

Minutes of a Meeting of All Saints' Chilton PCC
Held on Tuesday 23rd October 2012 at 7.45pm at St Matthew's Harwell

The Rector opened the meeting with both PCCs together, by reading 1 Cor v8 to 13. He spoke of viewing situations from a distance, or through a veil, much as we see through mist or fog, and knowing that God is working to bring us all to completion in Him. We are in an exciting position. After a short time of open prayer, the individual meetings were held separately.

Present: Rev Pam Rolls (Chairman) Rev Jonathan Mobey (for items 1 to 4(i))
 Mrs Lin Kerr Mr Andrew Hayes
 Mrs Liz Morris Mrs Carol Pigott (Secretary)

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Mr Alex Reich, Dr John Berry, Mr Philip Garner, Mrs Naomi Gibson, Mr Stuart Gibson, Mrs Hazel King, Mrs Ruth Poole, and Mr John Pigott.

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true record and duly signed.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

- (i) Sound and Vision Update In the absence of Stuart Gibson and John Pigott, Andrew Hayes spoke on this. He understood that both Stuart and John would be working on this, on their return from holidays, and that the installation would be completed by the deadline of 23rd November. He asked the Rector, in view of his experience in using the equipment, whether he felt the proposed project will still meet our needs. His view was that it will, but a brief discussion followed on the comparison between wireless and wired-in modes of operation, the latter of which is better for videos and is currently the only mode that works with the "Easy Worship" software, though this is hopefully a resolvable "settings" issue.
- (ii) Leadership of Chilton Evergreens Pam Rolls and Audrey Slater had produced a paper describing the current situation within Evergreens, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. Pam reported that Audrey had planned a programme of events and speakers until July 2013, but a decision needed to be made by Easter, regarding the future of the group. Some ideas from the PCC members present included moving the meetings from the hall to homes; combining with the Thursday lunch club; transporting members to join with Harwell Evergreens. We should ensure that the "core" members' needs were catered for.

4. Committee Reports

- (i) Finance, including ability to pay Diocesan Share. The Financial Report and Revenue Account to 31st October from Stuart Gibson had been circulated. Stuart anticipated our income would be around the budget figure by the end of the year, leaving about £3,156 (after all further expenditure, minus the Parish Share) from which to pay the second half of the Parish Share, which is £10,592. We also need to repay the funds that have been borrowed from the Legacy Fund over the last couple of years.

The Rector felt we could aim to repay the Legacy Fund over 2013-14, and focus on paying the other items for the remainder of 2012. The estimated excess of £3,156 could then be paid as a token towards the Parish Share.

He proposed that we agree to pay the £3,156 towards our Deanery Share now (i.e. our estimated budget excess before paying the Deanery balance), and as much of the remaining balance of £7,439 (if any) as we decide we can/should pay when the full year's figures are in. He would propose that this amount be decided at the January meeting.

In an email prior to this meeting, Stuart had written that "Firstly we may or may not need all the money in the legacy fund to cover the path project, so whether we have two years to pay that back is not clear at this stage. Secondly, as I said at the beginning of the year, I would like to look at the possibility of covering the "loss" that the Deanery will have if we don't pay our full share in terms of the final rebate. I am investigating this matter."

Liz Morris expressed the sentiments of those present; that we liked the Rector's proposal in principle, but felt that there were too few of us present to make such a weighty decision at that time. She suggested the decision be held over until the January meeting, when Stuart would be present also.

The Rector informed the meeting that there are to be consultations regarding the Share and Fees payable to the Deanery/Diocese. As a result of these, we might end up paying less in 2014.

- (ii) Fabric The Fabric Report, Electrical Inspection Report, and Report on Trees had been received from John Berry and circulated. It was agreed that the Electrical Inspection was a very full report, but no reference has been made to the organ motor. Furthermore, whilst the main fan heaters were inspected, there is no specific reference to the two older ones being lubricated. Andrew Hayes will ask the Fabric Committee to seek written confirmation regarding both of these points.

Under disabled access, the positioning of a person at the chancel step to assist communicants if necessary, was working well, and beneficial. Liz Morris asked if the assistant at the step could receive communion at the start of the Administration, and it was agreed that this would be expedient. Andrew Hayes will advise all sidesmen accordingly.

The churchyard springtime policy had been agreed via email, and it was reported that Judith Russell had already bought the bulbs to be planted in the designated area (where soil has recently been deposited by gravediggers). It was agreed that a letter should be sent from the Churchwardens to the Funeral Directors with whom we have most dealings, namely Roger Barker and Michael Didcock, reminding them that surplus soil should be placed on the compost heap, and not spread over the churchyard.

The church paths had been covered in John Berry's report, and a revised quotation was awaited from Drayton Construction, together with alternative quotes. Pam Rolls had suggested seeking any grants from the Vale Council, and Liz Morris wondered if David Wilson Homes might be approached. Andrew Hayes suggested the Historic Churches Trust, and passed on the information that Judy Goodall was keen to fund raise for this.

