

Minutes of Rushen PCC meeting held in St Catherine's Church Hall Tuesday 17th May 2022 at 7.00pm

Present: The Rev'd Joe Heaton (Chair), Gerald Callister, Peter Hayhurst, Harry Dawson, Grace Hibbert, Peta Mills, Iris Mitchell, Wendy Heaton, Stephen Curtis, Ann Curtis, Claire Jones, Michael Porter

1. Welcome and Prayers:

The chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and a service of Evening Prayer followed.

2. Apologies for Absence: John Kearsley, Sylvia Wightman, Lukas Hayhurst, Heather Daykin, Margaret Galloway, Janice Withey, Ivan Ward, David Bowman, June Davies

3. Minutes of previous meetings (*and matters arising therefrom*)

The chairman referred to three previous meetings stating that the first had taken place on 15th March 2022. He asked if this was an accurate record of the proceedings. Gerald Callister proposed, and Harry Dawson seconded that it was. There was unanimous approval. The chairman asked for any matters arising of which there were none. Similarly the minutes of the meeting held before the APCM on 26th April 2022, to approve the finances for 2021, were proposed by Michael Porter and seconded by Iris Mitchell, and approved with no matters arising. Finally the minutes of the second meeting, held after the APCM on 26th April 2022, to elect a PCC secretary, PCC treasurer, and Electoral Roll Officer, were also accepted as a true record of the proceedings. Proposed by Peta Mills and seconded by Ann Curtis and approved unanimously.

4. Appointment of Vice Chairman and Standing Committee

The chairman then asked for nominations for the position of Vice Chairman. Michael Porter was proposed by Gerry Callister and seconded by Harry Dawson. There were no other nominees. The vote taken was unanimous. The chairman then referred to the appointment of the standing committee for the forthcoming year. He explained that this committee comprised chairman (Joe / Mike), the three wardens and two PCC members. He asked if there had been any nominees. Michael Porter (as vice chairman) intimated that he would be prepared to serve. The chairman asked if any other PCC member would like to stand. As there didn't seem to be anyone, Joe proposed that David Bowman, who had served on the committee for the previous year, be selected again. Stephen Curtis was proposed by Wendy Heaton and seconded by Peta Mills. There was unanimous approval.

5. Appointment of Sub-Committees

The chairman distributed a list of the proposed committee structure and stated that he would move people if they were not happy. The committee structure can be found in the Appendix.

6. Reports from Sub-Committees: (*and matters arising therefrom*)

Finance Committee Report

The treasurer referred to his report which had been circulated prior to the meeting. He stated that the account was showing a deficit of approximately £2,366 for the past four months to the end of April. The main reason for the deficit being a reduction in giving. We have lost some regular standing orders and the plate collection had not yet recovered to pre-pandemic levels. Joe said attendance on Sunday had fallen at St Mary's and Kirk Christ as was particularly bad at St Catherine's.

Also discussed, were the continuing rent reduction for Happy Valley, the £1,925 donation to the DEC Ukraine appeal (to be doubled by the Isle of Man Bank) and the appointment of the new Parish Administrator. There was also good news with a £2,500 donation and £5,000 for Kirk Christ given in the will of Mrs Anne Alexander. Also, the recent Murder Mystery event produced a net profit of nearly £500.

To encourage giving by card/phone, the parish is taking delivery of two contactless devices. Test donations have already been made from the [a church near you] web pages, and Steve, Peter and Gerry will be attending a training session on 25th May when we will receive set up the actual devices.

Worship Report:

The sub-committee had not met.

Social Committee Report:

Members were asked to refer to the report which had been circulated earlier. The Murder Mystery evening had been a success raising almost £500. The parish celebration of Pentecost / Platinum Jubilee Sunday was discussed with bunting for all churches and a barbeque and exhibition or memorabilia to be held at St Mary's – All welcome. Also discussed was the TT café (tea, coffee, and cake) to be held at St Catherine's Hall on Tue 31st May, Thu 2nd, Tue 2nd, Thu 9th June. We need to publicise this event to increase pledges of cake and help serving customers.

Mission & Outreach Report:

The sub-committee had not met. Joe and Annie to get together to choose a date and convene the next meeting.

Building Committee Report:

Peter Hayhurst referred to the report which had been circulated prior to the meeting. Work on the tower windows at St Marys to start soon when Chris and Steve clear of Covid.

