

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, READING STREET

Minutes of the Parochial Church Council held on Wednesday, 16th November 2016 at 7.30 p.m.

| Item | | Action |
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| 1 | OPENING PRAYER Rev'd P. Musindi opened the meeting with prayer. <u>Present:</u> R. Collins, D. Foster, S. Foster, J. Graham, P. Long, R. Owen, G. Silsbury, B. Turp | |
| 2 | APOLOGIES: C. Eldred, P. Jackson, F. Pearse, D. Verrall | |
| 3 | MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: The Minutes of the meeting held on 7 th September 2016 were approved, proposed by B. Turp and seconded by G. Silsbury. | |
| 4 | MATTERS ARISING: 4.6: Some community benefit could be derived from the construction of new homes near Reading Street, if the scheme goes ahead. It was agreed to keep the chairman of the building works briefed on the community hall progress. 4.7: F. Thorley's Auction to be held on 22 nd March 2017. To be advertised in news-sheet and items sought for auction. 4.9: Harvest Festival Evensong had been well attended; thanks to B. Turp for providing nibbles. 4.11: The model of the Temple at Jerusalem to be exhibited in church on Sunday, 19 th March and shown to schoolchildren on Monday, 20 th March. | PM/RO PL PM/MH |
| 5 | COMMUNITY HALL UPDATE: INTEREST-FREE LOANS: A presentation will be made to the congregation on Sunday, 20 th November at the 10.00 a.m. service by R. Collins, Chris and Chris Naumann and G. Silsbury, which will mark the launch of the scheme. Applying for loans from charities and trusts are more likely to be successful if we can show a substantial amount already available, therefore the emphasis will now be on internal fund-raising before re-approaching outside agencies. With a "salami-slicing" approach, cladding and work on the walls and roof will be done as a priority, and the project will be carefully managed. Loan application forms and terms and conditions had been written by G. Silsbury and had been reviewed by several authorities, including the Diocesan legal department. These were presented to the PCC, who supported the scheme unanimously. The presentation will be followed by a Q&A session in the Hall. It was hoped to raise up to £60,000 through the loans scheme, with £6,000 already pledged prior to the launch. The loans will be in units of £500 and the Project Account Manager will be R. Collins, who will record money coming in and being allocated to the work. It was agreed that all funds raised by this scheme would be held in the church account and allocated specifically to the Community Hall Project. The Finance Sub Committee will manage the movement of these funds as work is commissioned and progressed, reporting performance to the PCC. Any donations converted from loans would be eligible for gift aid if the person | BT/finance sub ctee |

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| | making the donation is both willing and entitled to the tax relief. On completion and payment for all the works and repayment of all the loans, any surpluses would pass to the general church fund. Thanks for all the work involved was expressed to G. Silsbury and Mr and Mrs Naumann. | |
| 6 | <p>FINANCE: The Treasurer referred to his pre-circulated reports and stated that although we were currently £2,500 in arrears on the Quota, he was confident that this would be paid by year-end. The Hall was making a profit, (shown separately in the accounts), whereas the general fund showed a deficit, so the Quota would likely be paid by profit from the Hall. If the Hall still shows a profit at year-end, this will be transferred to the general fund. If not necessary, the money will stay in the Hall account, but the important thing is to pay this year's Quota. <u>Hall account:</u> the Treasurer proposed opening a separate bank account for the Hall to keep its income and expenditure separate from the church accounts. The Administrator would then also be able to keep track of transactions. This was agreed by the PCC, initially to have the existing signatories which could be changed later and include the Administrator. <u>Historic Arrears:</u> The Treasurer had drafted a letter to the incoming Archdeacon, putting the case for the existing arrears to be written off. This was approved, and agreed that it also be sent to the Diocesan Secretary, Julian Hills, and to the Diocesan Director of Finance, Douglas Gibb. The new Archdeacon takes up her post at the end of December and the letter will be sent to her mid-December. <u>Pension Auto-enrolment:</u> The Treasurer and the finance sub-committee had reviewed those available and recommended the Church of England scheme, which was agreed by the PCC. The employees' decision on whether or not to take up a pension needs to be made by April next year.</p> <p><u>2017 budget:</u> The Parish share for 2017 will rise by 6% to £63,113 and likely be subject to similar increases each year until £67,093 is reached, this amount being the revised figure calculated by Thanet Deanery under its new system. <u>Tax refunds:</u> no problems. The Treasurer hoped to have all tax refunds and Gift Aid amounts on the database by January.</p> | BT |
| 7 | DEANERY SYNOD: D. Foster circulated the meeting notes from 19 th October. These are appended. | |
| 8 | GROUP MINISTRY: Future joint services were considered, whilst acknowledging that each church had its own particular style of worship and it was hoped to have more combined services in 2018. The need for a group diary was accepted, to avoid clashes of various events, with a request from St. Peter's to keep 20 th June 2018 clear for them. The advantages of sharing accounts and assets will continue to be pushed. The next meeting will be in December. | PM/ Wardens |
| 9 | AWAYDAY: Actions arising from the 1 st October meeting are being followed up. It was agreed to produce a brochure along the lines of "The Way Forward" to be launched on Advent Sunday, for the congregation to see the steps being taken. | JG |
| 10 | REPORTS: The Administrator's report was read. The Churchwardens will discuss with him his request to replace the rotten | RC/GS |

