

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, READING STREET

Minutes of the Parochial Church Council held on Wednesday, 9th September 2015 at 7.30 p.m.

Item		Action
1	<p>OPENING PRAYER <u>Present:</u> Rev'd Philip Musindi opened the meeting with prayer. <u>Present:</u> D. Box, R. Collins, C. Eldred, D. Foster, S. Foster, J. Graham, P. Long, R. Owen, G. Silsbury, B. Turp, J. Vince.</p>	
2	<p>APOLOGIES: F. Pearse, D. Verrall, T. Waters</p>	
3	<p>MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: The Minutes of the meeting on 1st July were approved, proposed by G. Silsbury and seconded by B. Turp.</p>	
4	<p>MATTERS ARISING 4.5: <u>Organist.</u> Susan Honnor had confirmed her services as organist and choirmaster, which latter duties she would commence at the next Choir Practice, with help as required from M. Long. <u>PCC Noticeboard:</u> had now been purchased and photographs posted. Names of PCC members to be added by Claire Jones and then the board will be put on an easel so that it can be moved about. <u>Hygiene certificates:</u> P. Long had discovered that there are several different levels and G. Silsbury offered to ascertain which were needed. It was decided to apply for three certificates for P. Long, J. Hefford and S. Foster. V. Silsbury had a current hygiene certificate. Maggie Rodd would also be asked if she wished to be included. 4.8: <u>Church Hall:</u> Correction to the Minutes in that Chris and Chris Naumann had been briefed on the church hall renovations and were still considering their fund-raising role, rather than had agreed to do so. 4.10: Rev'd J. Cruickshank had been licensed in his new Parish on 5th September. He had been given a voucher for £30 from St. Andrew's.</p>	GS/PL
5	<p>CORRESPONDENCE: An email had been received from M. Gregory outlining progress on her and Sabena Hawthorne's children's book. Substantial technical changes and extra work had had to be done to the pictures before publication, which she now estimated to be at the end of October. There is a webpage for the book on the St. Andrew's website and a link on the Troubadour website.</p>	
6	<p>DEANERY SYNOD UPDATE: D. Foster reported that a meeting was held just before the last PCC meeting on 1st July at which the proposal to change to the Diocesan system to calculate the Parish share was passed by a substantial majority, as outlined in the Treasurer's report to this evening's PCC meeting. An MMC meeting will be held next week. New Church Army evangelists had been appointed and the new Area Dean will be in place next month. B. Turp suggested approaching the Church Army representatives to help with youth evangelism. (See Worship sub-committee report, item 11). Note added after the meeting: Andrew Jacobson will take up the duties of Area Dean on 15th October.</p>	DF Group Council/ Mission

7	<p>RE-IMAGINING MINISTRY: UPDATE ON THE DEANERY DISCUSSIONS WITH THE BROADSTAIRS GROUP: G. Silsbury brought the meeting up-to-date with the discussions thus far, which had been on an almost weekly basis to (1) address the position paper from the Diocese and (2) recognise there are two churches in the Group now in interregnum. It had been important to make the case to maintain three churches, not manage with 2.5 stipendiary Ministers and after much discussion and many challenges he felt the case had been made for the different styles of Ministry the Group can offer. Two Ministers without the Living will be appointed at St. Peter's and Holy Trinity. The profiles for these posts have to contain a specific element about Group Ministry so that interviewees are aware they will not be autonomous. Having said that, B. McParland added that each church will remain an individual church and the congregations should be re-assured that services will not change. Joint services will still take place, but normal Sunday morning services will be the same in each church. It was anticipated that the Harvest Group will be incorporated by early 2016 – implications for the title of “Triangle” for the group magazine!</p> <p>The current position is that there is now an informal paper on the table and the response to the Archdeacon is complete. There is potential for the Broadstairs Group to act as leaders in this exercise as churches in other parts of Thanet catch up. Now the challenge is to make this work and to look at the practicalities of identifying areas of potential mutual co-operation and sharing, to be supportive and co-operative as a group and to take advantage of cost savings by acting as a group. These would include mission outreach (working as a group rather than individual churches with schools, hospitals/hospices, elderly, sick and social visiting, youth work); getting best value from routine maintenance contracts and purchasing; having an inventory of assets so that we can borrow equipment from each other and inviting people from each church's PCC to attend others' PCC meetings. Group Administration with an individual “front of house” point of contact was also a consideration for the future. PCCs will have to approve what comes out of these discussions. Regular meetings are still taking place and the PCCs and congregations will be kept informed.</p>	
8.	<p>GIFT DAY: 3rd October. B. Turp reported that he was awaiting finalisation of activities inside the church, which he hoped would get the general public in to see what we do. Leaflets are being produced and distribution is being organised for 3,000 within the CT10 3 zone. The aim is to raise £5,000. A rota of volunteers to man the church is required. The church will be decorated for Harvest, but the committee are also trying to organise a flower competition. Unfortunately there has not been much of a response so far. It was suggested to ask Bob Goddard if he would put up a display about Guatamala and Pat Price to do the same for the Voyagers.</p>	<p>GS/BT</p> <p>BT</p>
9.	<p>FINANCE: The Treasurer reported that we were in a strong position but all the money we have is in effect restricted. £14,000 is in the current account. The full Quota for August is behind by £1,700 but will have to be paid soon, leaving a problem with September. This is virtually the same position as we were in last year so it will be important to have a successful Gift Day. Some tax rebates are due soon. £4,000 is unrestricted, including some money left over from last year's Gift Day which is intended for the Hall, but could be allocated to whatever is necessary. Once Gift Day is over, the Treasurer intends to budget</p>	

