CARLISLE DIOCESAN BOARD OF FINANCE LIMITED

Minutes of a meeting of the **FINANCE COMMITTEE** of the Carlisle Diocesan Board of Finance Ltd at Church House, Penrith, on Wednesday, 15th March 2017.

PRESENT:

The Archdeacon of Carlisle
The Archdeacon of West Cumberland
The Archdeacon of Westmorland and Furness
The Revd M Jayne (Chairman)
The Revd A Towner

Mr M Bonner Mr D W Dickinson Mr J A E Johnson Mr R C Morris

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr D Hurton – Diocesan Secretary
Mr R Jaques – Head of Finance
Mr N Andrews – Property Secretary
Mr M Mill – Diocesan Director of Education (Beetham School & MAT items)
Ms W Nicholas – Head, Beetham C E School (Beetham School item)

FC 17/20 OPENING PRAYERS

Opening prayers were conducted by Mr David Dickinson.

FC 17/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from the Diocesan Bishop.

FC 17/22 WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed the Venerable Lee Townend and the Venerable Vernon Ross to their first meeting.

FC 17/23 MINUTES - FC 16/19

The minutes of the meeting held on 25th January 2017 were approved and signed.

FC 17/24 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

i. Succession Planning. The Chairman reminded members of the extent of input and commitment expected from the elected members of the Committee. He was now in his third year as Chair and his term would come to an end with the Committee elections in 2018. Consideration needed to be given now to succession planning.

In the discussion it was noted that we had previously convened a sub-committee to consider the skills of the elected members and had then used co-options to provide other skills that were required. We had a role description for a Chair but perhaps we should develop one for Committee members. As well as skills we should also look at diversity. There was a query about expectations of attendance at meetings and whether we needed to be stricter. There

was a suggestion that attendance at meetings should be reported in the DBF's Annual Report.

As the person who had led on succession planning previously, Archdeacon Pratt said he would pick up this work again and would begin the process in the next few weeks.

PART A FINANCIAL POSITION AND MAJOR FINANCE MATTERS

FC 17/25 MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS TO 31ST DECEMBER 2016 – FC 17/21

Mr Jaques explained that the latest figures showed a small improvement over those presented in January. He was confident about the income and expenditure figures presented but needed to do further work on the movement of funds, formatting the figures to meet the requirements of the statutory accounts and including the subsidiary companies before they would be ready for audit.

In the discussion it was noted that the budgeted deficit was £12,000 but the expected deficit was around £230,000. Both income and expenditure were below budget and in some areas, such as the Strategic Development Funding secured from the Archbishop's Council/Church Commissioners, one offset the other as grants had not been claimed because the relevant expenditure has not yet been incurred. Clergy stipend costs were above budget as a result of slower than expected movement to Mission Community deployment patterns. Investment income was lower than budget and Parish Offer was slightly below budget in spite of a very good collection rate for the year.

Mr Hurton reminded the Committee that the 2015-2020 budget had been balanced over the full 6 year period, with deficits in some years being offset by surpluses in others. The first two years had been worse than budgeted which was why, in 2016, we had reworked our assumptions about factors such as Parish Offer and clergy numbers. Mr Jaques was keen to improve the forecast outturn figures presented during the year.

Other areas of the accounts that drew attention were the higher than usual level of spending on the care of redundant churches and the lower than budgeted sales at OpShops. On the former, we were seeing a small but increasing number of churches being closed and vested in the Diocesan Board of Finance. All of these would present a cost and some could prove to be significant liabilities, especially if they were listed and were in areas where the property market was weak. The Church Commissioners received one-third of the net proceeds from the sale of a church. The original 2015-2020 budget showed a steady income stream from the sale of closed churches. Although we did not expect closed churches to be a net cost to the Board, there was a question as to whether they would provide as much of an income stream as initially hoped. It was suggested that the Church Commissioners be approached to see if they might revisit their policy on the sale proceeds of redundant churches. Mr Hurton would mention this at the next regional meeting of Diocesan Secretaries.