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| | <p>trellis above the boundary wall with closeboard panels, which he believes will also muffle some of the noise.</p> <p><u>The Worship Committee Report</u> of 3rd November had been pre-circulated and read, including reviews of past services and noting future services.</p> <p><u>Social Committee Report</u> had been pre-circulated. Pauline Jackson and Fiona Pearse had had their first meeting and had written a report, as neither was able to attend tonight's meeting. A budget of £750 had been allocated to the committee by the financial sub-committee.</p> | |
| 11 | <p>FRIENDS OF ST PETER'S AND ST ANDREW'S: R. Collins reported that the Friends had agreed to £3,500 (subject to satisfactory quotations) for St. Andrew's to build a hoop containment ladder to enable access to the Bell Tower loft (£1,500) and to put a shed at the back of the church (£2,000). This will go some way to relieving the problem of storage for the church. The old boiler house is also being assessed as possible storage.</p> | |
| 12 | <p>ANY OTHER NOTIFIED BUSINESS: D. Foster raised concerns about the numbers of people and children attending Christingle. Last year had been "bursting at the seams" and with Christmas Eve being on a Saturday this year, he was concerned about safety aspects in that even more people could attend. It was agreed that this had to be properly controlled and to this end the churchwardens will write a strategy and a briefing paper for a dedicated team of eight sidespeople to assertively control the event.</p> <p>There being no other business, the meeting closed with The Grace at 9.20 p.m. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, 11th January 2017.</p> | RC/GS |

APPENDIX

Deanery Synod

Notes from Meeting 19th October

- “Dream Team” update. This is a project run by Captain Peter Bone and Sister Lynne Bone of the Church Army. It is a deanery project aiming to identify issues across the deanery and where talents lie that may help solve issues ("Dreams") elsewhere in the deanery. The project began in May 2016 and is supported by a mission grant.
- Update on the St George's Project. This is a drop-in project being run in St George's Church, Ramsgate. Basically a project to help the homeless and deprived with a hot meal and friendship. This was set up by Stuart Budden of the Church Army and Debbie Ellisdon. Again, this is supported by a mission grant.
- Liz Mullins (Diocesan Stewardship and Funding Advisor) gave a presentation on "Giving for Life". This was not dissimilar to the presentation she gave to St Andrew's in 2015. It particularly highlighted that we all need to work at maintaining giving and outlined a questionnaire that could be used by PCCs to assess the effectiveness of their stewardship scheme. A handout was also provided outlining the breakdown of Parish Share.
- Douglas Gibb (Diocesan Director of Finance) gave a presentation on how Parish Share is calculated. The Diocesan Budget less ministry costs (Diocesan Shared Costs) is divided between parishes using a formula that takes into account:
 - o Usual Sunday Attendance 90% weighting
 - o Electoral Roll Numbers 10% weighting
 - Gives Church Membership
 - o The index of multiple deprivation for each parish
 - The Church Membership is multiplied by this figure
 - o A deduction of 15 is then made for each church in the parish
 - This gives the "Parish Potential"
 - o The Parish Potential is then divided by the Diocesan Potential (the total of all the parish potentials) to arrive at a shared cost figure for the parish,
 - o The ministry costs for the parish are then added back to give the total parish share. (Ministry costs account for 70% of the parish share).
- Douglas Gibb explained that the diocesan budget has increased by 4.8% for 2017. One particular area of increase is in the number of curacy positions in the diocese with an aim to increase ordination training by 50% over the next 10 years. There has also been a significant increase in the safeguarding budget given historical issues within the church and the diocese. The details were outlined to a meeting of treasurers earlier this year.