

Minutes of the PCC Meeting
Tuesday 24th January 2024 at 7.30pm
St Gregory's Church, Dawlish

		Action
1	<p>Meeting began 7.30pm Reading of Ps 121. Opening Prayers led by KC. In attendance: L Halse (Chair), R Sulch, P Jones, N Twibill (secretary), J Smith, C Slade, G Brown, A Lunn, J Workman, R Smith, K Chambers, L Chambers, W Halse, PA Leigh & M Burden. Apologies: A Fuller & S Coope. Minutes of last meeting: Agreed & Signed. Matters Arising None</p>	
2	<p>Parish Matters</p> <p>1. Churchwardens Report – RS In December we hosted both Gatehouse and Westcliff Schools for their Nativity Plays, Christingle events and Carol Services. Men's Breakfast came back to St Gregory's and was a great success thanks to Jacqui Seymour and her team of assistants. U3A visited us for a Bell-ringing Event which was so well attended that a second event had to be organised. The Tree Festival had 39 trees on display and was visited by 200 people. The 'Bric-a-brac' stall raised £267.45, donations amounted to £148.84, raising £416.29 in total. The people's vote for favourite Christmas Tree was: first place: Dawlish Garden Society, second place: Dawlish Armed Forces and Veteran's Breakfast, and joint third place: High C's choir and Dawlish WI. The Mayor's favourite tree was Cofton St Mary's. The concert on Saturday 17th December. raised £890. Suggested donations; Dawlish Community Transport & The Hub. PCC asked for approval for donations to be made to these charities. Agreed by all. There have been 4 funerals (in one week) with one being 'live-streamed' on the internet. Planning for Linda's Licensing on Feb 15th at 7:30pm progressing well. Maintenance update; the warped kitchen floor laminate has been removed and we now await the fitting of new vinyl flooring. A start has been made on refitting the loose floor tiles in the nave, the first ones being in the South Transept. Our Fabric Team has been doing this, but we need the empty nave for 2 days, at least, to continue the remaining work. It is hoped this will be completed in time for Linda's Licensing. Reminded that relocation or movement of objects within the church have caused major headaches for your churchwardens, until the objects were found again and their new location was recorded. A reminder to everyone that church property cannot be removed from St Gregs without the permission of the Churchwardens. In future we will require that a written application is made and approved before any property is removed from the church.</p> <p>2. Treasurer's report – PJ</p> <p>Kitchen Floor The laminate flooring in the kitchen is lifting and potentially dangerous because it became saturated when the kitchen roof leaked (now fixed). We asked Dawlish Carpets to assess and advise us on what to do, they recommended replacing the laminate with vinyl and quoted to lift and dispose of the laminate and to supply and lay</p>	

the vinyl. We agreed the quote, but when the fitter came to do the work, he said he couldn't lift the laminate and we would need a carpenter
The carpenter Dawlish Carpets recommended has said he can lift the laminate, but it is a job we could do ourselves and the fitter should have done it!
Mike Nichols & Sons (Exmouth) attended and will send us a quote but said much the same, and we are awaiting a Torquay firm to assess and quote.

Lift

We recently had the lift serviced. The did identify one minor fault and we made him aware of another issue, however to correct the first fault and assess the second they have quoted us £500.

Phone & Broadband

Our current phone and Broadband contract expires soon PJ is looking at options.
It was felt that Broadband and WiFi are sufficient for our current use, but we could upgrade if we hope to stream services in the near future (but that will then require volunteers willing and able to do the streaming).
We also have the option of removing the telephone line but as we initially put it in partly for safety. It was felt that having a landline was a safety feature in the church and worth keeping. We will wait until LC arrives for final decision.

Office Printer

The new (to us) printer in the office, the old contract having expired.
The new printer does everything the old one did but is slightly smaller and fractionally cheaper

Windows and Stonework

We are aware that some of the windows and stonework need a bit of repair so we had Heritage Glass in to take a look, they have quoted £30,000 for the work.
PJ also awaiting a quote to 'stabilise' the pinnacles on the top of the tower, this will need architect involvement and Diocesan approval before we start,
No costing but it may be more of a priority than the windows on safety grounds.

Christmas Tree Festival

While money from the concert during the Christmas Tree Festival was earmarked for CAP we had not decided where other funds would go.
It was felt perhaps the money should go to local charities. The two nominated are Dawlish Community Transport and The Hub (n the Strand. All in favour.