Mr Hurton drew the Committee's attention to the fact that Cumbria Christian Learning was now a wholly-owned subsidiary company. Its accounts would in future be consolidated into the DBF's accounts. CCL's financial year currently ended at the end of August, in line with the academic year. The draft yearend figures produced by Mr Barrett had shown a deficit of £68,000 which were partly covered by underwriting from Blackburn Diocese. Mr Jaques was changing the year end so that the accounting period was aligned with the DBF.

FC 17/26 RISK REGISTER - FC 17/22

The risk register remained as circulated to the previous meeting and was intended to continue to help the Committee to focus on the likelihood and potential impact of risks. Following the substantial discussion at the previous meeting it was not discussed in detail but it was noted that the main agenda items for this and subsequent meetings were driven by the register.

One aspect of the register that could be updated related to the Multi-Academy Trust, which was not expecting to require any additional start up funding beyond the commitments already made and budgeted for. Those commitments had been made via the Barchester Fund which was a DBF Trust containing the sales proceeds of closed schools and whose income could be used for educational purposes.

FC 17/27 CUMBRIA CHRISTIAN LEARNING (CCL)

Mr Hurton presented the financial and operational background to CCL to the members of the Committee. The presentation covered the same ground as one that he had made to the CCL Board at its latest meeting. He reminded the Committee that CCL was a subsidiary company of the DBF in a similar fashion to Rydal Hall and the Multi-Academy Trust.

CCL's key income streams were a grant from the DBF which corresponded to the previous budget for the Diocesan Training Team and fee income from ordination students. Expenditure was principally on staff and programme delivery. Fee income depended on the number and age of students and the duration of their courses, and ranged from £12,000 at the bottom end of the scale to £42,000 at the top end. This meant that the successful implementation of our vocations strategy was of crucial importance as that would generate increasing number of students and therefore fee income. It was expected that ordination student numbers would rise significantly over time but from a very low base.

All our learning and development effort including learning for lay ministry, IME phase 2 (ie curates), clergy continuing ministerial development, leadership development for Mission Community leaders and Reader training was now delivered by CCL and was to be funded by a block grant from the DBF in line with the Training Team's line in the 2015-2020 budget.

CCL's original budget assumptions suggested a requirement for working capital that peaked at £215,000, with around £90,000 of that repaid as student numbers increased over time. This meant that the total start up funding required would be around £125,000 and this amount was in the 2017-2020 budget. The Ministry strategy which had been agreed as part of God for All showed that in the medium to long term we would need to be training 2.5-3 stipendiary and 16 self-supporting ministers a year if were to hit our targets for clergy in post. In the short term we would not achieve those numbers, and had assumed three ordination students starting in 2016, five in 2017 and 10 in 2018. These assumptions had appeared quite cautious at the outset, being lower than those that had been discussed with CCL staff.

We were now able to revise the assumptions in the light of actual events since the budget assumptions had been drawn up. Staffing costs would be higher than the initial assumptions as the mix of ordained and lay staff was skewed towards more ordained staff than originally assumed and ordained staff incurred higher pension costs. This would not have a major impact when looked at for one year, but over the four year budget period would have a significant cumulative impact. More significantly, ordination student numbers

had so far not matched the planned assumptions. There were two starters in 2016, both of whom were in the lowest fees bracket, while this year four candidates would go to selection panels, again all in the lowest fees brackets. Members would see that these figures were already below the initial assumptions in terms of numbers and fee generation. These factors meant that the projected maximum working capital requirement would be just over £300,000, and that the net start-up funding requirement was potentially closer to £210,000.

