

Minutes of P.C.C.meeting of Parish of St.Thomas Church, Werneth on Thursday 2nd May 2024 at 7p.m via Zoom.

1. Welcome and prayers.

Meeting was led by Revd. Darren Quinlan who opened in prayer and who welcomed Nasreen Masih back on to P.C.C. again, after having served previously.

2. Present: Revd. Nick Andrewes, Revd. Zahra Shafiei, Revd.Darren Quinlan, Janet Campbell, Mercy Ekhoesuehi, Graham Lees, Kathy Lees, Nasreen Masih and Abigail Ogbesusi.

Apologies : Michael Albrow and Ann Batchelor.

3. Minutes of meeting of 14th March 2024.

Accepted as a true account. Proposed by Janet, and seconded by Darren. Passed unanimously.

Matters Arising

- We're hoping to get on the "at risk" register which means the church would become more of a priority for grants. Graham and Nick met with Peter Barlow from Heritage North West to discuss.
- The South Asian Womens' Group (Shaz is the leader) might also be able to receive funding from a grant to Heritage Lottery Fund, as they take an interest in "hard " and "soft" projects.
- Graham has received quotes for wooden gates and will pursue these. Don't need faculty for replacing like with like.
- Safety and Safeguarding. Some discussion about the need for reporting of Accidents in a Loose Leaf Pad rather than an Accident Book to maintain confidentiality. Agreed that a pad is a better idea. This, and a well stocked First Aid Box which includes treatment for minor burns are to be prominently displayed and easily found. Abigail and Mercy volunteered to be trained as First Aiders. Carpet in choir vestry to be glued down. P.C.C. members need to complete Foundation Safeguarding Training offered by the diocese.
- Grants for armchairs to be applied for.

4. Correspondence.

None.

5. Vicar's Update.

Nick asked for our comments about using High Altar at Festivals as we did on Easter Sunday. We're happy to continue using it at Festivals and wish to continue to gather in a circle on other occasions. Zahra to officiate and Richard to preach at St. Thomas on Church 7th July.

6. Taking Parish Magazines to Archives.

Happy to accept that Parish Magazines, which record the history of the church, should be taken to Manchester Central Library.

7. Cleaning.

Linda Ogbewi has started working as our church cleaner on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Date for our next group cleaning day is Saturday 8th June between 10 and 12 noon.

8. Parish Officers.

Nick is to meet with Michael to discuss how he feels about his roles.

9. Young People.

Laura Tebay is hoping to meet with the transition group – from Primary to Secondary school – on Friday 10th May at Bluecoat School. A course about preparation for confirmation and Holy Communion has started at St.Paul's.

It would be good to have a conversation with our young people about what they'd like to do in church.

10. Sunday Mornings.

Simplification.

Should we have wall-mounted TVs? We can get a grant for this. We would need a quote and possibly also quotes for speakers and screens.

Organisation.

Is it possible to have a Deputy Warden? Should we review the rota for welcoming at the back of church?

11.Reports.

11.1 Safeguarding. See back to “Matters Arising from Minutes”.

11.2. Use of Church. HAF use of church has ended and private social activities are not being considered any more.

11.3 Finance. Janet’s latest financial report was looked at. A question was asked about how much money had been given specifically for re-pointing? About £3,000. Therefore, about £17,000 is left in Capital Reserve Fund.

11.4. Mission Community. A Discussion and Agreement meeting has been set up with a rep from Diocese about Parish Share and our finances. We also considered use of digital payment /contactless. To discuss at some future stage.

11.5. Health and Safety. See back to “Matters Arising from Minutes”.

12.Dates.

Next P.C.C. meeting is on Thursday 4th July 2024 at 7p.m via Zoom.

13.A.O.B.

None.

14.Future Agenda Items.

Eco Church – next steps.

Church Porch.

Trees in grounds - what to do?

We closed by saying the Grace.