2019. Revenue from Gift Aid envelopes was down. However more income had come in from the Parish Giving Scheme but in general, receipts were down. A legacy of £2,000 was gratefully received from the late Mr Taylor. Outgoings will include repairs and maintenance and costs as a result of the Quinquennial Review 2018.

Bills Outstanding. Bere Regis Parish Magazine. £1,000 towards Share. Dr Hall (Organist), is being paid the same as Mr Mullins. This needs to be reviewed to ensure that Dr Hall is paid in line with the organist at Bere Regis.

Mark Cummings is going to audit the accounts. Mr Buck will send the accounts to the auditors.

4. Deanery Synod Report. Mr Killer reported as follows. "We met at Wareham on 27 November 2019 under the Chairmanship of Canon Simon Everett, Vicar of Wareham. He is looking for a lay co-Chair after the last one started training for ordination so if anyone is interested....."

Revd Sandra was welcomed to her first DS since moving to West Purbeck.

David Pain, who is the Diocesan Secretary and has been in post for about a year, was the main speaker. He dealt with two themes. First, the diocesan initiative 'Pray, Serve, Grow' which has been in place for a few years and is there to ensure that every part of the diocese has a thriving Christian presence, from small scattered communities (like ours) to urban areas like Poole. He said that the outward purpose of the church could be strengthened by initiatives to serve others. Service to our neighbours in our communities had the potential to break down barriers and create spaces where faith could be explored. Collaboration with existing

organisations, between congregations, schools, youth clubs etc improves the visibility of the church. These activities may need support and training from the diocese.

If we can identify needs and make them known to the diocesan secretariat they may be able to advise and assist. The Christian Church existed to transform lives and communities, it was a club (his word recorded in the minutes) that existed to serve non-members not its own internal interests.

David's second theme was the diocesan finances which have shown a million pound deficit annually for 3 years now. This clearly needs to be addressed. The target is to achieve a balanced budget by 2025, with annual budgets making progressive steps towards that. There needs to be better use of assets, including, possibly, commercial operations and property development. Where there are sales of land or property these will need to be reinvested to produce income. Some opportunities exist for securing funding from the national church; so far support has been obtained for the development of rural ministry. More efficient organisation of diocesan offices is in hand as well as the streamlining of the Diocesan Advisory Committee and faculty process. But a big part of the contribution to the elimination of the deficit had to come from the parishes. Improvement in parish income by greater use of the Parish Giving Scheme, more effective fund raising initiatives, contactless collection of donations, stewardship and friend's schemes were all suggested.

Other items: There will be a Lambeth Conference in June (visiting Bishops from all over the world) and 2 Bishops from Sudan/South Sudan will be in Purbeck before the Conference. The Channel Islands, previously under the Diocese of Winchester, have been "moved" to the jurisdiction of Salisbury. There was a suggestion that Safeguarding should be a recurring item on all PCC Agendas. Our next meeting is on 16 March 2020 in Swanage."

5. Benefice Matters. The Archdeacon thanked the PCC for paying the Share in full. The ministry quota has doubled. Affpuddle direct giving income is quite low at £6 per week on average. Diocesan expenses include repairs to houses and there is a deficit. Since 2014 the numbers of clergy has been steady. However, there has been no major income to the Diocese from selling houses etc. It is hoped in future to have a Diocesan Stewardship campaign to boost finances.

Benefice Administrator. Mr Sanderson expressed the view that the PCC might be happy to go along with helping to fund this but with the caveat that the PCC have a lot of capital expenditure coming up on maintaining the fabric of the church after the Quinquennial Review. Mr Sanderson proposed that we accept the proposal to have a part-time administrator for the enlarged Benefice. Proposed by Mrs Whatley, seconded by Mr Killer but with the caveat that the PCC are concerned by the knock-on effect on the ability of the parish to pay its Share. Mrs Whatley said that most resident's money is in their property with little other disposable income. She did not feel more fundraising could be undertaken as it was always the same people who are being asked for support.

The Archdeacon suggested that we apply to the Erskine Muton Fund for grants. Keeping buildings open for worship.

Mr Buck suggested that we should make an offer of funding towards the Benefice administrator and review it after one year. Mr Sanderson suggested that we talk it through with the Revd Carol Langford and Revd Sandra Williams. This was agreed unanimously.

Pattern of Services. Revd Sandra Williams said that the new pattern of services had started in January. The 9.15am was popular. Baptisms at 11 o'clock. This is a good use of organist time. We want to grow together as a Benefice. There will be a Benefice prayer service at Bere Regis at 11.30am on Wednesday 12 February and also a Benefice prayer and breakfast at 8.30am on Saturday 29 February at Affpuddle. Mrs Moriarty

expressed her regrets that there was now no BCP service or Mattins at Affpuddle. Mr Sanderson commented that attendance at these services had been low.

