

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, READING STREET

Minutes of the Parochial Church Council held on Wednesday, 6th July 2016 at 7.30 p.m.

Item		Action
1	<p>OPENING PRAYER Rev'd Philip Musindi opened the meeting with prayer. <u>Present:</u> R. Collins, D. Foster, S. Foster, J. Graham, P. Long, G. Silsbury, B. Turp, D. Verrall</p>	
2	<p>APOLOGIES: C. Eldred, P. Jackson, R. Owen, F. Pearse</p>	
3	<p>MINUTES OF LAST MEETING. The Minutes of the meeting held on 25th May 2016 were approved, proposed by B. Turp and seconded by S. Foster.</p>	
4	<p>MATTERS ARISING 4.8: <u>Time and Talents Directory:</u> Review of the draft update was discussed and amendments suggested. These included a contact number for the lead person on each activity; a review date and a sentence requesting it be kept for reference. Printing on card as before, with a final review before issuing. Final version to go on the website and attention drawn to it via a prayer and news-sheet. 4.8 <u>"I Can See":</u> Twelve copies displayed at the Summer Fete were unsold. The Administrator to send a copy to Kevin Mayhew, (office supplies). It was suggested a table of books be set up at the Family Service on 17th July (ref. Worship Committee Minutes 8th June 2016).</p>	<p>JG/LT PM/SK RC</p>
5	<p>CORRESPONDENCE: Rev'd Musindi read details of a CPAS course "Growing Ministry Together" from the Area Dean's newsletter, which is aimed at Thanet PCCs and Clergy, to be held probably sometime in September. This was discussed and agreed that it would be advantageous to attend this ahead of our own PCC Awayday. It was felt that the latter would best be held on a Saturday, to allow as many members as possible to attend and two dates would be offered. The Facilitator has been in touch and Rev'd Musindi will let him know that we are thinking of a Saturday for the Awayday and that it will follow the CPAS course. Agreed that a clear objective for the day was needed – to help work through issues confronting the PCC, as the decision-making body of the church family.</p>	<p>PM</p>
6	<p>COMMUNITY HALL PROJECT UPDATE: G. Silsbury's report covered three main areas: Actual building works, Finance and Fund-raising. On the building front, the overall scope of the project hasn't changed, but there has been a change in how to start it off, which has been driven by the deterioration of the fabric of the building. For this reason a "salami slicing" approach is best. G. Silsbury and Philip Graham are meeting with contractors to discuss this, as care has to be taken as to where work starts. Some funds will not be granted if work has already commenced in the target area, e.g. if we were to apply for a lighting improvement grant and had already started work on the lighting. As some repairs are becoming urgent, the strategy is to look for where the funds are. The Friends have a reasonable amount of money in the kitty but St. Peter's receive a bigger share, being the bigger contributors. (²/₃St. Peter's, ¹/₃ St. Andrew's). The heating system is a priority and a case could be made to the Friends that this will improve the church heating but the plant room sited in the Hall will serve both the Church and Hall heating. Regarding fund-raising, a reply is expected from the Bernard Sunley Trust. The assistant stewardship adviser, Charlotte McCaulay, has been in</p>	