The Diocese and the CCL Board needed to consider the place of CCL in implementing the God for All strategy. CCL had only just recruited most of its staff and we should expect it to start to make a very significant contribution to God for All, particularly in respect of: supporting Mission Community Leaders; enabling a great growth of self-supporting, ordained and lay ministry; and equipping church members for outreach. There might be some areas where we could look to generate other additional income to close the financial gap identified, but ultimately some increase in the level of start-up funding required seemed inevitable.

In the discussion a number of questions were raised and ideas explored including:

- a query about ordination training, in response to which it was explained that it would be highly exceptional for ordinands from the Diocese to be trained at residential colleges outside the Diocese in the future. We were now in a position to ensure that our ordination training was specifically designed to equip people for our local context and strategy.
- the scope to deliver more learning and development with and for our ecumenical partners, and an associated financial contribution, albeit that their current requirements ruled out CCL training their ordinands.
- the need to keep our assumptions about student numbers under close review and involve our DDO Peter Clement and others in this. One of the questions in the previous year's Archdeacons Articles of Enquiry had been about vocations and had shown a significant number of potential vocations. There were already around 18 people in the vocations pipeline so it was reasonable to expect significant increases in the next couple of years.
- a suggestion that any push with regard to vocations should come after the Moving Mountains missions in 2018, at which point the spiritual temperature of the Diocese would have been raised.
- the average cost of delivering ordination training for a handful of students was significantly higher than the average costs if there were a few dozen students as a result of our having to meet minimum staffing requirements. This meant it was difficult to cut costs at the outset without putting our "Common Awards" validation at risk.
- once we reached 2019 we hoped to be making a surplus because ordination students would have risen substantially. At that point we would need to decide how far we sought to make a surplus in order to pay back working capital to the DBF. If student numbers rose above certain levels then we would need to start to think about expanding CCL's staffing.

- when viewed from our low starting point, the number of ordinands envisaged appeared to be highly challenging. However, when viewed across the Diocese as a whole, it amounted to each of our current benefices calling just one person for ordination every 8 or so years.
- we needed to look at what made ordination training attractive, including the sort of mixed-mode provision offered through St Mellitus, and at helping to grow pioneering ministry, possibly in partnership with CMS.

Mr Hurton explained that in order to give some confidence about CCL's sustainability in the long term he had modelled income and costs for a "steady state" year in 2025. Assuming that by then we would require 11 ordinands across the age profiles, and that we would be able to recruit that number of starters, there would be around 25 ordinands in total at any point in time and CCL would be making a small surplus of around £9,000 a year.

The Finance Committee and Bishop's Council would need to consider the support for CCL as part of discussions about the Diocesan budget.

FC 17/28 PARISH OFFER AND MISSION COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY - F C 17/23

The Committee considered a paper suggesting that the Parish Offer system should be reviewed in the light of thinking about how to help mission communities become financially and operationally sustainable. A small working group was envisaged with a timetable that aimed at a report with recommendations by October 2017. Mr Dickinson said he would be happy to serve on any working group.

The background to the proposal was the fact that we now had four mission communities that were commissioned or launched, and several more that would be commissioned or launched in 2017. Unless they started life with a sustainable financial base the current financial dynamics of the Diocese would continue into the future, with a need to continue to reduce clergy numbers year on year. This would clearly undermine Mission Communities.

If the review recommended any changes they would need to be discussed and agreed by Diocesan Synod. This could happen in October 2017 or March 2018, but sooner would be better than later, provided that there had been adequate time for consultation and discussion. The obvious choices for a small group were Mr Jaques, Mr Hurton and a member of the Finance Committee along with someone who was a parish or mission community representative.

It was agreed that the review should go ahead and that Chairman and Mr Hurton should consider further the membership of the review group.

FC 17/29 EMPLOYMENT OF LOCAL STAFF – FC 17/24

Mr Hurton reported that a number of Parishes and Mission Communities were asking whether the DBF would employ local staff to avoid the complexities of employment contracts and pensions auto-enrolment having to be handled locally. Up to now we had taken a fairly firm line on this because we were uncomfortable at the idea that the DBF should accept liabilities incurred in respect of people who were out-stationed and line managed by people we did not employ. The exception to this had been our decision to employ Network Youth Church Leaders where we provided line manager training. Our

experience of employing Network Youth Church Leaders had been mixed, with some of the local line management arrangements giving us cause for concern.

