

Farleigh PCC meeting minutes

Monday September 2nd

1. Apologies for absence were received from Oliver Lymington and Beverley Guinness
2. Approval of minutes from the last meeting in June 2024, were approved with a correction to the figure that has been paid to date for the CMF (£10,000 not £10)
3. Matters arising/actions from the last meeting, not otherwise on the agenda.
 - a. Sum up machines in Cliddesden. The machines will be removed for regular services, allowing only the QR code to be available.
 - b. Insurance policy. The name of the policy has been amended to cover the whole Parish.
 - c. Clarification about the recent payment request for £7000 for parish insurance has now been provided. This is now a single payment for all churches and the existing payments for each church by DD will now be terminated.
 - d. Back copies of Hill and Dale have now been loaded onto the Benefice web site, and will be done so for the future.
4. Treasurers report -Hannah
 - a. Status of SSE bills. The ombudsman ruled in our favour in relation to the handling of the bills by SSE and compensation payments have been agreed for each church. However there remains issues with receiving correct bills and no bills will be paid until the amounts due are accurate. CW's are providing monthly readings to monitor usage. Once this has been resolved Cliddesden, Ellisfield and Farleigh will source the best deal through Parish buying. (Dummer already do this). The PCC offered specific thanks to Hannah for all her work in particular related to the SSE dispute.
 - b. A payment of £10,000 has been made to the CMF since the last meeting. Until the situation with SSE is resolved and accurate bills have been agreed, its not feasible to estimate when further payments can be made.
 - c. Request for support with CMF. A formal request for support for the CMF has been submitted to the DAC.
5. Church wardens Report

a, Cliddesden- Peter

We have had two internments of ashes and a wedding since our last PCC meeting. The children's work continues with the singing group meeting this coming Friday afternoon. The second Saints Alive! course has finished, and the fellowship group, including some of the last Saints Alive! group, will continue to meet again following the summer break. We are currently doing the Prayer Course which is proving to be encouraging and stimulating.

Basingstoke Conservation Volunteers are planning to come to cut the churchyard in the SINC area in November.

The defects inspection is overdue. To date Nick Carey-Thomas has been unable to arrange a meeting with the contractor.

The wine walk in July raised over £1,300 and we are looking forward to the Family Harvest Service on 22nd September with a BBQ afterwards, a quiz on the 9th November and carol singing round the pond shortly before Christmas Day.

a. Dummer- Lyn

The window repairs have been approved by the PCC by email. The Dummer fete raised £1250 for the church and the recent Harvest Festival collected £405 which will be donated to the church. Fresh good and food were donated to the Camro Centre. There are plans to have a churchyard clean, which brings out many volunteers.

b. Ellisfield. The fellowship service went well and was well attended from all churches. There are plans for a Harvest Supper on September 21st with the Harvest Festival to be held on Sunday September 22nd.

c. Farleigh- nothing to report – see Antennae project later

6. Safeguarding report

Nothing to report

7. Playgroup update. A written report is included in the minutes. The group continue to thrive and some of the families are coming along to church events. (post meeting note. Melanie has agreed to include some drawings/photos for the Xmas colour issue of Hill and Dale).

8. Hill and Dale report. The number of printed copies has been reduced, with each village needing 10 fewer copies each month. **Action; Debbie to follow up with Ben on the numbers sent to Dummer.** Post meeting note; Issues with missing rotas in tables has been discussed with the editor.

9. Status of recruitment of new vicar and revised timetable. Bernard has received a communication from the Diocese indicating their intention to proceed with the advertising of the vacant post and it was assumed that the delayed DBS checks had been completed. (post meeting note- this is not the case and so a formal Section 11 meeting can not proceed as yet.)

10. Fund Raising plans

It was proposed that this becomes a standing item. Each church has a least one fund raising activity each year. Ian commented that ideally the CMF gifts should come from the congregations rather than relying on specific fund raising events.

13. Service patterns for Xmas .

Ian asked us to list the ideal/aspirational services around Xmas and he would endeavour to provide clergy to cover the services. This was the result of the discussion:

Xmas Eve

Farleigh. 4.00pm 9 Lessons and Caroles

Cliddesden. 11.00pm service

Xmas Day

Ellisfield 9.30

Dummer 10.45

Carole Services

Cliddesden. (note changes from the draft minutes following discussion with DCC)

Sunday 1st December	09.45	Morning Prayer
Friday 6th	4pm	Christingle
Sunday 8th	11.15	Family Holy Communion
Sunday 15th	4pm	Nine Lessons and Carols (Please note this is a change from the usual of having it on the following Friday 20th at 7.00pm in an endeavour to attract younger families)
Sunday 22nd	6pm	Carols round the pond
Tuesday 24th	2pm	Crib Service
Tuesday 24th	11.30pm	Midnight Communion

Ellisfield Caroles December 15th 6pm

Dummer Christingle December 1st 3pm

Caroles December 15th 4pm

Ian will cover the Carole services at Ellisfield and Dummer on December 15th

A single benefice service on the Sunday after Xmas will be at Preston Candover

St Andrews Antennae project- the Faculty is ongoing and further responses to questions have been submitted to the DAC. (post meeting note: further DAC meeting will be held on September 18th where a decision will be taken, after which the recommendation goes to the Chancellor for final approval) The current best estimate for final approval is the end October)

11. Update from Ian . The PCC were in favour of Ian proceeding with arranging a joint PCC meeting with all the Benefice PCC's in mid October, ideally to be held around Preston or Brown Candover. Ian has details of a recently retired minister from the Alton area, Peter Brown, who is going to come along and take some services. Although Ian's formal contract has lapsed he will continue to work as before as our Associate Minister, taking Sunday services and supporting other activities as required.
12. Topics for next meeting. None provided not already included as standing items
13. Future Dates for meetings in 2024/5 : November 2nd, February 17th . APCM April 28th
14. AOB. Debbie drew attention to the recent email, that was circulated in advance of the meeting providing details of grants that are available for church repairs and energy saving initiative. Action : CW's to consider applications for individual church projects