

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Combined PCCs of St Matthew's Harwell and
All Saints' Chilton held on Tuesday 24th November 2009 at 7:45 pm
in All Saints' Church, Chilton**

Present

Harwell

Sid Gale	Mel Gibson (Secretary)	Georgina Greer
Clive House (Treasurer)	Tony Hughes	Allan Macarthur
Vicky Macarthur	Tim Roberts	Gordon Gill
Chris Stott (Chair)	Frances Taylor	
Matt Webb	Jane Woolley	

Chilton

John Berry	Naomi Gibson	Stuart Gibson
Andrew Hayes	Hazel King	Liz Morris
Jeff Nesbitt	Carol Pigott	John Pigott
Pam Rolls	Avril Butler (Secretary)	

1. Prayer

Chris opened the meeting by reading from Acts Ch 1 and reminding PCC members that Advent is a time of waiting and looking forward to the coming of Christmas and looking forward to the coming of the Lord's kingdom.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Vicky Luker, Roz Shipp, Martin Fell, Bruce Keeble, Ruth Poole Alex Reich, Steve Tunstall.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the 22nd September 2009 meeting were accepted and signed.

4. Report back on Congregation and Parish Audit

Hazel reported that there had been a low response so far to the Congregation and Parish Audits. 31 parish questionnaires had been returned in Harwell and 20 parish questionnaires had been returned in Chilton. 30 questionnaires had been returned by members of Chilton congregation and the questionnaires were still to be distributed to members of Harwell congregation. Analysis of the questionnaires would soon begin and Hazel would report back to the combined PCCs on the results. Chris thanked Hazel for co-ordinating the congregation and parish audits.

5. Deanery Pastoral Committee Report

Gordon Gill gave a report on what is happening in the Wallingford Deanery Pastoral Committee. He drew attention to Bishop John's vision for the Diocese of Oxford outlined in 'Living Faith for the Future'. The Pastoral Committee has been asked to develop a mission for building a 'vibrant Christian community' in the Wallingford Deanery in line with 'Living Faith for the Future', looking specifically at community developments in the Deanery, notably the planned growth of Harwell, Didcot and Wallingford in the South East Plan. Of particular interest to the Pastoral Committee is the evangelistic opportunity in the Great Western Park development to the west of Didcot, a significant part which sits in the Harwell Parish and currently no new church is planned for this development. The Deanery Mission will help the Harwell and Chilton PCC's to write a Parish Portfolio for the appointment of a new incumbent. The programme envisaged for developing the Deanery Mission includes a meeting with Norman Russell (Archdeacon) in January followed by a meeting with Janet Russell from the Diocese, a meeting with the Deanery Synod, a meeting with Bishop Stephen Cottrell and then a presentation to all PCC's late spring/ early summer 2010.

6. Understanding Ministry in Church of England/Liquorice Allsorts

Chris began by saying that historically the Church of England had been divided into three different parts:

High Church – Anglo Catholics

Middle of the Road Church – Sometimes known as liberal or broad church

Low Church – Evangelical

The divisions had been much greater in the past but now the boundaries are more fluid and ideas are shared by more than one part. Chris asked PCC members to suggest the characteristics that are associated with each of the three parts.

High Church	Middle of the Road Church	Low Church
Traditional	Less ritual	Accepts Book of Common Prayer
Incense	Less formal	Evangelical
Robes	Strong on use of reason	Authority of the Bible
Sung responses	More in touch with society/culture	Noisy/Informal
Formality	More open to different forms of worship	Charismatic
Symbolism	More sharing of responsibilities and leadership within the church	Music led worship
Choirs		Emphasis on personal commitment to Christ

Sacramental Eucharist		Mission
Authority of church/leader		Uniqueness of Christ
Ritual		Testimonies
Latin		Conversion

The Low Church can be sub-divided into five sections:

Open Evangelicals	Conservative Evangelicals	Reform	Charismatic	New Wine
Not so dogmatic on issues e.g. women bishops, creation	Can learn from high and middle church	Sprung up in last 15 years	Started in 1960s when emphases with the Pentecostal church began to influence other churches	Network of evangelical churches and believers across all denominations who share the same values of worship, teaching and ministry in the power of the Holy Spirit
		Active in the GAFCON meeting in Jerusalem	Emphasis on work of Holy Spirit	Look for signs and wonders
		Committed to reforming the Church of England from within according to the Holy Scriptures.	Alpha originated here	Bible based teaching
		Generally opposed to ordination of women		Worship at the heart of New Wine

Chris explained that the purpose of this exercise was because a new minister would soon be appointed to the benefice and it was important that PCC members had an understanding of the different types of churches within the Church of England and had a clear idea of what sort of clergy person was best for the benefice.

7. Future Dates

Saturday 5th December 2009	Children's Activity Morning
Sunday 6th December 2009	Toy Service
Sunday 13th December 2009	Chilton Carols by Candlelight

Sunday 20th December 2009 Harwell Carols by Candlelight

Sunday 3rd January 2010 Christingle Service

Sunday 17th January 2010 Canon John Alderman CPAS Patronage Secretary
speaking at the morning service followed by a combined PCC Bring and Share lunch

Sunday May 16th 2010 6.15pm Confirmation in Harwell with Bishop Stephen Cottrell.

The next **Combined PCC meeting** will be on **Tuesday 26th January 2010** at 7:45pm in St Matthew's Church, Harwell, followed by **individual PCC meetings** which will start at 9:00pm in the same venue.

.....Chairman