

Minutes of a Meeting of All Saints' Chilton PCC
Held on Tuesday 3rd March 2015 at 7.45pm at St Matthew's Harwell

1. Opening Prayer and Combined Discussion

- (i) Rev Dr Jonathan Mobey opened the meeting with prayer and then the "Dwelling in the Word" exercise, as suggested by the Diocese. This involved those present reading Luke 10, vv 1-12, then sharing in pairs the points which they were inspired by, and those which they wished to investigate further.
On this occasion, it seemed the main points of note were to do with the labourer being worthy of their wages, and the question of food. What type of food might be provided, and how would they react to it?
- (ii) The Archdeaconry Mission Action Plan had been circulated prior to the meeting, and comments had been received via the website. Further comments were raised at the meeting. These ranged from the desirability of more training being provided in the near future, such as the Churchwarden's training morning, which had been very good, to the negative effect it was felt that such a plan could have when presented to small, struggling churches. Although designed to provide help, they could find it to be daunting. It was also disappointing that there was no mention of Christians Against Poverty (CAP) in section 6.
The secretaries would collate a resume of feedback to send to the Archdeaconry. (JW/CP)
- (iii) Peter Shields, Children's and Families Worker (CFW) had circulated a report on children's work, at Chilton's request, and expanded on this and answered questions. He explained that in Chilton, the Children's ministry might well need to be focussed outside Sunday mornings. In other words, to centre on Y-Club, and areas where the work is progressing. The new Fledgelings group had just started in the Community room on Chilton Field. Offers of transport had been offered to older children, to join in with Youth Fellowship (YF) in Harwell, but there had been no take-up on this. As with all groups, there are external pressures involved, such as other commitments, timing, and energy levels.

At 8.45 pm the PCCs divided into their own meetings, and All Saints' Minutes continue:

Present:

Rev Dr Jonathan Mobey (Chair until item 7)	Mrs Liz Morris (Chair, item 7 and following)
Rev Pam Rolls	Mr John Pigott
Mrs Naomi Gibson	Mr Stuart Gibson
Mr Alex Reich	Mrs Sylvie Thompson (for item 5(iii))
Mrs Helen Brook	Mrs Carol Pigott (Secretary)

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Mrs Hazel King, Dr Carina Lobley and Mr James Hellem.

5. (iii) Church heating

This item was taken while Sylvie Thompson was still present.

Sylvie apologised for lack of progress on this at the moment, due to family and work pressures. However, the paperwork had been completed, prior to obtaining three quotes in order to apply for a faculty.

There had been considerable concerns regarding the advisability of proceeding further with this project, mainly due to the cost and our limited budget. Current quotes were two in the region of £60,000 and one for £97,000. VAT would also need to be paid in addition, but the Treasurer indicated that he thought that this could be reclaimed.

Sylvie would continue getting clarification of the quotes, and find the cost of running the heating for one day. (From this, we could estimate the cost per annum, considering the number of days we should expect to run the heating over a year.)

We are still not committed to this option. For example we could have underfloor in the nave, and radiators in the chancel, and may want subsequently to consider as 'phase B' alternative heat sources such as solar, or heat pumps.

Sylvie left the meeting at this point.

3. Minutes of the last Meeting

These were accepted as a true record, and duly signed.

4. Matters arising from the Minutes

- (i) Bell Ringing Simulator Carina had sent word that she was sourcing grants for this. The first possibility had not been available, but she was approaching a second.
- (ii) Telephone Line Stuart had been given yet another date for installation, 10th March.
- (iii) Christian Aid Representative Pam had approached the person suggested at the last meeting, but he was not able to do this at this time. Collectors were available for all roads in Chilton, except for a few on Chilton Field. She would draft an item for the noticesheet and Chronicle. Christian Aid week is in mid-May. Helen suggested a few of us could get together to cover the vacancy if necessary this year.
- (iv) Repositioning of noticeboard There had been no progress on this. Liz would have to go to the pub again.
- (v) Photos on Noticeboard Most of these had been updated. Carol would check if James and Sylvie's still needed to be added to the board. There might be more needed after the Annual meeting.
- (vi) Possible Concert in September This was held over, in James' absence.

