

03/02/25



St Michael's Church Wandsworth Common

Standing Committee Meeting Monday 29 July 2024 – 7.30 pm in the Eagle pub

Present: Revd Tif Ewins (Chair - TE) James Cunningham (JC)
Tom Holmer (TH) Andrew Davies (AD)

Also attending: n/a

1. Open in prayer

2. Apologies and approval of previous minutes

No apologies

TE circulated the previous meetings minutes which were approved by TH and JC.

3. Safeguarding update

TE – no news to report

4. Adoption of Employee and Volunteer Handbook

Discussion around the recently circulated employee and volunteer handbook.

TH commented on equal opportunity. TE proposed to add a section which reflects this but retaining the existing pagination noting the size of the main document has reduced. TH mentioned there was no need to have (paid) print run-offs, if the document is to be printed this should be done in-house.

Handbook should be circulated to all employees and PCC, who should confirm they have read it and are happy with the content, (this will be issued electronically).

TH commented on the Policy rule change and asked who counts as a volunteer in the church. TE confirmed it was people involved with organisations such as Sparkle or Glass Door, but mentioned it didn't apply to people arranging the flowers etc. TH commented this form of document should possibly fall more under their own umbrella rather than ours. JC agreed it should go to the likes of Sparkle and Glass Door, not the person setting up the flowers etc.

TE would run the document past Karen Sturrock and distribute to volunteers.

Action - TE

5. Finance update

JC mentioned no payments has yet been made to the charities.
The accounts and as they should and in good shape.
Stand Out and RJM have been invited for next term, no need for a gift.

6. Church sound system discussion

TE mentioned the sound system in the church is c.10 years old and was installed for the purpose of speech, so its boundaries are currently being tested and requires upgrading / updating. Ideally require a small mixing desk. Gospel Choir also need to be able to plug into the system. Current quotes from Triplex and Adlib for replacing equipment is £23k. JC mentioned the Church can't afford this, so TE proposed adding to the wish list for 2025. There is the equipment that the Gospel Choir uses, but this has a lot of wires (TH Suggested acquiring a second set of wires), however there aren't the human recourses in place to keep moving and setting up the equipment.

7. Ministry support role discussion

TE mentioned she had 3 candidates in mind

- Lara - doesn't want to do it.
- Youth Specialist – wants to do work outside of the church.
- Ronald Nathan – TBC
- Another – could join on 1 October, it's a male and he is ordained. He would have to go through safeguarding courses and meet with Bishop Christopher.

There is a general feeling of desire from the diocese to action this, TE believes the 'Another' candidate is the obvious choice. JC asked if they could do Youth Work too, TE replied – No. TE mentioned that if this person could lead on Holy Communion once per month, this would free up time for TE to focus on something like Café Church. TE suggested Ronald could be told the landscape has changed so may not be required. TE to share more next week.

Action - TE

TH enquired about children's work. TE mentioned that Charlie will step down and Johan will start on 15 September. Johan and Charlie will jointly run the session and take the children out in the afternoon. This will then revert to the 1st Sunday of the month.

8. Discussion of notes from ST on building works

TE mentioned this has been extremely time consuming due to works around the recent server upgrade. Techlogic are now carrying out full migration to outlook for email. TE confirmed the Church is receiving a charity rate. They are also going to migrate Dropbox to MS365
TE mentioned she is happy with Techlogic (out of house IT department).

TE mentioned Parega are meeting ST next week to discuss the West wall which has been requested by Ecclesiastical.

It was noted that all remedial works should be carried out in school holidays, which may require the hours ST works to be reviewed.
JC commented the main church building has more flexibility, its just recently we have been going through a backlog of work. ST should be given sufficient advance warning around projects so hours can be managed. JC also commented that ST should only work in the agreed timetable. TE may look to tweak hours around the summer holidays.

9. AOB

Minutes from the PCC meeting on the 3 July were approved.

Actions

Date	Action	Responsibility	By When
29 July	Run handbook past Karen Sturrock for review	TE	ASAP
29 July	Update on Ministry support role.	TE	ASAP