	touch to give them further information. Charlotte is also reviewing the procedure for interest-free loans which a Parish in Guildford has recently completed, which will help us in this venture. The Diocese is also looking out for any pitfalls. Chris and Chris have also applied to two other Trusts. It was agreed that the congregation should be informed of the plans thus far, including interest-free loans, and G. Silsbury will write an article for the magazine. Also, membership of the Friends to be pushed to the congregation.	GS
7	DEANERY SYNOD: Next meeting will be held in September.	
8	GROUP MINISTRY: The paper prepared by G. Silsbury during the “growing through change” exercise with Archdeacon Sheila last year was distributed and discussed. The aim was how to implement some of the proposals within the Group. Two new Ministers had now been appointed at Holy Trinity and St. Peter’s, who needed to be appraised of the aims discussed last year and to see the advantages of working together, as in mission outreach, equipment sharing, bulk ordering, asset listing etc. Different accounting experiences within the Group could also be looked at, with a view to adopting best practice. It was agreed by the PCC that G. Silsbury’s paper be introduced to the next Group Council meeting in September with a view to obtaining agreement to moving forward on items such as Mission outreach (the four churches to share visiting the Homes and schools in the area, give communion). In addition, B. Turp proposed a meeting of the Group Treasurers, in order to pool experiences and learn from each other. This was agreed by the PCC. The PCC was also actioned to review the paper and make any amendments or changes and notify these to J. Graham within the next three weeks.	BT All
9	FINANCE: The Treasurer had pre-circulated his Financial Reports and accounts. <u>Community Hall:</u> The Hall is profitable. The Treasurer is splitting the Hall accounts from the main accounts but some expenses, such as £750 for a fire alarm will be put where it fits best, on the advice of the accountants. <u>Charity Commission:</u> PCC details have been updated to show the changes, and personal details recorded were checked by members at the meeting, and new declarations signed. Details are on the Charity Commission’s website, but not able to be seen at present. <u>Voyagers:</u> As noted in his report, the Treasurer explained that owing to an error by Lloyds Bank in opening the Voyagers account on an incorrect profile, the old account has to be closed and a new one opened. The church and Voyagers accounts do not interlink and the Treasurer is still negotiating with the Bank to resolve remaining problems. £200 has been paid in compensation for the error, together with a refund of £31 costs. <u>Thanet Deanery Subscriptions:</u> Agreement was given for £125 to be paid.	BT BT
10	REPORTS: <u>Administrator’s Report</u> Thanks to Simon for his report. It was noted that he had dealt with the noise complaint with his customary tact and diplomacy but it should be noted that there is now only one fire door in the Hall. The Treasurer will discuss the various other purchases mentioned by the Administrator in his last sentence. Consideration of replacing the rotten trellis above the boundary wall will also be raised with him as it was felt some light would be lost if closeboard panels were installed instead. Insulation, which is planned for the refurbishment, will resolve this problem.	BT

	<p><u>Worship Committee Report</u>: Plans for St. Peter's school choir participating in the Family Service on 17th July had been thwarted by the music teacher moving on. Rev'd Musindi planned to visit Queen's Road Baptist Church to see if they could help with providing a children's choir. Other than that, it was planned to go ahead and invite St. Peter's school children (with parents) and invite them to come up from the congregation to sing the hymns, these to be chosen as ones they would know. Susan Honor to be asked if she was prepared to play. The church choir will not be present. As a Family Service, it also needed adult participation and this would also be factored in to future plans, for example asking for adults to give witness talks. Feedback forms will be available. The Service should be well publicised and notice will be given on Sunday, 10th July.</p>	<p>PM</p>
<p>11</p>	<p>ANY OTHER NOTIFIED BUSINESS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Lark in the Park (August 11-21st)</u>: It will not be possible to sell "I Can See" but the church will promote the event and see if any of the congregation would like to volunteer. Leaflets to be placed at the back of the church. The dates and website to be advertised via the news-sheet. • <u>Committee Structure</u>: G. Silsbury's research had shown that there are 32 teams of people who work to achieve some part of church life which makes it all gel together. These teams need to understand our organisational structure so that they know where they fit in out of the four major committees within the PCC. This could be put on some kind of flipchart. At the APCM the four major committees should be reporting to the meeting, understanding how the other teams fit within them. A query was raised on who checks the First Aid boxes and what they should hold. The Health and Safety Committee to be actioned to find out the policy. • <u>PCC Away Day</u>: As discussed under item 5, this would be held on a Saturday, with two dates being offered, to follow the CPAS course. The list of the 32 teams of people who support the work of the church is attached for reference. • <u>Gang Culture in Thanet</u>: Rev'd Musindi and the churchwardens had attended a talk from a reformed gang member (female) who now campaigns against gangs and advises schools. Thanet is in the top ten in England for gang crime with four out of the 27 wards in Thanet (two in Cliftonville and two in Ramsgate) accounting for ²/₃rd of crime in the area. A multi-functional group is now looking at how best to deal with this and the Area Dean is looking at how the churches can help. Volunteers are being sought for a two-day training course by community leaders which they can then cascade down through local communities. S. Kemp to be asked if he would like to attend, as Safeguarding Officer. <p>There being no other business, the meeting closed with the Grace at 9.40 p.m. Next meeting will be on Wednesday, 7th September 2016.</p>	<p>JG/SK</p> <p>GS</p> <p>PM/ GS/RC</p>