

Parish of Deddington with Clifton and Hempton

Minutes of the PCC meeting held on **Thursday, 19th September 2024**
Boardroom - Deddington Arms

Present: Rev. Nick Fielden (Chair), Sarah Banes, David Clements, Caroline Condon, Iain Gillespie, Jane Green, Heather Nason, Stan Nelson, Meriel Flux

In attendance: Jane Maharry (Secretary), Andrew Crawley (Hempton), Janet Watts (Hempton)

Apologies: Angela Faint, Olivia Fenion

Item	Notes	Action
1.	Apologies Apologies were noted and accepted from Angela and Olivia	
2.	Opening prayer Nick opened the meeting in prayer	
3.	Minutes of previous meeting – 25th July 2024 and matters arising <u>Minutes</u> The minutes for the previous meeting were confirmed as a true record. <u>Matters arising</u> See action log	
4.	Living Faith a) Having baptisms on the first Sunday seems to be working well b) The move of the 3 o'clock service to the second Sunday of the month was helpful in managing Nick's workload. c) Morning and evening prayer schedule has changed a little to accommodate bridge closure at Barford. In Barford, 2-4 people are joining Nick which is heartening. d) Our engagement with the foodbank was seen as a good living out of our faith. e) It was noted that a homeless visitor had been around the village the previous week. Many people had offered food and hospitality. Unfortunately, social services had been unhelpful, and it was difficult to get him support. f) Nick reported that he had organized via Bishop Gavin a Section 23 instrument for reading of banns at Deddington and Barford St Michael. This enables reading across churches to meet requirements.	

<p>5.</p>	<p>Hempton Church</p> <p>Stan reported that he and Nick had met with a qualified quinquennial inspector/architect at Hempton to inspect the roof. His observations suggested that the damage and works required may not be as great as initially feared. He will label the works as ‘category 4’ meaning action in 3-5 years.</p> <p>We await the report and this will then form the basis of a specification/schedule for works. Quotes will then be obtained. The advice in the report is likely to be for a full repair.</p> <p>Interestingly, although we had not considered the community space a concern, the surveyor was concerned regarding flashing/guttering which appears to have failed in places and needs addressing.</p> <p>In terms of running services in church, the surveyor suggested that a contractor could be employed to remove the loose plaster internally to make the space ‘safe enough’ for use.</p> <p>In terms of funding moving forward, we should explore Viridor grants along with Heritage Trust.</p> <p>Andrew agreed to contact Joanna in Barford who had led work on grants/fundraising for their appeal. Should explore Viridor grants.</p> <p>It was reported that the Friends of Hempton church are aware of the roof concerns but not the village more generally. This needs to be sensitively managed.</p> <p>Andrew suggested that writing an article might be helpful for beginning to raise awareness. Nick asked that this be sent to him prior to submission for publication.</p>	<p>Andrew (1)</p> <p>Andrew (2)</p>
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<p>6.</p>	<p>Fabric</p> <p><i>Noticeboard</i> – Agreement was reached on the way forward – see action log.</p> <p>It was noted that the vicars list of the stone in church needs moving and updating.</p> <p>Stan advised that Alcocks had been asked to undertake a range of building works. The schedule of works was requested, and Stan agreed this would be shared once confirmed.</p> <p>It was noted that the Bellringers had raised concern in their risk assessment regarding the steps to the west door. Caroline agreed to get quotes for putting right. This could be something funded by the Friends.</p> <p>Concern was also expressed about the louvres in the tower. We will continue to monitor.</p> <p><i>Portrait of King Charles III</i> – This had been received and is in the vestry.</p>	<p>Stan (3)</p> <p>Caroline (4)</p>
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7.	<p>Clock Face Restoration</p> <p>Caroline reported that the north face of the clock is in poor condition. She has been seeking quotes for restoration, however, there are not many companies who will undertake the work. A quote in the order of £40K has been received.</p> <p>There was some discussion about the high costs for this work and investing any money given that we are due a quinquennial report within the next two years and there may be higher priority items. Also, a point was raised around sensitive handling of this work given roof issues at Hempton for which we hold responsibility.</p> <p>Caroline felt the clock face would be something that the Friends would support and that if we could supplement with grants, we would not need to directly use church funds.</p>	Caroline (5)
8.	<p>Living Room</p> <p>Members were reminded by Jane G that the original intention for this space had been somewhere for children's /youth work. Unfortunately, that work has stopped, and the room has increasingly become – albeit unintentionally - a 'dumping ground' for all kinds of items.</p> <p>There are also ongoing issues with damp due to lack of ventilation and lack of heating. It was noted that keeping the door open had reduced the smell significantly.</p> <p>A discussion was held on future use of the room, noting that the large fridge/freezer will be moved out as soon as a new fridge unit is in the kitchen.</p> <p>It was felt that the space could be held for meetings with the table placed in the middle and a desk space also set aside for obvious use. This would help give the space a set purpose. PCC could use during the summer months for meetings and there may also be other community groups interested.</p>	

<p>9.</p>	<p>Treasurer's report</p> <p>Iain had circulated his report to all prior to the meeting.</p> <p>Overall, finances are in a reasonably healthy position. The general fund is down slightly due to projects. The fabric fund is generally rising.</p> <p>Donations to the foodbank will be given at a rate of £500 per month up to £3,200. Ways for people to individual donate will also be explained.</p> <p>The children and youth fund still had monies going into it and it was agreed that resources for the 3 o'clock service and/or Squiggles and Wiggles could be purchased from/billed to here if required.</p> <p>Iain confirmed that the wifi and AV project projects were complete. The wifi code for the market has been given to June T.</p> <p><u>Finding a new treasurer</u></p> <p>Nick requested again that PCC think about people they know who could take on this important voluntary role. Stan reported that he had asked several people.</p>	
<p>10.</p>	<p>Deanery Synod Report</p> <p>There had been no meetings since the last PCC. The September Synod meeting will be hosted by us in Deddington.</p>	
<p>11.</p>	<p>Health and Safety</p> <p>There were no accidents reported during the period.</p>	

<p>12</p>	<p>Stewarding at Church Events</p> <p>Caroline reported that events held in church had helped to raise more than £4,000 in the past year. However, they could only happen if PCC members volunteered to help steward to share the load.</p> <p>Most events for 2024 had support although a couple still needed volunteers, including the Banbury Symphony event in November. Members agreed for events to be booked in 2025/26.</p> <p><i>Church opening times</i></p> <p>Caroline requested that we alter the church closing time during winter months (1st October – 31st March) from 5pm to 4pm. This was agreed by all.</p>	
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