

Minutes of a Meeting of All Saints' Chilton PCC
Held on Tuesday 1st October 2013 at 7.45pm at St Matthew's Harwell

The Rector opened the meeting with both PCCs together, by reading 1 Psalm 136 antiphonally. We should remember "His love endures forever". A short time of open prayer followed. After a brief discussion of items 8 and 11(ii), the individual meetings were held separately.

Present: Rev Pam Rolls (Chairman) Mr John Pigott
 Mrs Hazel King Mr Alex Reich
 Mrs Ruth Poole Mrs Naomi Gibson
 Mr Andrew Hayes Mrs Liz Morris
 Mrs Carol Pigott (Secretary) Mrs Sylvie Thompson (until item 5(ii))

1. Apologies for Absence and Co-option of Mrs Helen Brook
Apologies had been received from Mr Philip Garner, Mr Stuart Gibson, Mrs Lin Kerr, and Mrs Helen Brook.

That Helen Brook be co-opted onto PCC was proposed by Ruth Poole, seconded by Andrew Hayes, and unanimously agreed by PCC.

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) Future of Chilton Evergreens. Pam reported that there had been no new leader forthcoming, and Evergreens had been informed of the situation. They had had their last talk today. There would be a Service of Celebration on 5th November, and Christmas Lunch in December in the Rose and Crown. Funds remaining in the Evergreens account would be placed within PCC Funds as restricted funds, in case the group should re-form at some future date.

Most of the ladies in the group were also members of Wives Group. Some of the gentlemen were also very active in other groups, but some others did not have the same social life, and we should be aware of their needs.

PCC expressed their appreciation of the time and commitment Mrs Audrey Slater, with the support of her husband, had dedicated to running the group over the years.

- (ii) Update on Support Rail at Chancel Step Andrew reported that this item was still on hold, pending the review of the heating/possible raised floor issue.

Hazel requested a note be put into the service sheet, diplomatically advising that a person would be positioned at the chancel step, to offer assistance if necessary. Liz asked if the helpers could be reminded to precede choir, when receiving communion.

Actions: Pam to speak to Jonathan about amending the service sheet, and Naomi to email sidesmen to ask them to take communion before the choir.

5. Committee Reports

- (i) Finance The Finance Report and Revenue Account had been circulated prior to the meeting. Pam was concerned that both plated and pledged giving were down on budget, but we had experienced some bereavements, which had affected these. There followed a short discussion on the advisability of having another stewardship campaign in March 2014 especially in view of the fact that new families and individuals had joined our church. Pam had been to a workshop on

setting up a "Friends" scheme, but there were some drawbacks to this. It was suggested that Stuart give a statement to the congregation outlining our position, (after the changes to the Parish Share Scheme had been decided) in November or December. The problem with the electricity charges had been resolved, with the overpayment credited to our account. Hazel observed that the "Connect" expenses would reduce in future, with the change to monthly, rather than weekly, meetings. The costs of these will be covered by the Church Hall Fund, and it was noted that much of the food for these events had been donated. In response to a question on the loose change in the offering, Naomi explained that up to £5,000 pa can be regarded as "Gift Aided", and have the tax reclaimed.

Andrew said he thought that when initially proposing restriction of the Carterton House Fund, Stuart's vision had been to have a cap at £50,000, with interest and any additional sum being used for fabric. He questioned how it was that we seem to have apparently drifted away from Stuart's vision and recollected that there had been more recent discussion or decision regarding the accumulated interest from the Carterton House Fund being used towards the Fabric Budget. The Secretary (and others) would check past minutes.

Action Carol

- (ii) Fabric Andrew answered questions on the Fabric report, which had been circulated earlier by John Berry. The new table for communion services (and other uses) would not become a firm proposal until the design and quote had been approved. It would probably then be funded by donations. The "Works to be Completed within 18 months" referred to 18 months from the date of the Quinquennial Report, not from this month. The delayed Electrical Test Certificate was being actively pursued via emails this week. Philip Waddy, our architect, had visited today regarding the drainage near the porch which would be tackled at the same time as the installation of the new path surface. Andrew agreed to liaise with Liz, as the work on the village hall would be starting in February and both projects will involve machinery in a restricted position, causing difficulties if concurrent. Concerning the churchyard trees, it was not financially feasible to enter into any maintenance contract. The fabric committee had decided to stick with Jenks' report, working as and when necessary, but would keep a note of Morgan's details for possible future use. There would be a churchyard working party on Saturday 9th November. There was also a brief discussion of the boundary wall situation.

