

**Meeting of Birstall & Wanlip Parochial Church Council
at Birstall on 22nd November 2016 at 7:30 pm**

Present: Revd Vince Jupp (Chair), Tony Bloxam, Peter Chester, Annette Marshall, Rose Parrott, Cicely Plumb, Andy Proud, Debbie Shephard, Bert Tegg, Marion Tegg, Lesley Walton, John Ward, Janet Waters, Nicki Wills, Sally Dewsbury (Secretary)

Not present: Elaine Moyers, Paul Tarry

- **The meeting was opened in prayer by Peter Chester**
- **Apologies were received from:** Revd Anne Crosby, Debbie Shephard, Julie Ward

	Action
<p>1. The minutes from the meeting held 20th September 2016 were accepted.</p> <p>2. Matters arising from the minutes Peter Chester and Janet Waters pointed out that their names had been omitted from the list of those present at the meeting. Item 4: Nicki Wills confirmed that adding Andy Proud as a signatory was in progress.</p> <p>3. Mission and evangelism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mission Partnership Vince reported that despite the absence of a convener, the Partnership is continuing to do well, including successful Spirituality and Marriage Preparation days. The parish of Birstall & Wanlip is taking the lead in activities to which Partnership churches have been invited including the Advent course, Compline and the Confirmation course, as well as hosting the Deanery service next year. Lesley Walton noted that about half of those attending the retreat were from Partnership churches. ○ Nearer No questions arising from Stephen March's report. Peter Chester observed that around 600 people attend the first national Fresh Expressions Conference at Leicester Cathedral. Vince suggested that it would be worth obtaining some copies of Michael Moynagh's book <i>Being Church, Doing Life</i>. <p>4. Finance Nicki stated that she was satisfied with the current state of the church accounts. She reported that the Gift Aid returns had been completed, and two of the trust funds have now been closed, which has led to a positive impact on the deficit in the accounts. Nicki emphasised the need to increase the levels of giving to sustain the narrowing of the gap between income and expenditure.</p> <p>5. Reports in brief</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Social No questions arising from the report. Vince expressed his thanks for Sandra Robinson's efforts as chair of the committee. ○ Music and Worship No report was forthcoming as the committee was not due to meet until 23rd November. Vince asked for views on the services due to take place on Christmas Eve 2017 (a Sunday) and whether one or more should be dropped. There were differing opinions and Vince said this would be further explored at the meeting. He also pointed out that Advent Sunday (3rd December 2017) would clash with Our Lady & St Nicholas' Patronal service. It was agreed that there would be an Advent service on this date. ○ Website Nothing to report. Sally is continuing to keep the website current and to make design improvements where possible. 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sunday School Nothing to report. ○ Safeguarding Annette Marshall reported that all leaders of children’s groups are now required to undertake the core modules C1 and C2 of the Church of England safeguarding training. She noted that a safeguarding audit is due to take place. Vince thanked Annette for the work that she does. Annette also pointed out that the photos of the safeguarders were at adult height and needed to be lowered so as to be accessible to children. It was agreed that this should be done. ○ Hospitality Vince highlighted the need to have a presence at the back of the church to welcome those who come in after everyone has taken their seats. Lesley Walton said that everyone in the congregation should be encouraged to help and look after newcomers to the church. She will investigate ways of putting this into action. ○ Fete Group Tony Bloxam presented his report; feedback for this year’s Fayre had been positive. The fine weather made a big difference to the success of the event, and Tony observed that the challenge is to achieve the same success in adverse weather conditions. Rose Parrott commented that contact had been made with some of those who had come into the hospitality space in the church during the fayre, highlighting the importance of having some quiet space at this type of event. Andy Proud will take over as chair of the group. Vince offered a vote of thanks to Tony for his hard work during his time as chair. 	<p>AM</p> <p>LW</p>
<p>6. Buildings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Birstall Tony Bloxam drew the meeting’s attention to the leak in the flat roof between the old and new buildings. A quote has been received via the church architect for the repair of the flat and another has been requested. In order to expedite the roof repairs, Peter Chester proposed that Tony make the decision on which quote to accept once the second one came in. Seconded by Annette Marshall and unanimously agreed. Tony also reported that the trapdoor which gives access to tower roof needed to be secured, as it had been opened from the outside by persons who had climbed the tower from the outside. He also suggested that the drainpipe to the side of the tower be coated with anti-vandal paint. ○ Wanlip John Ward reported that another £1000 has been repaid. ○ Health & Safety Updates John is working on a Health & Safety file for Wanlip. Tony has spoken to Charnwood Borough Council which has confirmed that it is responsible for dealing with unsteady gravestones/uneven ground. 	<p>TB</p>
<p>7. Rector’s items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ First Aid Course Andy Proud has investigated course providers and identified First on Scene as being the best value for money, offering an in-house first aid at work course for £625 plus VAT for 12 delegates. Andy proposed signing up to this course. Seconded by Lesley Walton and unanimously agreed. Andy to compile a list of delegates and identify suitable dates. ○ Compline at Wanlip John Ward and Andy Proud will organise the services. ○ Ride and Stride John Ward reported that, despite the bad weather, the event had had raised £575, £169.50 of which has gone to the St James’ maintenance fund and £118 to Wanlip’s. ○ Wanlip Bench Permission has been received from the Faculty for the bench for Zak Johnston to be installed in the churchyard. His family has been informed. 	<p>AP</p>

○ **Link Editor**

Vince informed the meeting that Gill Pope intends to step down as Link editor after five years. If no one comes forward to replace her, publication may cease.

8. Deanery

- Bert Tegg reported that Bishop Martyn had attended the Deanery meeting on 25th October and had made positive impression.
- Lesley Walton had done a presentation on the CAP course at the Synod meeting.
- There was also a presentation on the food banks run jointly by the Church of England and the Baptist Church. Bert described how those using the banks were being helped in various ways, including being referred to other agencies where necessary, with some having been recruited into church.

9. Churches Together

- A new chair is needed. Debbie Shephard has previously offered to do this if no one else comes forward (Item 9, PCC minutes 6/9/2016).
- The Sheep Trail is going well and local shops have agreed to have the knitted sheep in their windows. The prize winners will be announced at the Crib Service on 24th December and it is hoped the numbers attending this will increase as a result.
- A carol service will be held on 6th December at the Cedars Mews care home. Vince observed that relationships are being built with staff and residents, embodying an example of Fresh Expressions in action.

10. Correspondence

Birstall Parish Council has sent an email to all regular hirers requesting that council premises be left clean and tidy. Both Annette Marshall and Marion Tegg commented that the Council was not particularly well furnished with cleaning equipment for use by hirers.

11. A.O.B.

Marion Tegg enquired about the possibility of holding the Tiny Tots meetings in the hospitality area of St James rather than in Birstall Village Hall. Numbers have fallen, most probably due to the provision of pre-school places for the over-3s, and there are usually no more than seven children attending the sessions. It was agreed that it would be mutually beneficial to bring those attending the sessions into the church building. Marion will give the Council notice and liaise with Rose Parrott regarding the sharing of resources.

MT
RP

12. Date of next meeting: 7th February 2017 (Wanlip)

13. The Grace was said and the meeting closed at 9pm

Meetings to April 2018 are all at 7:30pm as follows:

F and S meetings: 24th January, 23rd February, 14th June, 6th September,
8th November 2017, 23rd January 2018

PCC meetings: 18th April (W), 27th June (B), 26th September (W),
21st November 2017 (B), 6th February 2018 (W)

APCM 2017: 14th March 7:20pm

APCM 2018: 23rd March 7:20pm