

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING
OF THE PARISH OF WIVERTON IN THE VALE
AT ST ANDREW'S CHURCH LANGAR
MONDAY 30TH APRIL AT 7.35pm**

Attendance and Apologies:

As for previous meeting.

1 Approval of Previous Minutes:

These were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

2 Matters arising:

None. EBG to sign off.

3 Election of the PCC members

As per the previous meeting. Katherine Bacon, as a lay reader, remains as an ex officio member of the PCC.

4 Appointment of PCC Officers

a) Treasurer: Max Jordan, proposed Steve Gelsthorpe, seconded Maureen Wright

b) Secretary: Rosie Dulwich, proposed Nick Perry, seconded Mick Beazley.

c) Electoral Roll Officer: NP confirmed that he did not wish to continue as Electoral Roll Officer. Mick Beazley agreed to take on this role, proposed Mike Raines, seconded Nick Perry.

d) Sidespersons: Home teams to appoint in accordance with the rotas. They are required to be "Persons of good standing"

e) Independent examiner for next year: It was noted that an Independent Examiner for the 2017 year had not been appointed. EBG observed that this year was particularly complicated in terms of the handover and asked if anyone had any suggestions, in the absence of which EBG suggested Clayton and Brewill who had previously acted for Tythby.

5 Election of Deanery Synod Representatives

Not necessary as those elected last year (Katherine Bacon, Steve Gelsthorpe and Edward Hine) remain in place for three years.

6 Report on Church Electoral Roll

There had been no amendments, number on roll 189. NP queried procedure for amending roll if someone had died or moved away from the Parish. It was noted that those who move away can remain on the roll until the next 6 yearly complete review at which point they must re-apply. Some, for example, remain on the roll as they are donors.

It was pointed out that Parish Share is no longer based on electoral roll numbers and that it is not necessary to be on the roll to marry. NP asked if we should take a proactive approach in contacting/removing those who have moved away. HT observed that if they are not worshipping regularly they would not qualify to be on the roll in any event.

7 Annual Report

EBG apologized that she had not prepared an overall report. Reports from the individual churches had been circulated and appear as appendices to these minutes.

There were no comments on the reports.

8 Report on the Financial Affairs of the former Wiverton Group of Parishes for period 1 January 2018 to 28 February 2018 and the Parish of Wiverton in the Vale from 1 March 2018

Max advised that not all former accounts had been prepared but opening balances were available. The balance sheet and SOFA didn't balance. The situation was complicated due to the number of funds, some of which generate only a few pence income. Tythby is particularly complicated. The complexity and number of funds is not particularly useful to provide an overview .

The total value of funds is approximately £303,000 so the Parish is solvent but not all of this is cash or available to spend due to the nature of the funds. Some of these are "unrestricted" meaning that they are generally available for all the former parishes. Designated funds are church specific and maintained by the individual churches.

SOFA 1 (1st two pages) relates to income
SOFA 2 shows income in various forms allocated to different funds. They may be an error in allocation to restricted or endowed funds.

Our biggest expense is Parish Share.

Our income comprises:

General donations, approximately £55,000 of which comes from standing orders.

Plate collection and the odd donation. The latter are tax recoverable with the exception of Elton where the congregation is insufficient to qualify.

There is a very small amount of income from advertising in the Wiverton News.

Sofa 3 and 4 Most business transacted through general account. The Parish share is effectively funded through ongoing monthly income from standing orders.

The “bottom line” is that there is a net income over expenditure surplus of around £6000. There is a small surplus on some funds , some of which is available to spend and some not.

Investments as at 31/12/2017 compare with last year.

EBG advised that there are some accruals.

Pam Powell queried why there is a negative opening balance for Elton. EBG and Max to review and clarify.

They are working to correct the errors which have occurred due to the system having inadvertently had some errors in set up which is taking a considerable amount of time and effort to resolve. EBG is confident that the system is robust when corrected and will produce a correct trial balance for next year. EBG had identified some coding errors.

EBG thanked Max for all his hard work. Max advised he is working on establishing a balance sheet for each church so it will know if it is making an overall contribution or vice versa.

9 Fabric Goods and Ornaments

This item had effectively been covered by the individual church reports.

Robin advised that there were serious concerns about the bells at Langar which would require a List B application. The ropes were coming off the wheels and were affected by damp; they had last been repaired in 1939.