The argument in favour of employing local staff and creating models for local mission community administration were that we already had expertise in Church House while Mission Communities would need to develop expertise, in some cases from scratch; and that we should do what we could to enable Mission Communities to focus on mission and outreach rather than spending time and energy on HR and management work.

It might be possible for Church House to help to set up a separate company for each mission community, put in place the legal structures, manage the process of recruiting a local administrator and handle their payroll. We envisaged potentially offering a standard package to the mission communities. If this idea was taken up widely we would probably need to employ an additional part-time member of staff to manage payroll and HR but the costs of this could be covered through an administration fee.

It was agreed that Mr Hurton should initiate work to examine the demand for, and feasibility of, the proposal, including the range of services that could be provided through Church House.

PART B FINANCE - MINOR MATTERS

FC 17/30 PARISH OFFER TO 28TH FEBRUARY 2017 - FC 17/25

Mr Jaques introduced the parish offer and drew attention to a commentary sheet which showed the levels of parish offer since 2009. So far this year, in terms of what had been paid in the first two months, we were in a very similar position to last year.

It was noted as far as the amount offered was concerned, we were 0.03% down on 2016 but that two parishes had not made an offer yet. If those parishes offered the same as in 2016 the overall level of offer would be about the same. As our assumption for 2017-20 was for a 1% reduction in cash paid, year on year, this static level of offer was better than budgeted.

The issue of arrears and what we were doing about them was raised. Mr Jaques had produced a report showing arrears back to 2009. £61,000 worth of arrears had been paid off in the last twelve months. The Committee agreed that the working group reviewing Parish Offer should consider whether historic arrears should be written off.

FC 17/31 BEETHAM SCHOOL - FC 17/26

The Chairman welcomed Mr Mill and Ms Nicolson, the Head of Beetham Church of England Primary School, to the meeting.

Mr Mill explained that Beetham was a small school on a restricted site. The school hoped that the DBF would use the Barchester Schools Trust to purchase a field a short distance from the school for use as a playground, sports field and outdoor classroom. The field had recently been purchased by one of the school governors to buy time while the possibility of the DBF purchasing it was explored.

Ms Nicholson explained that there was no suitable public space in the village that the school could use for PE and sports. Facilities for PE currently had to be rented outside the school and this was expensive.

The sale price of the field was £70,000.

The field was subject to restrictive covenant to prohibit building on the northern part, while the southern end had an overage clause on development of the land for 45 years. There was also a possible covenant that the field had to be made available on no fewer than six days a year for the Beetham village Sports Day but it was hard to see this being enforceable in law.

In response to a question Mrs Nicholson said that although the governors were not in a position to contribute towards the cost of the field, parents were prepared to raise money to develop and maintain it.

The Committee agreed that Mr Andrews and Mr Mill should explore whether the County Council would be open to pursuing compulsory purchase of an alternative field immediately behind the school site. If this was not a realistic option then purchase by the Barchester Trust was possible and authority was delegated to the DBF's Property Sub-Committee to decide upon a purchase at £70,000.

If the field was purchased then it should be leased to the school at a pepper corn rent with all associated management, maintenance and insurance costs to be the school's responsibility. It should not be included as part of the school's site, but held separately within the Barchester portfolio.

FC 17/32 MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST (MAT)

Mr Mill reported to the Committee on recent developments including a plan to develop a new vision for the church's involvement in education in Cumbria, of which the MAT would be a key part; Lorton community school joining the MAT on 1 March; Heversham school being proposed for closure; and continued work to promote the MAT to potential schools. Funding to help the MAT take over Whitfield school in Northumberland had been identified with the Regional Schools Commissioner.

