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| HEXHAM ABBEY SECOND PCC MEETING 2009-2010 | <p>We have a vision of a world where God's love is enjoyed, celebrated and shared.</p> <p>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</p> |
| Date: 21 July 2009 | |
| Time: 1930 | |
| Venue: The Monastic Workshop | |

Present: Canon G B Usher, Rev J Anderson, Mr J Arkless, Mr S Batey, Mr P Binks, Mr K Box, Rev A Currie, Miss N Horne, Mrs F Kelsey, Mrs D Kilby (Chair), Mr J B Jonas, Mr D Ratcliff (Secretary), Mr R Thornton.
In attendance: Mrs R Ogilvie, Mr R Gascoyne (Diocesan Funding Adviser)
Excused attendance: Mrs F Standfield (Hexham Abbey Project Manager)
Apologies received from: Ms G Alexander, Mr R Dallison, Dr M Howell, Mr H Everett, Mrs F Finnon, Mrs A Jeffries, Mr E Lovell, Mrs J Musto, Mr J Robinson, Mr A Sinclair.

Action

- 09.02.01 Abbey Finance The Chair welcomed Richard Gascoyne who led the Council to reflect theologically about stewardship. In groups the Council considered how seven passages of scripture bore upon our parish life in 2009.
- The PCC resolved that a stewardship campaign would take place in Spring 2010, and that a small working group be formed to plan the campaign and make further recommendations to the PCC as and when required.
- Council members were asked to speak personally to the Rector if interested. It was hoped that there would be a group of 6 or 7 people, each bringing complementary skills to the group. The Standing Committee will confirm the membership of the group in September.
- The PCC agreed that the concept of a Friends of the Abbey group will be explored further.

All to consider
GBU

- 09.02.02 Minutes The minutes of the PCC meeting held on 19 May, and the Standing Committee meetings held on 2 June and 7 July had been circulated. The PCC minutes were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

- Matters arising 09.02.02a Christmas Fair
The Council noted the plans made by the Steering Group, and the enthusiasm to go ahead with the Fair (12 December) which had been evident so far.

- 09.02.02b Young People Representation on the PCC
The Council noted that this will be in place in time for the September meeting.

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- 09.02.02c Pandemic Flu
The Rector reported on the contingency planning recommended by the Diocese. Calmness and vigilance would be required and it was felt that there was no present need for major response actions.

- 09.02.02d St Mary's Lowgate
The Council noted that there was no progress to report.

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- 09.02.02e St Wilfrid Weekend

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The Council noted the proposed content of the weekend (11-12 October):

- A public lecture on the crypt by Prof Richard Bailey
- Visiting preachers
- Remote-controlled luminous kites flying over the Abbey
- The possibility of a *Crypt-to-Crypt Walk* in conjunction with Ripon Cathedral

09.02.02f Sub-Committee chairs and members

The PCC approved the names proposed in the Standing Committee minutes.

09.02.02g Group bookings for the Crypt

The PCC agreed that, from 1 October, tours booked from now onwards would be asked to pay a sum of £1 + VAT per person visiting the crypt.

It was confirmed that individual visitors, visiting at the standard times, would still not be charged.

- 09.02.03 Hexham Abbey Project The Project Managers had circulated a report of activity relating to the Hexham Abbey Project. It was noted that The Heritage Lottery Fund adjudication of our bid was imminent.
- 09.02.04 Treasurer Report Rachel Ogilvie circulated the accounts and forecast update until the end of June. Based on these figures, and despite a drop in income from giving, a smaller-than-expected deficit was forecast. The Council thanked Rachel for the report and all her work.
- 09.02.05 Secretary Report The Secretary reported that registration with the Charity Commission was almost complete.
- A letter had been received from Pat Griffiths seeking a commitment by the PCC to investigate ways to reduce the parish's carbon footprint. The PCC confirmed its commitment to this principle, and felt that feasibility funds could be earmarked in the 2010 budget.
- The Property Committee was asked to consider what, within the context of the Abbey as a historic building, the Abbey could do reduce its use of traditional sources of energy. Impact on the building and sources of potential grant would be investigated. A report will be presented to the next meeting.
- The Secretary was asked to reply to Pat Griffiths.
- 09.02.06 Deanery Synod The PCC welcomed the report on the recent Deanery Synod meeting, circulated by Nora Horne. The first draft of a Deanery Action Plan was noted.
- 09.02.07 Churches Together in Hexham The PCC noted that all churches were co-operating in arrangements for a weekend at the end of November responding to the challenges of Climate Change, to coincide with the Copenhagen Summit. There would be a major evening event for all ages in the Abbey and a common sermon theme in all churches.
- 09.02.08 Electoral Roll There was nothing to report.
- 09.02.09 Committee Reports
09.02.09a Property Committee
Richard Thornton reported on developments with the display case for the

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Anglo-Saxon Chalice, including that an estimate of £3064 had been received, and that a faculty could now be sought.

It was proposed by Paul Binks and seconded by JB Jonas and IT WAS AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to replace the case in the south wall of the choir aisle housing the Anglo-Saxon chalice and install a new display case of museum standard which will provide a secure, inert and stable environment for the chalice.

Richard Thornton reported that, in order to reduce expenditure in this current year, some items on the Property Committee agenda had, with the architect's agreement, been deferred. However the need for the organ loft video system to be replaced was now urgent. £3000 had been earmarked in the 2009 budget and a system in the region of this amount had been identified. It was noted that the system would accommodate further security cameras if this was deemed necessary in the future. It was agreed to proceed with the purchase of this system.

It was noted that the recent failure of electricity supply had been the result of a problem in Beaumont Street, and that compensation had been offered to the Abbey for loss of income which resulted.

09.02.09b Social Committee

It was noted that leadership of the committee had been transferred to Jude Garrow and Helen Guy.

09.02.09c Being Safe Committee

It was reported that the first meeting of the committee under the leadership of John Mitchell would take place soon.

09.02.09d Aid and Global Issue Committee

Keith Box reported a meeting of 9 June. A schedule of the committee's activity had appeared in *News and Views*. It was reported that CTiH were being asked to review the response to Christian Aid Week.

09.02.09e Education and Learning Committee

Alan Currie reported the moves made towards the formation of this committee. The September issue of *News and Views* would feature Lifelong Learning and give a flavour of how each group operated. Groups were asked to let Alan have this information.

AC and
group
leaders

09.02.10 Any other
business

The Rector reported a request that the Abbey offer support to the campaign to restrict traffic speed on Allendale Road, near St Joseph's School and QEHS.

The PCC agreed to:

- allow a petition to be placed in the Abbey
- write a letter to Hexham Town Council supporting the initiative
- prepare a quote for use in local media

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The PCC were pleased to note that, thanks to donations received from Mrs Harrison from Morpeth, and Nora Horne, two bowl-patens, designed by Trevor Harding to match his chalices, had been commissioned.

Next
Meeting

The next meeting of the PCC will be held on Tuesday 22 September at 1930 in the Monastic Workshop.

The date of the next meeting of the Standing Committee was changed from 1 September to Tuesday 8 September at 1930

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