Action PCC members, date for diaries.

- (iii) Youth Report Ruth said that both children's groups were now meeting together, in the Upper Room each Sunday as the hall had been expected to be unavailable. "Check it Out" numbers were low, either due to the younger ones being with them, or because they are now becoming more teenaged, and dropping off. On Remembrance Sunday, it might be advisable to use the Hall (currently still open) as Scouts would be parading, and children's numbers would be higher.

Pam said Y-Club had re-started, with 11 children 4 of whom were from Chilton Field. Y-Club has been running since 2005.

- (iv) Pastoral Care Pam reported that this is on-going. The clergy would be taking Holy Communion to the housebound over the next week or two. She or Jonathan should be informed of anyone known to want this.

Action PCC

6. Heating All Saints'

- (i) Possibility of Fitting a Raised Floor Andrew said that the DAC considered this a sensible way forward. Philip Waddy was doubtful if there was sufficient depth, but said there were ways around this, and had given the name of a consultant, who was being contacted
- (ii) Future Heating Options were dependent on the above.
- (iii) Current Assessment of Likely Project Completion Date The target is still October 2014.
- (iv) Purchase of Replacement Lectern Fan Heater This has been ordered, and delivery is awaited. 2 donations have been offered to date.

7. Noticeboard for Chilton Field

Liz had passed on the information to Philip, that planning permission was not needed. Naomi said that we have a licence. Andrew reported that a "Method Statement and Risk Assessment for the Work" needed to be given to Harwell Science Innovation.

Action Andrew Hayes, John Pigott, John Berry

8. Parish Share Scheme, Papers for Discussion

This discussion was carried out at the start of the meeting, with both PCCs together. The Deanery Share is allocated to the 6 benefices to pay between them. How this is to be divided is the decision to be made at the next Deanery Synod. The Share has to cover three areas.

- 1) Costs of stipends, pensions, housing of clergy.
- 2) Support costs, admin, deanery and diocesan-wide posts.
- 3) Church of the future; training, etc.

There are two options being put forward to synod.

Option 1. Total to be divided into 8 (number of stipendiary posts in the deanery) with each benefice contributing 1 or 2 eighths, according to the number of stipendiary posts in that benefice.

Option 2. As option 1, but with Church of the future costs to take account of "Ability to Pay"

Ability to pay factors-in the Experian analysis of local wealth-spread in the community, (not congregation).

Fees (for weddings, funerals, etc) would go to the respective churches.

Wallingford Deanery is due to reduce from 8 to 6 paid clergy.

The two options were those being put forward to Deanery Synod from the meeting of Deanery Treasurers and clergy in May 2013.

Andrew Hayes felt that it was important to support our treasurers. Although from a Christian point of view it might seem that Option 2 was the better choice, it has been tried for so long, and just does not work. Those present were overwhelmingly in favour of Option 1.

9. Christmas preparations

Pam said choir are looking at items to sing during the Special services and Communion services. She would also be planning Carol Singing.

Ruth suggested liaising with the School, to find out if the children are learning any Christmas Carols that could be incorporated for congregational singing.

Hazel will approach the Garden Centre, to request a tree for the tower.

John would organise lighting the Chancel window.

Naomi has candles organised for the Candlelight services.

Toy Service 1st Dec

Carol Services 8th Dec at 4.00pm and 6.30pm

Connect Carol Event 15th Dec

10. Future Dates

Saturday 5th October PCC Away Day 10.00 to 4.00 at Court Place Farm, with bring and share lunch.

(Subsequently cancelled, as numbers not viable)

Saturday 9th November Churchyard Working Party

(Light Party and Children's Advent Morning were mentioned as possibilities.)

11. Any Other Business

(i) Harvest Review This would be circulated via email, after the event.

(ii) Toy Service The Toy Services had been discussed by both PCCs at the start of the meeting.

That

"The toys from All Saints' Toy Services should in future be taken to the women's refuge in Oxford, and any monetary offerings be donated to See-Saw, the charity for bereaved children."

Was proposed by Carol Pigott; Seconded by Pam Rolls: Passed unanimously.

(iii) Liz said that Mrs Chris Druce had recently come off the church cleaning rota, after many years. Naomi would arrange a note of thanks.

12. Closing Prayer

Pam asked Andrew to close with prayer at 9.45pm

Dates of next meetings

Tuesday 5th November Combined PCC at 7.45pm in Chilton

Tuesday 7th January 2014 All Saints' PCC at 7.45pm in Chilton

.....Chairman

Carol Pigott
Secretary