

## A Report from the meeting of the PCC held on 23 September 2024

Paul Groom, Lay Vice-Chair held the chair, and fifteen members of the PCC were in attendance.

### Matters arising from the last PCC meeting (23 July 2024):

Verbal feedback was asked for from each of the local church sub-committees about the progress of the local EcoChurch action plans as drafted at the Parish Green Day. There was little knowledge of how these are taking shape, so action is asked of the groups.

The visit by the Dean was deemed to be successful, with a full audience in St Mary's to hear him and a collection gathered for the work of EAPPI.

### Team Vicars Report:

Revd Cally's report had been received. We will be planning groups to study the Archbishop of York's Advent Book, written by Rachel Mann. Details of how to order the book and where the groups will be held will be circulated in due course.

The current situation with St John's was explained and all those involved in moving along with the structural work were thanked. An application to replace all the electrical wiring and distribution board has been submitted and the damp ingress in the vestry/kitchen is being investigated with local builders. A significant expense will be required to ensure the building can be used. It was noted that SJWES needs to be watertight for regular worship and is important for our missional outreach.

Revd Cally's included an update on the Alpha course, which is currently running, the twice-monthly prayer meetings rotating around the churches now set up, and the potential need for a new parish sub-committee focused on our new ministry with children and youth.

### Safeguarding:

Wendy Thorgood (PSO) will be leading open discussion sessions around the subject of safeguarding which will be initially intended for volunteers working across the parish in our different groups. There will be notices in the parish news, but the first date is 3pm Monday 4 November at HTBOT. *[Contact the churchwardens if you need more information [cwteam@parishofbridport.org](mailto:cwteam@parishofbridport.org)]*

### Health & Safety:

Each local church sub-committee is required to check the draft risk assessment provided by the Parish H&S Officer and liaise with him any amendments or updates that are required.

### St John's Task Group:

The PCC appointed a small group to manage the urgent electrical work for St John's, through the faculty process and then the ongoing liaison with the contractors. St John's has no electrical supply and as the weather declines the maintenance of the entire building is a major concern. The group will look at restoring the electrical supply, lighting, heating and sockets initially, and then the conversation will develop into a discussion about the future ministry and mission of the parish, from that location. Francis Grew was appointed as leader of this group, with Rosemary Russell, Bridget Trump, Revd Philip and Martin Whiting.

### Parish Action Plan:

The four areas of the parish plan will be overseen by different sub-committees, which were identified.

The local churches had been asked to identify one new event to support the diocesan vision of Making Jesus Known. The following were the recorded responses:

**HTBRA** – A pilot of Breakfast Church on 29 September.

## A Report from the meeting of the PCC held on 23 September 2024

**HTBOT** – An Advent project to introduce the Brownies to choral singing.

**SSALL** – To consider how to re-instate the link between the churches and the school year groups.

**SMWAL** – A re-imagined Harvest event in the church hall.

**SMBRI/SJWES** – Two more ***Come and Sea*** events planned for 2025. [Definition of ***Come and Sea*** = ‘outreach to visitors based at and working out of SJWES’]

### Sub-Committees:

#### **Fabric:**

- The PCC Standing Committee had already appointed Paul Groom as Leader of the Fabric Sub-Committee with immediate effect.
- The group is reviewing the progress of maintenance undertaken since the QI reports were last made, and plan to set out a parish-wide programme of works. [The local churches were reminded that the PCC has only delegated the day-to-day maintenance issues, and not more serious/in depth building work.]
- SMWAL were authorised to apply for a List B permission to carry out tree pruning.
- HTBRA – additional evidence is requested about internal decorations and also a possible renewal of some chairs before any permissions can be sought.
- Paul Groom and Francis Grew were appointed by the PCC and given authority to make online applications under the Faculty Jurisdiction Rules for all the churches in the parish.

#### **Communications:**

- The Comms group are rolling out access to the Google Drive in which the parish documents are to be stored. As Charity Trustees the PCC will be able to view all but the highest security information; others in the sub-committees will also be granted viewing rights for particular folders.
- Training sessions are being set up to assist everyone to understand how to use individual devices, with varying understanding of the technology.
- Sub-Committee leaders are encouraged to begin to upload the documents for which they are responsible.

#### **Mission & Faith:**

- Advent groups will be well advertised, and it is hoped that one using artwork will be included. (Lectio Visio)
- A Quiet Day is booked for 12 April 2025 at Othona West Dorset. Details to follow.
- ***Come and Sea 2025*** – two ideas are in the planning: Easter Eve (19 April) and the August weekend (9 & 10).
- A project pro forma has been produced for use when planning such events in the parish.

#### **EcoChurch:**

Local treasurers are reminded that the Energy Footprint Tool is available on the diocesan/National Church website, so that churches can submit details of energy use to help in understanding the issues we face.

#### **Governance:**

The sub-committee is due to meet to discuss the formation of a new sub-committee focused on our ministry with children and youth.

The PCC did not identify any outstanding or contentious issues but had received reports from:

**The SSALL Project:** - Building work has started on the external fabric on one elevation. Faculty applications have been submitted for solar panel installation and the lighting of the cupola. The urinals in the men’s lavatories in the hall have been upgraded. The temporary reordering (removal

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of pews & altar) is being discussed before a decision is made as to whether it is allowed to remain permanently. The Mission & Faith Sub-Committee have not yet made any formal proposal to relocate the Parish Centre to this site.

**The Pastoral Sub-Committee:** - the topic of 'visiting' has been under discussion for some time, and the format/structure of SG support is still unclear. An idea to put in place lay involvement with baptism families is ongoing and the need for training in this pastoral area and bereavement support is acknowledged. Listening is a key skill in these areas of pastoral care. The teams of Welcomers in each church are appreciated and the vital role of noticing when parishioners are absent is appreciated. All the Care Homes in the parish receive regular visits from the clergy, but an increase in the involvement of the laity would be helpful.

### Diocesan Synod/Deanery Synod/Churches Together

The diocese has circulated a paper laying out how they will be collecting our Fairer Share contributions in future. As from January 2025 the parish has been asked for one large amount rather than smaller amounts from the individual churches. FinCom will be discussing this and making a recommended proposal to the PCC.

Churches Together have a host of events planned over the next few months. Details will be publicized but Heather Purse, as secretary, can be contacted for particular information.

**Date of next full PCC meeting:** Tuesday 29 October. **Other meetings:**

Communications	7pm Wednesday 16 October
EcoChurch	4pm Tuesday 10 December in SMBRI
Fabric	4pm Thursday 17 October
Finance	2.30pm Thursday 10 October
Governance	3.30pm Tuesday 8 October
Mission & Faith	2pm Monday 14 October in SMBRI
Pastoral	5pm Tuesday 15 October in SMBRI
Bridport & West Bay	7pm Tuesday 1 October in SMBRI
Allington	4.30pm Wednesday 20 November
Bradpole	Sunday 20 October & 17 November, after the service.
Bothenhampton	??
Walditch	3.30pm Wednesday 2 October

Duty Wardens	Tuesday 19 November
Safeguarding Discussions: "Tea, Cake & Chat"	3pm Monday 4 November in HTBOT

10 October 2024 –  
Bridget Trump, PCC Secretary. s