10 Report on Proceedings of Deanery Synod

A report on the business and activities of the Deanery Synod had been circulated and appears as an appendix to these minutes.

It was noted from the report that the Parish and Deanery share continues to be a major concern, with the deanery meeting 80.2% of its contribution. NP queried why this should be; we meet our responsibilities, why is there a shortfall elsewhere?

There are a number of reasons highlighted in the report and SG confirmed there is an ongoing high-level review, but the possibility that our share might increase could not be ruled out.

Of those not paying their full share, some did not have in place a formal giving programme. MJ suggested that we should formally thank those in our giving programmes each year.

11 Any other Matters of Parochial or General Church Interest

Julie Coles said that whilst there were some positive aspects to the new service rota there was a feeling that the whole church family of Langar/Barnstone was missed. There was some sadness that no priests were available for Easter Day Holy Communion.

It was also very sad that young families participating had nowhere to meet regularly. It was acknowledged that Lucy Paine did a good job with the children at the whole Parish service it was difficult to appeal to a wide age range.

HT stated that there was something for children in the new service rota; children's church within the whole Parish service and Noisy Church twice a month. There was also on All Age Service one per month at Cropwell Bishop and perhaps people had not yet benefitted from the regularity of the services offered.

Simon Paine said that there were two main issues; one being the pattern of worship. The other is that whilst preschool children were well catered for there is a gap with older children who need more.

NP stated that we have to acknowledge that we cannot provide a full service for everyone in every village every Sunday. The services work well but core congregations of individual churches are not prepared to travel to other churches and we need to address this.

SG commented that "We need to take parochialism out of the Parish", and that Lay folk need to take some initiative on a cross Parish basis and that there is a Deanery initiative in the pipeline.

RC wanted to have a private discussion with EBG to review how the new service pattern was working, concern being expressed at the fairness of the rota. For example, Langar having no service when Noisy Church taking place, nothing at all in Tythby in Holy Week.

EBG reminded everyone that the Service pattern had been agreed after consultation and that the PCC had agreed to review after 12 months. Langar had had a service on Palm Sunday and Good Friday and that it was not simply a case of there being no priest available for Easter Sunday but holding fewer services on Easter Day to bring more people together.

Everyone's feedback was welcome, but there would be no change until we had run through a twelve-month cycle as agreed.

It was observed that if we were one church rather than six, there would probably only be three services each Sunday.

NP queried if we wait one year it may be too late to reorganize for next year. EBG confirmed that any changes would be from February onwards.

12 Recommendations of Matters to be discussed by the PCC in the coming year

Main issues were identified as:

Worship Pattern
Data Protection
Charitable Giving

13 Rector's Remarks

There has been a considerable amount of change; some things were not working as well as had been hoped. It's been a very busy year with people working very hard and, in general, the good things have outweighed those that have not worked quite so well.

We should use our buildings, gifts and time in such a way that is most beneficial to everyone and share best practice.

EBG recorded her thanks to Keith and Jane Turner for their support.

Barnstone now closed and looking to be put up for sale for residential development. As the Church was not recorded as consecrated this meant that any proceeds would belong to the Parish.

EBG thanked everyone for their contributions.

Before the final Agenda item, discussion ensued on three other matters:

The new Parish logo.

It was felt that the more colourful one of the two proposed should be adopted; this was proposed by HT and seconded by KB.

We need to consider how it is used on Wiverton News, letterhead, posters etc. It was queried if this should be referred to the Methodist Church in view of its use on Wiverton News but since the old logo had not been agreed with them this was not felt to be necessary but we should be prepared to compromise if necessary.

New Photocopier

This led to discussion about the replacement of the existing photocopier with a more sophisticated model. NP queried if it could be networked for all churches in the Parish but EBG advised that it was not possible and a solution to avoid having to send all items for printing to her was available but was very expensive.

Cost of copies in	colour:	9p
	Black and white :	1p

We should be aware of the cost but this would be useful for giving campaigns and welcome packs.

The replacement was proposed by RC and seconded by NP.

Submission of Financial Statements

EBG advised that she was not happy that we were not in a position to do this but that we hope to be able to do so by the end of May.

14 Date of future PCC meetings and APCM for next year:

8 May Elton

2 July Colston

3 September Tythby

6 November Granby

21 January 2019 Cropwell Bishop

4 March Langar

APCM 29 April Langar