It was reported that the plans to strengthen the links between the Board of Education and MAT and the Bishop's Staff and Board of Finance were progressing well, with the Archdeacons of Westmorland and Furness and West Cumberland becoming involved through appointments to the DBE and the MAT and the appointment of Mr Towner as the Chair of the DBE.

FC 17/33 HYDRO SCHEMES

Mr Jayne reported that said that Annual General Meetings would be taking place for the companies soon, hopefully in March. He would be asking the companies' staff to draw up a timetable for regular meetings where the ongoing operation and management accounts could be considered.

FC 17/34 RYDAL HALL

i. Draft minutes of the meeting held on 10th January 2017 and Director's report – FC 17/27.

Mr Jayne pointed out that there was an inaccuracy in second paragraph of the financial report and this was corrected.

Mr Jayne reported that he had been asked, with Tony Evans, the Interim Manager, and Jim Walker, a Director, to look at the composition of the Rydal Board, the role of the Board and suitable candidates to chair the Board. He would be presenting his report to the Rydal Board the following week. As the Finance Committee would not meet for seven weeks after the Rydal Board meeting he outlined his plans to the Committee for their approval in principle, subject to their approval or comment by the Rydal Board.

The arrangement he proposed was that the Board should have five non-executive directors, with appointments made by the Finance Committee, with specific skills and interests in financial management, the hospitality business, buildings/estate management, strategic management and Christian mission through hospitality. In addition there should be an option to co-opt Board members with specific skills or gifts and the Archdeacon for the area should be appointed to provide as a link with local ministry. A minimum of two of the directors should also be directors or employees of the Finance Committee, initially including Mr Hurton. The Bishop of Carlisle would remain ex-officio President of the Company but would not be a director.

Directors, appointed or co-opted, would serve for three years and be eligible for reappointment. A vice-chair would be appointed from the non-executive directors. The General Manager, Finance Manager, Guest Services Manager and Estates Manager would regularly attend meetings. It might be appropriate for the General Manager and Finance Manager to be appointed to the Board as executive directors while retaining their managerial responsibilities.

The Board should meet every month for two years after which the frequency of meetings would be reviewed. Immediate steps needed to be taken to recruit and appoint a chair with relevant experience. If necessary we should advertise.

It was noted that an early start date of 1st March had been negotiated for Mr Richards the new General Manager. Mr Jayne would write to the Board, following the discussion at the forthcoming Rydal Board meeting, seeking their agreement to a final proposal.

FC 17/35 DBE SERVICES DIRECTOR

It was agreed that the Chair of the DBE, the Revd Andrew Towner, be proposed as a Director of DBE Services.

PART C PROPERTY MATTERS

FC 17/36 PARSONAGES COMMITTEE MINUTES

i. Archdeaconry of Westmorland and Furness – 24th November 2016 – FC 17/28. The minutes were received.

- ii. Archdeaconry of West Cumberland 29th November 2016 FC 17/29. The minutes were received.
- iii. Archdeaconry of Carlisle 1st December 2016 FC 17/30. The minutes were received.
- iv. Joint Parsonages Meeting 9th February 2017 FC 17/31. The minutes were received.

FC 17/37 PROPERTY ISSUES REQUIRING FINANCE COMMITTEE ATTENTION - FC 17/32

i. Church House & West Walls Old Vicarage, Carlisle. It was reported that discussions with the Cathedral were ongoing.

Mr Jayne, Mr Morris and Mr Andrews, as the property sub-committee, should continue to liaise with the Dean.

ii. Housing Expenditure 2016. The Committee noted the final 2016 diocesan repairs expenditure. In approving the provisions to be made in the 2016 management accounts for outstanding committed or proposed expenditure it was noted that the provision for 2017 was expected to be much lower as this year's quinquennial programme was much further ahead.

iii. Policy Maters arising from the Joint Parsonages Meeting.