Regular Financial Transactions and Subscriptions

One of the recommendations by last year's Independent Examiner was that PCC should confirm and agree the list of regular transactions that go through the accounts, attached the list for 2023. All agreed.

Independent Examiner

In November our IE withdrew and we have been trying to find a replacement. There were several suggestions, all potentially acceptable, but in order to ensure independence and transparency Standing Committee nominated Brian Hodge. All agreed.

	<p>Annual Report on Accounts - circulated before meeting. Some updates from St George's now added. Question whether LC named on document as not working in parish 2023-23. Also, whether several names under Mission & Evangelism should be included. PJ to check. The question whether 'Mission Giving' should not include specific appeals as this over inflates the Church giving. Running costs of church – deficit £3,500 predicted. There were things that offset final figures. Reserves grew last year. PCC members also made aware that AL & SC to leave PCC at ends of this year as they had agreed to serve for 2 years.</p> <p>3. St George's Report - MB Successful carol & crib services with more attended than expected. 30 is now an average attendance at Sunday services. Water spring from wall causing has been causing problems on hill especially when it freezes. SW Water decided not their problem as the water is not chlorinated and is coming from a spring. Investigations made costing £600 but not found source or remedied problem. Highways department are now also involved.</p>	
3	<p>Safety and Security.</p> <p>a. Safeguarding – WH There have been no Safeguarding issues to date.</p> <p>Some PCC members are not up to date with Safeguarding. Foundations; AF Domestic Abuse; IA, MB, RO, AF. There are still Safeguarding checks and training with the bell ringers and outstanding action to ask new members of the choir and stewards/refreshments teams to complete safeguarding basic awareness training. WH completed the Leadership Pathway Safeguarding training, also due for a DBS check update. Tess Hickson, has joined St. Greg's, has expressed a willingness to take on the role of Safeguarding Rep. Tess has had experience as a Safeguarding Rep in her previous church. WH to hand over to TH over next year, subject to DBS & safeguarding checks. All agreed.</p> <p>b. Health & Safety – CS There is still an ongoing situation with the kitchen floor as the firm who quoted for the job. The old flooring has now been removed and we are now waiting to see when it can be arranged to have the new vinyl laid. The floor tiles in church are still an ongoing project, the worst have been done. Hoped that it done is before the new rector arrives. First aid kits to be checked by LH & GB. Light on south porch rectified this week.</p>	
4	<p>Mission</p> <p>a. Kid's Swapshop – CS First swap shop of the year was on Tuesday 16th Jan. It was very well attended with over 20. Lots of items good quality items were brought in.. CL has also been emailed about help needed for families coming into Dawlish at short notice and in need of children's clothing which we were able to supply and a couple of bags have also been taken for Moldova and Ukraine. Volunteers are always needed for helping either to play with toddlers while mums select</p>	

	<p>clothing, usually only one or two at a time and toys are at the back of church. Also help with setting up, putting away or sorting clothes that come in and tidying boxes at the end of the morning, any time between 9-11am on first and third Tuesday of the month in term time would be gratefully accepted. School uniform not going so will go to charities such as Ukraine & Moldova.</p> <p>b. Men’s Breakfast – RS Two breakfast’s already taken place. They already have £200 that will be allocated to a chosen charity; the group will decide which ones. There were 28 at first meeting, 22 at second.</p> <p>c. Mothers’ Union - PAL The December meeting was watching the Westcliff Christingle service and heard the story of the first ‘nativity play’ and looked at members cribs, which were blessed by Revd Caroline Luff. A ‘Posada’, a travelling crib which was passed around members during December, spending a night in each home, it was brought back into church for the Crib Service blessed. A display at the back of the church showed all the homes that had been visited. In January, 16 of us met for a post-Christmas lunch in Reflections. Our Branch is one of the largest in the Diocese, though not all members are healthy and mobile enough to attend our regular meetings. As an experiment in 2024 we are moving our monthly meeting from the 1st to the 2nd Tuesday afternoon of the month, starting in March. They are also hoping to provide a ‘Warm Space’ in the Upper Narthex on the 4th Tuesday of each month, to start in April. Will ask for approval at next PCC meeting. We have been asked to host a Diocesan service for Mary Sumner Day, 9th August, at St. Mary’s Hall in Dawlish Warren.</p> <p>d. Pudding Club – LC We continue with a varied programme to look forward to this year. Any new members would be more than welcome. Particularly valuable to us all is the WhatsApp group that keeps us in touch between meetings. Any problems that are shared online are met with loving support and prayer. In hard times it has become a very caring and supportive group.</p> <p>e. “A” Group (Lunch Club) – SC December Meeting was attended by; Westcliff welfare officer and school SENCO, 5 parents including 3 new family members. Parents are sharing the challenges they face and the different support agencies they can access. They talked about diversion tactics and being non-confrontational to avoid escalation of behaviour becoming out of control. Adoption Placements were also discussed as these bring additional needs which also need to be considered and addressed.</p>	
5	<p>External Reports</p> <p>a. Deanery Synod Report – No meeting b. CTDD – Alan Smith</p> <p>From the outset I have been invited by the lead ministers of the other churches to attend their occasional meetings. My role has fallen into two key parts,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensuring an Anglican presence at any ecumenical event, e.g. Services for Carnival, Remembrance, Christmas lights, Advent & Christmas market as well as covering some occasions when the town council has sought a minister to offer prayer at a civic event 	