Andrew Hayes presented the "Project Procedure" document, which was currently in use to follow the progress of the Disabled Path Project. He sought approval to have the document placed on the church website, so PCC could see the current situation for any projects being undertaken. It was agreed unanimously that this should be done.

The tree survey showed that a horse chestnut was in urgent need of felling. (Stuart had been made aware of this, and had allowed for this, in the earlier discussions re finances). Liz Morris said that Brian Morris was going to donate £50 towards the cost of felling the chestnut. She had also brought a request from the Parish Council, that the trees blocking the streetlights over the path should be trimmed back, and this was also mentioned in the survey. The idea of selling the logs had been put forward, and ideas on how to do this were discussed. Usually, any felled or pruned wood is removed speedily by passers-by, so it might need a notice offering the wood in exchange for a donation.

- (iii) Youth Report/Child Protection Pam Rolls reported that the new term had started for "Y Club" with a smaller group, of 5 or 6, but the children were enjoying it. Georgina Greer had new Child Protection forms, and Andrew Hayes will pass these to Ruth Poole who, as organiser of Discoverers, will know who needs to be checked, re-checked, or deleted.
- (iv) Pastoral Care Pam reported that Judy Burbage had joined the team, which now consisted of Pam, the Rector, Audrey Slater, Rosemary Rolls and Judy Burbage. They met every 4 or 5 weeks.

5. Harvest

A report on Harvest had been circulated by email. 41 adults and 5 children had attended the Bring and Share lunch on Sunday 7th Oct, and £216 had been raised for Tear Fund. Pam had suggested having a lunch again next year, and to see if numbers were still lower than for teas. The Rector had suggested promoting the event benefice-wide, as he was sure more Harwell parishioners would attend if encouraged. Lin Kerr suggested "Bring and Share" would be more likely to exclude non-churchgoers, than a lunch that they could come and pay to enjoy. There was a lively discussion on the pros and cons of jacket potatoes! Lin also suggested bunting outside church, declaring the Harvest Lunch.

6. Lighting of Chancel Window

Liz Morris had brought this request from Ian Thompson last year, that the chancel window could be lit during the dark evenings. It had been such a welcoming presence on the occasions when the church had been in use during the evenings last winter. Stuart was to be asked if this possibility could be investigated. Lin Kerr suggested a request be made to parishioners to contribute to the cost of lighting, as happens in Harwell, in order to flood-light their tower. Pam requested halogen lights NOT be used, if the idea was taken up, as there had been a fire caused by them at another church.

Andrew Hayes had been asked by David Benn, if fewer lights could be in use when preparing for our services. This was discussed, and also the use of heaters during the services. Carol Pigott suggested the next edition of the Sidesmen's Instructions should include a request to be more aware of the consumption of electricity, while still maintaining a welcoming atmosphere.

7. Up-Date on Dates Hall out of Use

There had been no further news on this, but Liz reported that there was to be a consultation, on Friday 9th November, when both proposals for the extension could be viewed and voted on.

8. JPCC Subcommittees

This item was held over to the next Combined PCC

9. Future Dates

Carol Services	Sunday 16 th Dec	4.00pm and 6.30pm
Carol Singing	Monday 17 th Dec	6.30 pm at Lychgate
	Thursday 20 th Dec	8.00 pm at Rose and Crown
Late Night H.C.	Monday 24 th Dec	10.00pm
Combined PCC	Tuesday 27 th Nov	7.45pm at Chilton
All Saints' PCC	Tuesday 15 th Jan 2013	7.45pm at Chilton

Carol singing on Monday 17th Dec would end at the home of the Millars at 8.00pm
Naomi has the mulled wine for the Carol Services, Liz will get the Sherry for Christmas day, and they would both organise the events as usual.

The date for All Saints' PCC has been changed to **15th January 2013**

10. Any Other Business and Correspondence

- (i) Andrew Hayes read a letter from Daphne Boddy to Naomi, thanking her for the plant she had been given, after relinquishing her role as stockist for the tea and coffee and refreshments for so many years.
- (ii) Lin Kerr and Carolyn Vickers had been on 2 day courses, covering how to make church more presentable to all visitors. The noticeboards, windowsill, and font area were discussed, and Lin was invited to rearrange the windowsill, and to bring concrete ideas to PCC.
- (iii) The Rector proposes to produce Christmas cards once again this year, with a design by Lin Kerr, 1500 containing a greeting from the Rector plus information about Christmas services for a door-to-door drop (instead of the December Broadsheet), and 1500 blank versions of the card for sale (reasonably priced at 5 for £2.50) to raise funds for the churches.
We have received a restricted donation of £200 towards the costs of printing the cards for sale.
Lin showed an example of the card, and asked how many, and what size, posters would be needed Pam thought 3 A3 size and 6 A4.

11. Closing Prayer

Pam Rolls closed the meeting with prayer at 10.05 pm

Date of next meeting of All Saints' PCC Tuesday 15th January 2013 in Chilton at 7.45pm

.....Chairman

Carol Pigott
Secretary