A number of policy matters were brought to the Committee in its role as Diocesan Parsonages Board.

- Ingoing Decorations Grant the Committee approved adding the grant to the general resettlement grant paid to incoming clergy and increasing it from £300 to £500.
- Curate Housing Standards the Committee noted and approved the aspiration that any
 future curate housing should be provided to meet vicarage standards, with a strong
 preference for a study to be provided. This was not however a commitment and should
 be approached pragmatically, especially given the potential costs and current financial
 constraints.
- Smoke Alarms and Carbon Monoxide Detectors the Committee approved the policy providing for clergy to reclaim the cost of carbon monoxide detectors in all rooms containing gas or oil appliances, if they arrange to have them fitted, this being a recommendation rather than a mandatory provision.
- Unification of the Benefices of Harrington and Distington the Committee approved the housing arrangements for the draft pastoral scheme unifying the benefices of Harrington and Distington whereby Harrington Rectory would become the benefice house and Distington would be transferred to the DBF.

iv. House Sales

- 7 Cross House Gardens, Great Orton the sale of this house was completed.
- Orton Vicarage the sale was progressing.
- Heversham Vicarage this house was being marketed. The Parochial Church Council
 had been advised that the Board would consider a donation of part of the sale proceeds
 in due course.
- Cotehill Vicarage the house was to be marketed once it was vacated.
- Grayrigg Vicarage the house had been remarketed.

- v. Vacant Properties. There had been a reduction in rental income as some of the vacant properties were being held vacant because of uncertainty over the timing of future appointments. It was hoped that some of these could now be let on a shorthold tenancy prior to appointments being made. The balance should shift towards a presumption of letting all vacant properties as soon as they became vacant because of the pressures on the DBF's budget.
- **vi. Grasmere Rectory.** The Committee noted that the minister now appointed would be living in their own house. No further action was being taken towards repair and improvement to the building pending the parish making further submissions about their possible use of the property.
- vii. Cleator Moor St John. The Committee noted that the scheme for closure that transferred the building to DBF ownership was expected to come into effect on 30th April.
- **viii. West Seaton Holy Trinity.** The Committee noted that the property was on the market with expressions of interest sought by August 2017.
- **ix. Grinsdale St Kentigern.** The Committee noted that documents had been prepared for the faculty petition with submission awaiting the Archdeacon's completion of the report on matters reserved for his approval.

Glebe

- **x. The Old Register Office, Penrith.** The Committee noted that the contract and transfer for the sale were awaited.
- **xi. 30 Market Place, Richmond.** The Committee noted that the documentation for the agreed repayment plan for rent arrears had been issued to the tenants for signature.
- **xii. Unit 3, Etal Way, Newcastle.** The Committee noted the rent review was now completed.
- **xiii. Unit 2, Etal Way, Newcastle.** The Committee noted that the current lease expires on 31st March 2017. The tenant was selling the business to an employee and a new lease was being agreed with the purchaser.
- xiv. Job Centre, Friargate, Penrith. The Committee noted that the Job Centre was expected to move in late summer 2017. The tenants had a break clause operable in April 2018. A potential new tenant had been identified who would need occupation by the end of 2017. Agents had been instructed to explore an early surrender from the Job Centre if this could be aligned with a possible lease to a new tenant.
- **xv. Unit 1 & 2 19-24 Friargate, Penrith.** The Committee noted that the lease of unit 1 to Penrith Town Council was progressing slowly. There had been some interest in unit 2 but no offers had been received.
- **xvi. Gosforth Glebe.** The Committee noted that the glebe land was being sold to Abbeyfield who were encountering difficulties finding an acceptable drainage solution. The owners of the former rectory had a septic tank on the land and would like restrictive covenants on the old rectory removed in exchange for removal of the septic tank.

The Committee approved in principle, subject to the necessary procedures being followed, the release of restrictive covenants affecting the former rectory.