	<p>for next year and look at how to spend the legacy money. It is believed Jean Vince's legacy should have had restrictions placed on it by the solicitors and the solicitors will be asked to write to the Treasurer to this effect.</p> <p><u>Charity Commission Register:</u> This has been very time-consuming but is nearing completion, with PCC signatures now being obtained. This will then make us a registered charity. Two trustees (PCC members) are required to go through the DBS procedure (Disclosure and Barring Service) in addition to Simon Kemp, as the Safeguarding Officer. Richard Collins and Graham Silsbury volunteered to do this. Safeguarding guidance will be issued to the PCC from the Charity Commission. Names only of PCC will be registered. Those leaving the PCC will come off and new members will be added.</p>	JV
10.	<p>CHURCH HALL: G. Silsbury reported that Philip Graham has had another look at the Hall and his tender for refurbishment is awaited. He has been asked to produce a basic tender document and another one for further work that could be done. The tenders are overdue at present and he had already been reminded of the original September deadline. Once the reports are available they will be shown to the Naumanns, who it is hoped will agree to take on the fund raising.</p>	GS
11,	<p>SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS</p> <p>Health and Safety: Agreed that cost of on-line courses for Food and Hygiene certificates of £20/person to be reimbursed by the PCC. These to cover P. Long, J. Hefford and S. Foster. M. Rodd to be asked if she has her own arrangements.</p> <p>PAT testing: Check whether the test certificate is a yearly requirement.</p> <p>Data protection is complete.</p> <p>Gas isolation points: Appropriate notices will be sought for these, which is not a legal requirement but a good to have.</p> <p>Access to Bell Tower: A hooped ladder is needed and it was suggested to ask the Friends for funds.</p> <p>Worship and Mission Committees: Comments received from the Family Service in July were reviewed. This was an experiment this time and would be tried again at Candlemas taking account of the comments, to try and bring in more families. Dates of future services were reviewed. Maurice House to be invited to the Battle of Britain Sunday Service on 20th September; sidespeople to be aware of possibly having to assist people into church. The terms of reference for the two Church Army evangelists included the hope that they will have more of a focus on children, youth and families, as well as continuing to help Ignite in Newington and Cliftonville. It was suggested to ask them as speakers during Lent and to engage them via the Group to address 11-15 year old children.</p>	Worship/ Mission Cttees
12.	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS: PCC members were asked to notify J. Graham ahead of PCC meetings of anything they wished to raise under AOB.</p> <p>Vicar's Car Fund: Proposed by G. Silsbury that it was incumbent upon the congregation that the Vicar had a car at his/her disposal in order to carry out his/her commitments. Recent financial support for the current incumbent's car repair had resulted in a surplus of £250 (gift aided) which could be used to start a Vicar's Car Fund for the future. This would be voluntary and a parishioner, June Bennett, had agreed to administer the</p>	

scheme, if approved by the PCC. This was agreed unanimously.
Church Candles: Wax spilling from the candles is damaging the new carpet in the altar area. There are oil-filled candles which could be used, which however take some management. It would be easier to use waxed, but they should be lit with the lighter rather than tapers, from which wax can fall, and then put out using the snuffer. B. McParland will speak to Sandy Pritchard to get her view.

Harvest Supper: Has not been discussed for this year. There will be a Harvest Evening Songs of Praise on Sunday, 4th October as a Group Service at St. Andrew's with the same format as last year – B. Turp again offered to source finest nibbles. Hymns to be discussed with M. Long.

Further Group Services: At Holy Trinity: Candlemas on 6th January at 6.30 p.m.; Service of Light and Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday, 26th March at 6.30 or 7.30p.m. At St. Peter's: Patronal Festival on 26th June at 6.30 p.m.

Lent Lectures: with soup lunch on February 13th and 27th and March 12th. Not yet decided which church will host which Lecture.

Sanctuary Lighting: R. Collins mentioned a dark spot in the altar area and Saunders will be asked to adjust the lighting when they come to attend to the light over the organ. A small microphone stand had been put on the altar to hopefully overcome the audio problem in that area.

There being no other business, the meeting closed with the Grace at 9.00 p.m.

BMcP

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