	<p>(e.g Armed Forces Day, Emergency Services Day). Thanks to all ministers who have helped to fulfil these commitments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Liaising with benefice churches to offer venues for the monthly Tuesday lunchtime prayer meeting. Thanks to those who have assisted in this and attended the meetings. <p>In addition, I have been asked to meetings to consider the activities style and organisation of Christians Together.</p> <p>We are not alone as a church and benefice in welcoming a new minister, as The Strand Church welcomed Rev Jessica in September 2023.</p> <p>Sharon Hurlow (Dawlish Methodists) will be moving away to Totnes later this year and a new minister is due to arrive for September 2024.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">c. ROC – Ceri Lee</p> <p>ROC Dawlish 2023-24 Strategy Proposal ROC Dawlish – The next challenge is, to strengthen the connections with the local Church. Proposal Establish a greater sense of ownership and participation by the local Church by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Offering quarterly publications giving new updates on ROC Dawlish activity. 2. Creating a ROC Dawlish website that each participating church church’s website can all be linked into? 3. Making available attractive ROC Dawlish branding for each participating church and logo for its website and social media pages. 4. Making available ROC Dawlish speakers for each participating church’s services and leadership teams. 5. Offering each participating church access to ROC Dawlish expertise and contacts to build and strengthen its community connections and outreach potential. 6. Inviting each participating church to appoint one competent and trustworthy person as an active hands-on Member of the charity, (to participate in monthly meetings and to take on the running of the charity under the authority of the Trustees), and to be a voice for that particular church at the ROC Dawlish table. 7. Asking, in return, for a £25 per month contribution towards core ROC Dawlish costs. Currently the majority of local churches participate in this. <p style="padding-left: 40px;">d. DCMC Forum – Not meeting at the moment.</p>	
6.	<p>Projects</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">a. Eco church – KC</p> <p>Nothing new to report.</p> <p>28.4.24 meeting in Exeter 12.30pm. Speakers and activities. Advertised in ‘Roots & Shoots’ and will go in ‘Coastline’.</p>	
7.	<p>Future Events</p> <p>Licensing of Rev L Cronin on 15.2.24 at 7.30pm. Rehearsal earlier in the week.</p> <p>Light refreshments afterwards. Cake ordered and requested others to make small cakes.</p> <p>So far about 50 who are formally invited have accepted.</p> <p>Help to set up Wednesday 14th Feb for any available after the 10am service.</p>	
8.	<p>Items for consideration/AOB (to be notified to Chair at least 24 hours before meeting)</p> <p>Use of Upper Narthex. ‘Essence’ course;</p> <p>This is a Pre Alpha Course aimed at Mum’s from Westcliff School who have shown an interest in Christianity. It will be run by Mark Jones’ Mission Group, on Thursday’s during term time.</p> <p>Asked if the PCC support in principle this outreach and mission opportunity. All agreed.</p>	

	SA has handed in her notice as Parish Administrator. She will stay until mid march. LC is aware of the situation.	
9.	Items for future discussion Lead opening prayers next meeting – PAL	
10.	Meeting closed with prayer and the Grace at 9pm.	

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Dawlish Charity No. 113318

Dates of future meetings;

Standing Comm.

Thurs 21st March

PCC

Thurs 11th April 7.45pm.

APCM - Sunday 12th May 11.30am