Closed Schools

xvii. St John's Former Girls School, Edward Street, Carlisle. The Committee noted that the property had been marketed, and a final bid, subject to finance, had been approved by Mr Jayne and Mr Morris and accepted with three weeks allowed to secure finance.

xviii. Allithwaite Institute. The Committee noted that an offer had been accepted and the sale was progressing.

xix. Penrith Pre-School. The Committee noted that a rent review was due and agents were authorised to negotiate the best figure possible.

xx. Millom Holy Trinity School and School House. The Committee noted that the parish had been advised that the Board had agreed, in principle, to reimbursing some of the costs incurred on the buildings, and recognised the need to defer any sale until church toilets were available and the need to retain some land for car parking.

Arrangements for the church toilets were at the stage of preliminary discussions so any sale would be some time away. Advice had been received from the agents on guide prices for marketing.

xxi. Heversham School. The Committee noted that it was understood that a decision had been made to close Heversham school. Preliminary enquires would be made with the Board of Education solicitor about the legal situation of the premises on the understanding that they were likely to transfer to the Board on closure.

PART D OPSHOPS

FC 17/38 OPSHOPS

- **i.** Management Committee Group Report FC 17/33. Mr Hurton reported that sales for January and February were below target figures in the budget but had improved to some extent between the first four weeks and the second four weeks. Mr Towner, Canon Libby, Mr Greenwood, the two new Archdeacons and himself were meeting soon as agreed at the last Committee meeting. There would be a report on plans for the future to the May meeting and a final report in July.
- **ii. Finance Statement FC 17/34.** Mr Hurton reiterated that costs were under control but sales were below target. He had a meeting with Mr Greenwood the following week about sales figures but was not optimistic about the shops' ability to catch up lost ground through the year.

PART E PARISH PROPERTY FUND

FC 17/39 REQUESTS FROM PARISHES FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

i. Longsleddale St Mary. The Committee noted that a grant of £500 has been approved towards the set-up and running of the Champing venue, in conjunction with the Churches Conservation Trust and the Churches Trust for Cumbria.

PART F TRUST MATTERS

FC 17/40 THE BINSEY TEAM – ALLHALLOWS CHURCH ROOMS

Mr Hurton reported that the Allhallows Church Rooms had been marketed for sale. Offers had been received and requests had been made for final offers. A qualified surveyor's report was awaited. As custodian trustee of the property, the Committee agreed that the property should be sold to the highest bidder.

The Archdeacon of Carlisle, the Archdeacon of Westmorland and Furness and Mr Dickinson left the meeting.

PART G FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FC 17/41 PASTORAL ACCOUNT STATEMENT TO 31ST DECEMBER 2016 – FC 17/35

The Committee received the statement.

FC 17/42 GLEBE STATEMENT TO 31ST DECEMBER 2016 - FC 17/36

The Committee received the statement. It was noted that the Job Centre was expected to give notice and that interest had been expressed by a potential tenant.

FC 17/43 BARCHESTER STATEMENT TO 31ST DECEMBER 2016 – FC 17/37

Mr Jaques reported that £134,000 had been written off. School maintenance debtors had decreased to £422,000. This represented money that had been paid out to fund projects. 10% of the final costs were met by schools and the other 90% paid by LCVAP and DFC. Mr Jaques explained LCVAP funding was grant funding received in advance from the Department of Education for projects in schools and that schools were sent a statement of their maintenance fund balance each year.

FC 17/44 PARISH PROPERTY FUND TO 31ST DECEMBER 2016 - FC 17/38

The Committee received the statement.

FC 17/45 GROWTH FUND STATEMENT TO 31ST DECEMBER 2016 – FC 17/39

The Committee received the statement.

FC 17/46 LOAN STATEMENT TO 31ST DECEMBER 2016 – FC 17/40

The Committee received the statement. Mr Jaques reported on a possible new application for a loan which would be dealt with through the normal protocols.

FC 17/47 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, 10th May 2017