5. Committee Reports

- (i) Finance Stuart answered questions on these papers, which had been circulated. The changes to electricity and water rates figures were due to the previous over-payment and subsequent repayment when the electricity had been charged erroneously. He would be mentioning support for the CFW when presenting his Annual Report to the congregation. Two pledges were awaiting fulfilment. Stuart believed Jane Moreton was prepared to continue as our Independent Examiner, but would check.
- (ii) Fabric John Berry had requested approval to spend £250 for Pierre Woodward to deal with rot in the lychgate and the noticeboard. This spending was approved.
There was also the need for a replacement shed, and suggestions had been sent, for an 8x6 shed at £560 or £670 from Foster Fencing. PCC agreed in principle to a new shed for around £500, but passed the decision to Standing Committee, to consider a larger shed, if space permitted, and to compare other suppliers known to members, such as Marcham Plants and Garden Centre Direct. Liz reported a gap at the base of the new gate-post for the Humfrey Stevenson gate. Shingle would be needed to fill it in.
The Rector reminded the meeting that Dr John Berry would be standing down as chairman of the fabric committee at the Annual meeting. There had been on-going conversations between John and Andrew Hayes over the new path, and it was agreed by all parties for Andrew to take on responsibility for this now..
The ideal width for the path would be 1.2 m, which would need either a chicane near the kitchen window, or for headstones to be moved. PCC agreed provisionally that, if headstones needed to be moved, it should be the old ones, for which there is no record, rather than the small cross, which is a known grave, and regularly tended. Stuart said we need a full specification (including a width) in order to obtain current quotes. Naomi had details of another contractor, which she would pass on to Andrew.
PCC were reminded that a new chair for the Fabric Committee would be needed.
The secretary was asked to write a letter thanking John for his years of commitment, and also to Alec Samler, who was standing down as Tower Captain.
- (iv) Youth Report This had been covered in the opening session.
- (v) Pastoral Care Pam had now taken up responsibility for pastoral care in both parishes, and had a particular interest in the elderly. She would be reporting on this at the Mothering Sunday service, on 15th March.

6. Possible changes to pattern of services at All Saints'

The Rector had circulated a paper on this, and apologised for the suddenness of this idea. It had been precipitated by the visit of Daniel Timms, "apprentice" preacher two weeks previously, who had asked him if we normally had such a large congregation, and did we find our growth being limited by the size

of the church? Having two Sunday morning services would help to encompass all liturgical tastes, provide space for growth, and provide an opportunity to grow more leaders. However, resources would be a big problem.

A lively discussion ensued. Comments had already been received, referring to this potentially causing a split between the generations in church, the timing of bell-ringing, resources implications, etc. There were also those who had experienced this arrangement at other churches, where it had worked very well.

The Rector asked if it would be worthwhile to set up a working party to explore the idea, or should we dismiss the idea out of hand. There was a consensus that we should at least re-consider the possibility at the May PCC meeting. The Rector, Naomi and Alex volunteered to join a working party, and others would be welcome to join them.

The Rector left the meeting at this point, and Liz Morris took the Chair.

7. Preparations for Mothering Sunday and Easter

Liz Morris and a team would be making posies for Mothering Sunday at 10.30 am on Saturday 14th March, at 6 Latton Close. Stuart agreed she could buy daffodils, and Liz asked for offers of other flowers and greenery. Pam would ask for helpers and donations of flowers and greenery during the notices on Sunday 8th March.

Naomi and Pam would check there were palm crosses sufficient for Palm Sunday.

Peter would be organising a Treasure Hunt for the children through Holy Week, and Naomi would provide Easter Eggs for that.

Maundy Thursday Service would be at All Saints' at 7.45 pm

Good Friday the procession would start from the Community Room at 8.45am.

Easter Saturday Pam would be organising a Vigil Service at 8.00pm.

8. Revision of Electoral Roll

The secretary reported that Gordon Cowan was closing the Roll today, 3rd March, and would pass the paperwork to her immediately, to deal with.

9. Preparations for Annual Church Meeting and Annual Parochial Church Meeting

The proposed format for the Sunday Morning Service and subsequent Meetings had been circulated. The Annual Report, including the Financial Report, and the Fabric Report had been circulated and were approved.

The Logbook, Terrier and Inventory were presented.

Both Churchwardens were prepared to stand again for office. There was still a vacancy for one Deanery Representative, and there would be three PCC members to be elected for 3 years. Carol and Carina were both finishing their terms of office, and were both prepared to stand again. (There had been an existing vacancy)

The secretary would ask for the vacancies to be advertised in the notices, and place nomination forms in church.

10. Future Dates

- (i) Mothering Sunday 15th March
- (ii) ACM and APCM Sunday 22nd March at 10.20 am and 10.25 am respectively
- (iii) Easter Sunday 5th April
- (iv) All Saints' PCC at Chilton Tuesday 5th May
- (v) Chilton Festival Saturday 6th

Alex had discussed a possible Songs of Praise service on the Saturday 6th June with Bob Girling, and would pursue this. Timing might be 3.30 to 4.30 pm

11. Correspondence and Any other Business

Liz had a request from the Village Hall Management Committee, that the Church ensured to book the Hall for any irregular use (such as during holidays, and half-term, which were not included in the regular term-time bookings) and reminded PCC that forms needed to be filled in and returned for

one-off bookings. Naomi would liaise with Peter Shields and Vicky Johnston. It was also important that the hall that had been booked should be the one that was subsequently used.

12. Closing Prayer

Rev Pam Rolls closed the meeting with prayer at 10.40 pm

.....Chairman

Carol Pigott

Secretary