A leak in the Kirk Christ heating circuit has been investigated and fixed. Whilst we could claim on the insurance for the investigation work, the cost may be low enough that this is not necessary / economically sensible. Guy Thompson to get invoices from Leece and Richmond.

The planned reordering work at St Marys: Planning notices were displayed and no letters of objection were received. DAC have recommended the work can proceed to faculty. Civil planning have approved the outside store, but the conservation officer has raised concerns regarding the accessible toilet by the porch. An on-site meeting has been arranged for 20th May to discuss the issues with the conservation officer. Meanwhile, Guy Thompson is organising quotes for the work from three local builders.

7. Vicar's Report:

Voirrey Baugh has started as the new Parish Administrator, working in the vicarage office from 9:30am – 12:30pm Tuesday to Friday. She is settling in well and can be contacted on Joe's phone number. Anthony Murphy helping draft a contract of employment. Joe thanked our outgoing administrator, Claire Jennings for her many years of excellent work and voluntary help during the handover period. We intend to thank Claire with a leaving present of a Petrina Kent art work and Amazon vouchers.

We discussed a lasting memorial to Arthur Cregeen, the last warden of Kirk Christ who had given many years of loyal service and a very generous donation to the parish in his will. The meeting agreed in principal to buy and engrave a second silver chalice for Kirk Christ in Arthur's memory, leaving the choice of design to the congregation at Kirk Christ. Joe advised this would cost around £300. Once chosen the standing committee could authorise the actual purchase. Proposed by Grace Hibbert, seconded by Annie Curtis and agreed unanimously.

Vision and Focus Group

A report written by David Bowman was presented to the meeting. For those present, Joe summarised the membership (Joe Heaton, Annie Curtis, Ruth Walker, Jim Dale, David Bowman, Peter Hayhurst) and what skills and experience each brought to the group. He stated that the catalyst for the group being established was needed to discern the best way to spend the generous legacy received from Arthur's Cregeen.

The group first considered the idea of building a café onto the West end of St Catherine's Church, to bring the public into our building, bring new life to Church Street, improve our building, and fulfil our mission of being at the heart of

the community. Whilst very exciting, this would be a high risk, expensive project with a long lead time, and might not actually result in bringing more people to Christ. So this idea has been parked.

A second idea was to employ a youth and family worker to support young families and create activities to bring children and families into the church and help them in their faith journey, generating growth from within. The job specification would be based on Ruth Walker's similar post at St German's Cathedral. Joe added that we would still need some re-ordering at St Catherine's to upgrade the building in recognition of its role as the hub church of the parish (e.g. replace pews with chairs / accessible toilets / projector and screen).

To further discern the right path the group had a retreat day at Thie da Ve in Peel working through the 'Healthy Church' study with David Shirtliff. This was felt to be very beneficial and Joe intends to take the entire PCC on the course in the Autumn.

8. Parish Safeguarding Matters:

We need to appoint a new Parish Safeguarding Officer. Voirrey Baugh has expressed her willingness to take on this job, so Joe proposed that we appoint Voirrey. This was agreed unanimously. Voirrey will be contacting people who need to attend safeguarding courses.

9. Forthcoming Services:

Joe announced that the Royal British Legion (Port St Mary Branch) of which he is the chaplain will be holding a service to bless their new standards at St Mary's on Wednesday 25th May at 7:30, followed by refreshments in the church.

Combined Pentecost / Platinum Jubilee services will be held at all churches in the parish on Sunday 5th June followed by barbeque and faith lunch at St Mary's to which all congregations are invited. There will also be an exhibition of Jubilee memorabilia.

10. Correspondence:

No Correspondence has been received.

11 Any Other Business:

No other business was raised or discussed.

12. Confidentiality

No items of confidentiality were discussed

The meeting closed at 8:50pm with the conclusion of the Evening Prayer Service led by the chairman at 7pm

Signed: _____

Rev. Joe Heaton

19th July 2022

Appendix Sub-Committee Structure 2022/2023

Worship	Finance	Mission & Outreach	Buildings	Social
Mike Porter	Steve Curtis	Annie Curtis	Gerry Callister	Iris Mitchell
Wendy Heaton	David Bowman	Lukas Hayhurst	Peter Hayhurst	June Davis
Jan Withey	Grace Hibbert	Heather Daykin	Harry Dawson	Peter Mills
Ivan Ward	Jim Dale	Margaret Galloway		Sylvia Wightman
				Claire Jones