

HEXHAM ABBEY SIXTH PCC MEETING 2008-2009	We have a vision of a world where God's love is enjoyed, celebrated and shared.  Therefore it is our mission to become an open community of Christ's disciples, sharing our worship, engaging our faith with the world and offering our lives to serve God's kingdom
Date: 27 January 2009	
Time: 1930	
Venue: The Monastic Workshop	

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 27 JANUARY 2009

Present: Canon G B Usher, Mr J Arkless, Mr S Batey, Mr K Box, Rev A Currie, Mr R Dallison, Mr R Dance, Mr H Everett, Mr N Gaukroger, Miss N Horne, Dr M Howell, Mrs A Jeffries, Mr J B Jonas, Mrs D Kilby (Chair), Mr E Lovell, Mr D Ratcliff (Secretary), Mrs S Snow, Mr R Thornton.

In attendance: Mrs J Musto, Mrs R Ogilvie, Mr P Standfield (Hexham Abbey Project Manager)

- 08.06.01 Prayers Action  
A reflection for the Feast of SS Timothy and Titus was led by the Rector.
- 08.06.02 Apologies:  
Apologies were received from Ms G Alexander, Mr P Binks, Mr J Robinson, and Mr A Sinclair.  
Deborah Kilby welcomed Rev Alan Currie, Assistant Priest.
- 08.06.03 Minutes of the Meetings held on 18 and 27 November 2008  
It was agreed that the minutes from these two meetings be accepted as a true record with no exceptions.
- 08.06.04 Matters arising from these minutes
- 08.06.04.01 Climate change initiatives

The following developments were noted:

- The planned Sermon Series had attracted high profile speakers in this field.
- Friday Youth Group were concentrating on savings which could be made in using mobile phones etc.
- In the Parish Office the boiler had been turned down further.
- The Property Committee were investigating energy saving lighting bulbs for the pendant lights in the nave.
- The Shop Board had this item on their agenda for their

meeting on 11 February.

It was noted that the home-based energy saving initiative had not received good overall support from the Abbey congregations, despite wide advertisement.

08.06.04.02 Guide Book sales

Stewards had reported that they found it more difficult to engage with visitors now that there was nothing free for them to hand out. It was resolved to revert to not charging for the blue guide leaflet.

A Prayer card has been developed and was approved by the Council. With a grant from the Diocese it is intended that this will go on votive candle stands in the Abbey.

08.06.04.03 BBC Radio 4 Epiphany broadcast

The very positive reception of the Sunday Worship broadcast live from the Abbey on Radio 4 on 4 January was recorded. The meeting wished to thank the Rector for his leadership of the service and the Secretary was asked to write letters to all the team who had been involved.

DR

08.06.04.04 Clinic Car Park

The Rector reported that he has been given a fob to the car park for use by people that he authorised. It was agreed to seek a second fob to be held in the Vestry.

GBU

08.06.05 Minutes of the Standing Committee Meeting held on 13 January 2009 and matters arising from them

08.06.05.01 Publication of minutes

The Standing Committee had recommended that, in order to improve the speed of communication from the PCC to the parish, draft minutes be published in the Abbey and to PCC members as soon as possible after each meeting. Draft minutes would be agreed between the Rector and Secretary and an alert placed in the pewsheets. Corrections would be made as usual at the following meeting. The Secretary would also write a summary for inclusion in *News and Views*.

DR

It was agreed to start this arrangement as soon as possible.

08.06.05.02 Health and Safety Officer

The PCC confirmed the appointment of David Ratcliff as the Parish Health and Safety Officer, taking over on 13 February from Pat Griffiths to whom sincere thanks were expressed.

08.06.05.03 Meeting dates 09/10

Dates of meetings for the coming year had been circulated and were agreed.

The Rector advised that a PCC/Staff away day would be organised for a Saturday in Autumn 2009. When a venue was found, the date would be circulated to members.

GBU/DR

08.06.05.04 Display of Anglo-Saxon Chalice

Richard Thornton updated the Council about developments and grants sought to meet the requirements of displaying the Anglo-Saxon Chalice.

