

Draft

West Dartmoor Mission Community Council

Meeting on 20 June at St Paul's Church at 7.00pm

Minutes

1. The meeting began with prayer led by Martin Jury.
2. The Chair welcomes members who were attending for the first time: Martin Jury, Jonathan Frappell, Pauline Hamilton – Leggett, Corinne Shutt and Mike Fairall Martin Jury.
3. Present were: Simon in (Chair, Kathy Howard, Martin Jury, Mary Helby, Mike Fairall, Anne Inman, Ros Knight, Pauline Hamilton – Leggett, Richard Byrn, Hilary Prout, Bunty Baxter, Corinne Shutt, Helen Sims, Caroline Jennings, Linda Hitchcock, Anne de Looy.
4. The action points from the previous meeting were noted. They were all covered by the agenda.
5. Simon Hill began by noting two achievements since the last meeting:
 - a. A farewell party had been held for the Rector which had been huge enjoyed. A token for £800 had been presented and there was more to come. Thanks were recorded for all who had helped: Simon himself, the Choir, Sheila Stacey and Kevin Reed.
 - b. PCCs had provided nominations and material for the Profile drafting group which had held its first meeting.
6. Kathy Howard gave an update on planning to handle administrative issues during the Vacancy:
 - a. The proposed central e mail address for all vacancy management issues was now up and running. It is: vacancyadmin@westdartmoor.church
 - b. A first contact had been made from an undertaker, but as Gary was still around they had been routed back to him.
 - c. The MCC would need to give attention to a range of safeguarding issues which would be on the agenda for the next meeting when Debbie Delaney would lead members through the. This was likely to include the need for all PCC members to undertake DBS clearance.
 - d. Following Nick's departure Kathy Howard would be the Acting Data Compliance Officer. How this was handled longer term would need to be revisited once a new Rector was in post.
7. Mike Fairall gave a report on issues of Spiritual Leadership:
 - a. There was excellent news that Di Caine was now planning a return to work from 30 June and would be at the Mission Community Service on 30 June. Her return would

phased over several weeks. She might pick up leading some Sunday services in the period up to the end of August but this was not yet settled. Everyone in the Mission Community should respect a Duty of care and not press Di to undertake tasks beyond what she was comfortable to do. Any enquires about occasional offices should initially be made to Kathy Howard. Di's normal days of work were Wednesday to Sunday and other days should be avoided. If there were any worries or issues the "go to" person was the Archdeacon.

- b. The Ministers Group had met and discussed the service pattern and rota:
 - b.i. Their advice was not to tinker with the service pattern unless it was absolutely necessary. Changes should be left for a new Rector to lead on.
 - b.ii. It was recognised that some favoured more Mission Community services and some rationalising services on days with Nosh. But it was agreed that the advice was sound and possible changes should be held pending. Mission Community Services at Sampford Spiney and Sheepstor would so far as possible be in Spring and Summer. All 5th Sunday Mission Community Services would remain Order 1 at 10.00am wherever they were.
 - b.iii. A rota for the period from September to the New Year was under development. It still had some gaps but these would be reviewed in the light of Di's return and other offers of help.
 - b.iv. Lay led worship was agreed to be running well and no changes were suggested.
- c. Bishop Nick would spend 6 October in the Mission Community. It was agreed that:
 - c.i. There would be a Mission Community Service at St Pauls at 11.00am which would be a Harvest Service
 - c.ii. There would be an Evensong at Sampford Spiney at 3.00pm which would also be a Harvest Service.
 - c.iii. The 8.00am Communion at St Paul's would be led by Mike Fairall.
 - c.iv. A lunch would be run at St Pauls Hall after the morning service for all. Kathy Howard would ask Sheila Stacey to coordinate this.
 - c.v. The Bishop had asked Pauline Hamilton – Leggett to propose hymns.
 - c.vi. The proviso Sunday, 29 September – St Michael's Day - was also a Mission Community Service, at Walkhampton.
- d. Kathy Howard reported that work for Occasional Offices was beginning. Nick Shutt had handed over the wedding register and a fair number of bookings for the next two years were already in it.

