

**Parochial Church Council for the Parish of
St David with St Michael and All Angels Exeter**

Minutes for the PCC meeting for the parish of St David with St Michael and All Angels Exeter held in St Michael's Church on Wednesday 01 March 2023 7:30pm. The meeting opened with prayer. **Those present:** Dave Allin (Lay Chair), Helena Walker (minutes), Nigel Guthrie, Jonathan Johns, Ash Leighton Plom, Paula Lewis, Sue Wilson, Clive Wilson, Robert Mitchell, Barbara Allin, Charlotte Townsend, Belinda Speed-Andrews, Glynis Harflett, Laura Casimir, Richard Parker, Richard Johnson.

1.	Apologies for absence: Sarah Black, Maggie Draper, Tasha Goldsworth	
2.	Declarations of interest: none	
3.	Confidentiality: To agree any items that should not be contained in the public record - none noted.	
4.	Minutes of the PCC meeting on 30 November 2022: RM proposed and GH seconded that these are a true record of the meeting and this was agreed.	
5.	Matters arising from those minutes: Exeter Network Church will not be moving forward with the use of the St Michael's church building as St David's school is not willing to provide the extra space needed.	
6.	Minutes of the PCC meeting on 26 January 2023: Observer Hilary Beer's name to be revised to show Hilary Todd. Otherwise PL proposed and CW seconded that these are a true record of the meeting and this was agreed.	
7.	Matters arising from those minutes: none	
8.	<p>Organisation of PCC sub-committees: DA (Lay Chair) circulated a paper setting out the reasons why it is felt that the current sub-committee structure for both churches is neither effective nor constructive. It was proposed by DA and seconded by GH that the St Michael's committee be disbanded (the St David's committee has not met since before the Covid pandemic in early 2020). NB the proposal on the paper circulated did not specifically include the St David's committee in the proposed motion to disband the subcommittees but it was proposed by NG and seconded by CW that the St David's committee be included in the motion to disband.</p> <p>There was robust discussion. LC particularly wished it to be minuted that she spoke against the proposed motion. NG suggested that going forward it might be a better model to have sub-committees across the two churches eg fabric, music and worship, outreach, social etc.</p> <p>The formal motion presented was : To agree to the dissolution of the St David's and St Michael's committees and mandate the Standing Committee (SC) to present to the PCC within six months a proposal for the structure of all PCC subcommittees for the parish to replace the structure last reviewed in 2014. In addition the SC will present a proposed code of conduct to be used in all church meeting for adoption by the PCC. When asked to vote the PCC members voted 14 for the motion and two against with no abstentions so the motion was carried.</p>	Dave Allin

9.	<p>Confirmation of decisions made outside the recent PCC meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repair of North Transept window at St Michael's and authority to proceed with the Andrew French quote • Authority to proceed with Jeremy Chadburn for the quinquennial survey of St Michael's • Authorisation for Charles Cowper to be chalice assistant at St Michael's <p>Please also note attached copy of pastoral letter from the incumbent Nigel Guthrie sent to all parishioners on 27 January 2023</p>	Nigel Guthrie
10.	<p>Regular items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safeguarding - CT reported that the team has met and the parish administrator has taken over the admin of DBS checks and training. The team will meet with church group leaders and will address the various risk-assessments. DA said that there are some risk-assessments already on-file. DA also suggested to PCC members that when they undertake training they should make their training record visible so that the administrator only chases training where necessary. • Churchwarden - this report was circulated prior to the meeting. GH amplified that we will be looking for a team going forward and will seek to include the welcoming team in some more of the churchwarden tasks on Sunday mornings. The message about the team approach will need to go out to the St Michael's community too. 	Nigel Guthrie Glynis Harflett
11.	<p>Fabric reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St David's - circulated prior to the meeting. 20 March is the start date for the flat roof work at St David's. Parish Room windows have been vandalised again can the meeting agree to a repair £85 by Mr Gubbins? Yes. DA also said that the new noticeboard is ready to go up. • St Michael's - Andrew French has provided a detailed method and materials statement for the work on the north transept window. Also Neil Morris has given a quote of £900 for necessary electrical work. Can the meeting agree to the expenditure for the work starting 6 March and potentially needing a list B application? Yes. Jeremy Chadburn has agreed to perform the quinquennial inspection on the St Michael's building - he will use a drone, also the services of Western Steeplejacks to access all areas. Castleton Joinery and Western Steeplejacks will liaise to raise the new stair/ladder. 	Dave Allin Paula Lewis
12.	<p>Organ report (St David's) - circulated. The organ is "tired" and needs £100k work (which is less than originally anticipated). The work can probably be staged. The DAC contact referred RM to Nigel Browne who will look at the organ with RM on 2 March. JJ said that we have £22k in the organ fund that can be used for initial repairs. JJ said that we will need to fundraise for further repairs. JJ proposed and ALP seconded that RM and DAC look at what is needed, with initial spending approved in</p>	Robert Mitchell

	principal and the meeting agreed.	
13.	<p>Treasurer's report: JJ reported that because repairs budgeted for in both churches not having been effected yet funds are looking better than they might. Giving is up and lettings are up in both churches. It is important to maximise the lettings. Budgets at the back of the accounts show that both churches will have a deficit next year due to repairs. Both quinquennials will affect the budgets and we will need to fundraise. JJ requested authority to place both churches' surplus funds onto deposit to earn interest (JJ proposed, DA seconded) and the meeting agreed.</p>	Jonathan Johns
14.	<p>Announcement of retirement: Nigel made a statement on his coming retirement announced in both churches on Sunday 26 February. He said: "Those of you who were here on Sunday will have heard that I have now agreed with Bishop Robert that I should retire on 15 August 2023. As I will have about two weeks of leave to take that will means that I will effectively leave at the end of July. Tina is also retiring this summer and we will be hoping to move to our own home at about that time. The Archdeacon of Exeter will be in touch with Glynis, as Churchwarden shortly to put things in motion for the vacancy. You should also know that Archdeacon Andrew and Bishop Jackie are actively pursuing the possibility of appointing an interim minister to help with the vacancy. Thank you all for your support and encouragement during my time here. I realise that a vacancy can be an unsettling time, but it can also be a time of opportunities. It is right that clergy and church officers should move on or move aside regularly so that churches are not bound by the limitations of individuals. I have enjoyed and valued a great deal of my ministry with you and with the schools and other institutions here but I feel it is definitely time for me to move over. And more importantly my departure will allow someone with fresh energy and vision to come and make the most of the really extraordinary opportunities for ministry and community service here. So, I will now put my best efforts into preparing for the vacancy and handover of ministry to our team of lay and ordained people."</p> <p>GH thanked NG for his service but noted that we will have the opportunity to thank again nearer to the time of retirement.</p>	Nigel Guthrie
15.	Any Other Business: There was none.	
16.	Date of next meeting: Thursday 11 May 7:30pm at St David's. APCM Thursday 20 April 7:30pm at St Michael's.	

The meeting closed with prayer and the Grace at 20:52.