6. Safeguarding. Mrs Whatley has sent off the paperwork for the Diocesan Resolution. Mr Sanderson is currently updating all the relevant paperwork which will be signed off at the APCM in April 2020.

7. Church Fabric and Churchyard. (a) Mr Sanderson reported that following the Quinquennial Review all immediate action has been taken. Mr Sanderson has had a meeting with Richard Griffin who had given us a quote for outstanding work. Some unrealistic quotes have also been received. Ideally all the work detailed in Richard Griffin's quote should be done within the next 12 months. The cost of all the recommendations is £15,079. (Action: Mr Sanderson will speak to Richard Griffin to find out priorities.) The Archdeacon suggested that we bid to the Erskine Mutton Fund for a grant. The PCC would need to get the Diocesan Architect to certify that the cost was reasonable, and a Faculty might be needed. A second quote would also be needed and then the PCC could apply to the Erskine Mutton Fund. This was proposed by Mr Sanderson, seconded by Mr Killer.

(b) Churchyard. Mr Sanderson has checked all the gravestones. The willows need pollarding. Action: Mr Sanderson to write to Mrs Schmidt. Mr Menzies will pollard our 4. Quotes have been received.

(c) Churchyard Spring Tidy-up. This will be on Saturday 4 April with the fall back date as Saturday 18 April. A strimmer has been donated. Action: Mrs Whatley to send thanks.

(d) Lavatory Update. All the relevant papers had been sent to the Diocese in September 2019 but as yet there had been no response. The Archdeacon commented that there was a backlog at Church House! A DAC visit should be arranged to try and move things on.

8. Health and Safety.

Mr Sanderson is updating the Health and Safety assessment and will look into a First Aid Course. Action: Mr Sanderson.

9. Events/Fundraising.

(a) Harvest Lunch – Sunday 13 October 2019 – Briantspuddle Village Hall. Raised £398.

(b) Gift Day 2019. Saturday 2 November 2019. Dreadful weather + Rugby World Cup Final! Raised £410.

(c) Remembrance Sunday. Sunday 10 November 2019. Went well with excellent participation from the village.

(d) Wareham Town Band Concert in Briantspuddle Village Hall. Sunday 24 November 2019. Raised £438. However, a bill from the band is still awaited.

(e) Advent Course 2019. Many thanks to Dr Hall for the excellent Advent course.

(e) Carol Service – Wednesday 18 December 2019. Dr Hall said that the Briantspuddle Singers were delighted to be more involved in the planning. £130 sent to Embrace the Middle East. Action: Mrs Hogger to send letter of thanks to BPS.

(f) Lent 2020. Revd Sandra explained that the course would be based on the book 'Saying Yes to Life' by Ruth Valerio. Sign up for copies of the book in church by 2 February when an order will be placed centrally. Monday meetings for Affpuddle – details to follow.

(g) Easter 2020.

Thursday 9 April 2020 – 7pm Service at either Affpuddle or Bere Regis.

Friday 10 April 2020 – Black Hill walk. 2.15pm Service of Meditation at Affpuddle.

Sunday 12 April – 9.15am Parish Communion at Affpuddle.

(h) APCM 2020 - Sunday 19 April 2020 at 6pm following a shortened Evensong. **Action: Mrs Hogger to inform Revd Carol Langford of the date.**

(a) Mr Buck will ensure the accounts have been examined.

(b) Replacement for Churchwarden as Mr Sanderson wishes to stand down. Discussion followed. All present members of the PCC are happy to continue serving. Mrs Wood will help as a Deputy Churchwarden. Mr Killer offered to do the rotas of readers etc. Mr Parker will help with the churchyard.

(i) Church Fete 2020 – Saturday 20 June at Cruck Cottage, Briantspuddle.

(a) Mr Sanderson has booked the Wareham Town Band and has confirmed the date with Mrs Badcock.

(j) Ride and Stride – Saturday 12 September 2020.

(k) Harvest 2020 – Sunday 11 October 2020. **Action: Mrs Hogger to book Briantspuddle Village Hall.**

10. AOB.

(a) Revd Sandra is hosting a Big Pancake Party at The Vicarage, Bere Regis on Tuesday 25 February 2.30 – 6.30PM to support the work of the Church Urban Fund's Together Network.

(b) Mr Sanderson said that Wareham Town Band are having an Open Evening on Thursday 27 February.

(c) 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day – 8 May 2020. **Action: Mrs Hogger to ask Briantspuddle Village Hall Committee/Bere Regis of their plans.**

(d) Boxes at Audrey's home. Mr Sanderson and Mrs Whatley have this in hand.

(e) Mrs Grindrod suggested that we approach the DHCT for a grant.

(f) Revd Sandra said that a Thrive questionnaire would be going out to the community soon.

11. Date/time/venue of next meeting: Thursday 19 March 2020 at 7pm at Bladentye, Briantspuddle.

12. Closing prayer.