- e. Mike Fairall reported that his house group and the one led by Richard Byrn would continue unchanged. Martin Jury reported that the weekly one Gary had led planned to continue but was looking for a venue. Anne de Looy said she was happy to volunteer to lead out something if needed.
 - f. On work with Children:
 - f.i. Ros Knight explained that Open the Book now had 8 people with visits to Meavy and Walkhampton every 3 weeks. Dates had now been set forward to January. New resources had been purchased. In addition Corinne had been asked to lead an MC Crib service, Christingle Services would be held in the two church schools and the possibility of supporting a Christingle at Horrabridge was being explored.
 - f.ii. Mike Fairall said that the potential for Ministers to attend assemblies would need to be considered once Di was fully back.
 - f.iii. Corinne Shutt reported that Nosh would be continuing as before with her leading the group.
 - f.iv. Poppins was continuing to thrive, meeting a real need, supported by Jane Sanham and Ros Knight.
 - g. Corinne Shutt drew attention to the need for the Mission Community to have a representative on the Board of Governors for the Schools. Mary Helby explained that without this there was no one to champion Ethos and RE. It was agreed that Churchwardens should seek volunteers from the Community and that the MCC would return to this at the next meeting.
8. Mike Fairall briefed the MCC on the situation with Pastoral visiting. It was a difficult area. Attempts to build up trained teams to run a planned programme meeting all safeguarding requirements had never taken off. Without this all that was possible was personal visits to friends in a private capacity. Trust and confidentiality were very important. The news on Briar Tor and the three residential homes was more positive. A regular programme of Sick Communion and visits was operating. The MCC recorded their thanks to Mike and the rest of the Ministerial team for all their work in this area.
9. Pauline Hamilton – Leggett reported on Music and the choir:
- a. She drew up lists of suitable Hymns for services which responded to Lectionary readings. These could be used by any church;
 - b. Choir met every Friday for practice. They sang at 5th Sunday services and 3rd Sunday evensong services at St Paul's with Anthems. Congregational attendance at the Evensong was low. The MCC agreed the advertising events like this for Community wide worship should be strengthened. It was also suggested that the choir might consider occasionally singing at Evensong at Sheepstor or Samford Spiney where congregations were larger.

- c. She wanted to advertise the fact that the choir could sing at Weddings and Funerals. This often lifted the effectiveness of congregational singing and also earned a fee for the Mission community.
 - d. Consideration was being given to giving Carol concerts at some Nursing homes, as well as possible visits at harvest and Easter. The Choir had been invited to sing at Endsleigh on Christmas Eve but this might clash with the Crib Service.
10. More generally the MCC noted that often events were planned which clashed. A good use of the on line dairy should make planning to avoid this more effective.
11. On the project to find a New Rector Richard Bayly reported that:
- a. The interview would now be on 27 November. The Dean and Chapter of Windsor would send a representative. The Bishop of Plymouth would chair. The Archdeacon of Totnes might also be involved.
 - b. The Archdeacon needed a Profile draft by mid July. PCCs had nominated representatives to a drafting group and submitted material to the deadline set. The group had met once and was working on a first draft of a profile. A draft Person Specification existed. Both would be circulated to MCC members at the beginning of July for comments.
 - c. John Gardiner was standing by to format the profile.
 - d. Photographs were needed to illustrate it. Any suitable examples should be sent to John Gardiner.
 - e. The Diocese had volunteered the service of Chloe Axford in their communications team to help develop a short video to support adverting. She would visit to spend a day filming including people talking to camera. She wanted to record music. She would also consider including video archive material if we had any suitable.
 - f. Lees urgent tasks included:
 - f.i. Planning visits for candidates the day before the interview,
 - f.ii. And deciding who should represent the Mission Community on the interview bearing in mind the need to keep the overall size manageable.
12. Simon Hill led a review of Social events:
- a. A farewell party for Gary and Carol was planned . It would be a drinks and nibbles event. Timings would be 1900-2100. And the event would be open to other Horrabridge residents who wished to say goodbye. A cash bar would be run.
 - b. Hospitality for +Nick's visit on 6 October and visit before interviews would be planned in the context of those events;

- c. Men's Breakfasts were on going though there was a question over the suitability of the Horrabridge event. A merger had been mooted. It was agreed that this was for the two groups to consider.
- d. Kathy Howard drew attention to the Ladies Lunch 9 times a year, led by Sue Walsh. The Lite Lunch at Horrabridge was also noted.

13. In a review of communications it was decided that it would be helpful:

- a. To have very brief Vacancy news in the Bulletin
- b. Longer newsletters would continue to be placed on the website and sent to MCC members.
- c. It was for churchwardens to decide how much to read out at Services and/ or whether to print up copies to give to people.

14. It was agreed that the next meetings of the MCC would be on:

- a. 15 July
- b. 12 September
- c. 11 November

all at 7.00pm in St Paul's.

15. There was no other business.

16. The meeting closed with all saying the Grace.