

**Minutes of a Meeting of Harwell PCC**  
held on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2008 at 7:45pm in Harwell Church

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**Present**

Kate Evans	Tony Hughes	Chris Stott (Chair)
Sid Gale	Tim Roberts	Frances Taylor
Georgina Greer	Martin Speed (Co-opted Secretary) - minutes	Jane Woolley
Clive House		

**1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Allan Macarthur, Vicky Macarthur and Steve Tunstall.

**2. Minutes of the last meetings**

The minutes of the PCC meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2008 were signed as a correct record. The minutes of the combined PCC meeting on the same date was also signed as a correct record of that meeting.

**3. Matters arising**

*A full listing of outstanding actions and actions undertaken from previous minutes are recorded at the foot of agendas and at the foot of the minutes and not routinely discussed, leaving more time to focus on the matters where further discussion is needed, though any member of the PCC can raise any of these 'parked' issues at any meeting.*

- a) **Pew sale:** Tim reported that efforts were still being made to avoid incurring storage costs and sell the pews.
- b) **Church Directory:** the meeting noted that Kate had this in hand.
- c) **Climate change and Harvest:** Chris reported that Martin Gibson had agreed to produce a note for the notice sheet for the Harvest thanksgiving on climate change, energy saving and the environment.

**4. Financial report**

The meeting noted the report of the current financial situation provided by Elizabeth, and welcomed the broadly good news it represented.

Clive invited nominations for organisations to receive donations from the local giving budget for this year. The recipients will be decided at the next PCC meeting in November.

When the budget was agreed for this year the PCC decided to restore mission giving to its former level (as a percentage of the church's spending) and have faith that this spending would be balanced by increased giving. It was decided that this would not be the subject of a new 'fundraising' initiative. The PCC noted that our prayers had been answered by increased donations which broadly covered this expenditure, but the accounts show the balancing 'income' required as a separate item and therefore a 'shortfall' which would not be met. The PCC were concerned that this gave the wrong impression, and it was proposed that (if it was possible) the expected income for this item should not be shown separately, but aggregated into

the overall income that was budgeted for donations. A formal resolution was passed to support making this change to the way the budget is presented.

<b>Resolution</b>	That the monthly accounts be changed to show the income item for 'mission giving' as part of the overall giving budget and not as a separate item.				
<b>Moved</b>	Clive	<b>Seconded</b>	Frances	<b>Passed</b>	Unanimously

## 5. Buildings committee report

The buildings committee report was noted by the PCC. Two items were discussed:

- Regarding item 4: the PCC supported the plan to remove the brown chairs that represented a fire hazard from the extension.

**Action:** *The churchwardens to remove and dispose of the chairs*

- Regarding item 3: the PCC referred the buildings committee to the decision of the PCC in March to continue floodlighting the church at Christmas and raising funds for this. However, given that other members of the congregation may share the concerns of the buildings committee it was agreed that a note should be put into the broadsheet to explain the decision to the village.

**Action:** *Martin to draft a note for the broadsheet.*

### Vestry project

Chris reported that Charles Roberts wishes to make a donation to the church for something in memory of his wife Anne. Chris has suggested a project to enhance the vestry area, and Charles was happy with this proposal. The broad aim is to take out the large cupboard and bookcase and replace them with some storage that has doors. The planning is at a very early stage and the buildings committee have formed a sub group to work on the proposal, which will be ultimately submitted to the PCC for approval.

## 6. St Matthew's Harwell Renewal Project

As it had not yet been possible to draft a new paper on the renewal proposal before the meeting, it was agreed to carry this item over to the next meeting.

## 7. Standing committee

Martin reported that there were no decisions taken by the standing committee since the last meeting of the PCC.

## 8. Future dates

October 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Harwell School Harvest festival in St Matthews
October 5 <sup>th</sup>	Harvest thanksgiving services in both churches
October 18 <sup>th</sup>	Church working party
October 19 <sup>th</sup>	Confirmation service with the Bishop of Reading in Harwell
October 25 <sup>th</sup>	Evergreens sale in Harwell (2pm village hall)
October 26 <sup>th</sup>	Bible Sunday

November 30th	Toy Services in the morning 4pm Bereavement service in Chilton
November 8 <sup>th</sup>	Chilton Evergreens sale
December 14 <sup>th</sup>	Carol services in both Churches

## 9. Other Business

- a. **Toy service beneficiary:** Jane suggested that the women's refuge in Oxford be given the toys from the Toy Service again this year. This was agreed providing they wanted the toys again. Jane will check this.

**Action:** *Jane to check that the women's refuge in Oxford would like the Toy Service donations again this year.*

- b. **Deanery Synod:** Georgina provided a brief report from the Deanery Synod. The key points were:

- Two parish profiles were presented to the meeting. Seeing others was helpful for the creation of our one.
- It was reported that the church in Ladygrove will separate from All Saints as a benefice in its own right
- The theft of lead from Church roofs was noted as an increasing problem (and it was observed that reporting that the thieves were disturbing any bell-tower bats seemed to provoke more concern from the authorities than the thefts themselves!)
- A prayer circle was being set up in which churches in the Deanery in order that they would pray for each other, and a co-ordinator for this was being sought.

- c. **Social events co-ordinator:** Frances reported that interest in the role of social events co-ordinator had been shown by one person: Roz Shipp. However, if appointed, she would not be able to give the role any of her time until after Christmas.

- d. **Evergreens leader:** Chris reported that Gill Gay had agreed to take over as leader of the Evergreens.

## 10. Close

The meeting closed at 21:39.

## 11. Next Meeting

The next Harwell PCC meeting will take place on **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2008** at 9:00 pm in All Saint's Church Chilton. This will be a short meeting aiming to finish at the normal time, and it will follow a combined PCC meeting which will start at 7:45pm (in the same venue).

These minutes signed as a true record by:

..... Chris Stott, chairman

..... Martin Speed, secretary

On ..... (Date)

**PAPERS**

PCC07M6	Minutes of previous meeting
PCCP8-1-01	Finance report
PCCP8-1-02	Buildings Committee report
PCCP8-1-03	St Matthew's Harwell Renewal Project
PCCP8-1-04	Christians together on climate change
PCCP8-1-05	Response about low energy light bulbs

***Outstanding actions from previous meetings***

	<b><i>Action</i></b>	<b><i>Timescale</i></b>	<b><i>Responsibility</i></b>
1.	Report on pew sale	When complete	Tim
2.	Provide a progress report from the Child Protection Sub-group	When progress	Martin
3.	Report on issues from H&S audit	When complete	Martin
4.	Report on the Worship group survey	When complete	Vicky
5.	Report on glowsticks contents and re-cycling	When complete	Vicky
6.	Work towards a Church directory	When complete	Kate
7.	Provide a revised 'renewal' paper	Before next meeting	Chris

***Completed (or discontinued) actions from previous meetings***

1. A note of thanks for the Altar Frontal
2. Send the revised notice about a social co-ordinator to Naomi for publication
3. Arrange wider circulation of the 'Church development plan'
4. Provide information on the 'conservative' Anglican group
5. Planning for a late summer Church fete - action discontinued because would clash with feast committee's car boot sale.
6. Gift for Brian Zimmerman – action discontinued because the Zimmermans are no longer leaving
7. Discuss with Martin Gibson opportunities to use Harvest Thanksgiving for issue of climate change