RT

East End

JB Jonas welcomed the Abbey's interest in the developments in the East End of Hexham. He praised the work of Grace Burke, the Regeneration Officer, whose office at 28 Derwent Road will be hosting an Open Day on Friday 30 January from 10-12 noon.

Rev JA

It was reaffirmed that the arrival of Associate Priest Rev Joanna Anderson would see a step forward in the Abbey's involvement with projects there.

Tea/Coffee

It was explained that it had been agreed to retain the service of tea and coffee in the South Transept as it was a compact and friendly space for people to come together. It was agreed to trial a new location for the service table in the south choir aisle.

JM

08.06.06 Hexham Abbey Project

The PCC received, with thanks, a report from the Project Managers on the progress of the project. It was noted that the NHS were investigating the sale of the clinic building and were inviting informal tender offers and expressions of interest.

FS/PS

It was proposed by Roy Dallison and seconded by Richard Thornton and

IT WAS AGREED UNANIMOUSLY that

the PCC should formally express an interest in the Clinic Building, if possible without indicating the level of any offer at this stage, but clearly indicating a willingness to discuss a transfer at **Open Market Value** in due course, but if a financial figure was required this would be no higher than the Sanderson Weatherall valuation.

The Project Manager, in response to a question, said that the revenue potential of the Parish Centre, if no longer needed, was outside the existing project remit and was therefore not included in current financial projections but this would be reviewed at a forthcoming meeting.

08.06.07 Honorary Treasurer's Report

There was nothing to report

08.06.08 Honorary Secretary's Report

There was nothing to report

08.06.09 Rector's Items

08.06.09.01 The Rector asked whether the carpet over the glass floor near the Parclose Screen could be professionally uncovered for a historian, at his expense, to investigate the anglo-saxon stones. The PCC were content.

08.06.09.02 The Rector reported on his recent conference of for Deans of Cathedrals and incumbents of Greater Churches at St George's Windsor, investigating reasons why congregations seemed to be rising in number in this group of churches.

08.06.10 Deanery Synod Report

With thanks to JB Jonas the PCC received and noted the report of the meeting held on 26 November. Some corrections were made to the report held on file.

DR

08.06.11 Review of 2008 progress and setting of major aims for

GBU

2009

The Rector had circulated the Review of 2008 and a draft of the major aims for 2009.

It was noted that the achievements of 2008 had been many and spread across the whole mission of the Abbey.

The Council met in groups to review sections of the report, and their further comments were added. The Report is on file.

Thanks were expressed to the Rector and staff team for the fullness and energy apparent in the report.

08.06.12

Reports from Committees

08.06.12.01

Property Committee

RT

Peal Board Proposal

The recommendation of the Property Committee that the Peal Board to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the consecration of the Nave is placed in the Tower, with temporary display downstairs, was agreed by the Council

08.06.12.02

Social Committee

There had been no meeting.

08.06.12.01

Being Safe Committee

The Committee had met recently and were still completing the compliance audit.

08.06.12.01

Aid and Global Issues Committee

A planned meeting had been adjourned, but the Committee had decided to make a donation of £300 to the devastation of Gaza appeal.

08.06.13

Ecumenical Report

No report was available at this meeting.

08.06.14 Electoral Roll Officer's Report

Nora Horne reported that two new names had been added to the Roll: David Barker and Janet Clara Jane Wormold both of 80 Wydon Park, Hexham.

08.06.15 Date of next meeting

Tuesday 17 March 2009

08.06.16 Any other notified business

08.06.16.01 Assistant Organist

It was reported that, following advertisement in The Church Times, 16 packs had so far been despatched to interested parties.

Hugh and Sarah Morris' final Sunday would be Easter Day, and a collection would be made.

Abbey Teas

It was reported that, after Pancake Day, Sue Snow will steps down as Coordinator of Abbey teas. Thanks were expressed to Sue for all her work. Early attempts to find a replacement had not proved successful. Sue would provide a job description to help in the search.

SS

David Ratcliff  
28 January 2009

Signed by the Chair .....

Date .....