

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, READING STREET

Minutes of the Parochial Church Council held on Wednesday, 8th March 2017 at 7.30 p.m.

| Item | | Action |
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| 1 | <p>OPENING PRAYER Rev'd P. Musindi opened the meeting with prayer. <u>Present:</u> R. Collins, C. Eldred, D. Foster, S. Foster, J. Graham, P. Jackson, P. Long, R. Owen, G. Silsbury, D. Verrall</p> | |
| 2 | <p>APOLOGIES: F. Pearse, B. Turp</p> | |
| 3 | <p>MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: The Minutes of the meeting held on 11th January 2017 were approved, proposed by P. Jackson and seconded by G. Silsbury.</p> | |
| 4 | <p>MATTERS ARISING: 4.4 – <u>May Queen Event:</u> The plan to have maypole dancing in the church was raised, in case there could be concern over its pagan origins. However the view was taken that many other things have their origins in pagan festivals and it was unanimously decided to go ahead with this. Morris dancers had been booked and the Mayor and Mayoress would attend. The pancake party had been a great success with over 60 people attending, who enjoyed the evening. The event had brought in a lot of families. On the same evening there had been a Wine and Wisdom event organised by the Friends of St Peter's and St Andrew's. The diary clash was regrettable and unfortunately, a common problem. Some members felt St. Andrew's had been under-represented at the function, and this was also comparable with the lower membership of the Friends from St. Andrew's people. Further attempts would be made to avoid clashes by getting the church Administrators to work together and to increase St. Andrew's membership by an advertisement in the Parish magazine, encouraging people to join. The Friends' secretary would be invited to write an article for the magazine. 4.5 – <u>Compline:</u> Rev'd Musindi to publish an explanation of this service in the magazine and news-sheet to encourage better attendance. 4.11 – <u>Administrator's Report:</u> G. Silsbury and the Administrator had discussed the problems with the trellis and the chairs and agreed to postpone any action for the time being. 4.13 – <u>Communion by Extension:</u> The Bishop had written that this was now permanently granted to M. Hawthorne.</p> | <p>LT PJ PM</p> |
| 5 | <p>COMMUNITY HALL PROJECT: Loans and Gifts so far totalled £25,150 (£18,500 in loans and £6,650 in gifts) giving a total working fund of £48,000. Three organisations had been identified to whom match funding applications could be made to obtain the desired £90,000 and the applications made earlier would be re-visited to check they are still realistic. Comparative financial statements of current and projected incomes also need to be prepared. G. Silsbury may ask Philip Graham to convene a contractor meeting or may be able to do this himself. The architect could still be asked to project manage but this will have cost implications. Leaflets explaining the project are available and have been</p> | <p>GS</p> |

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| | <p>distributed at various events. Another leaflet is being worked up which will also advertise other things the church does and a mail-drop will be organised when ready. Another presentation will be made to the church congregation around the time of the APCM. This will hopefully show people that this is now going ahead and may help any who are unsure, to help finance the project. Consideration could also be given to publicising the work via the local newspaper. In the meantime, the lighting in the Hall had already been improved, with the help of scaffolding provided by F. Thorley.</p> | GS/RC |
| 6 | <p>FINANCE: In the Treasurer's absence, the secretary read the following actions he had requested the PCC consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the Administrator can have delegated access to the new Community Hall account, as opposed to signing authority, which the Bank would only make available to Trustees. This will enable him to print off details and be one of two signatories but he would not be able to sign a cheque or transact any business at a branch. This was agreed by the PCC. • As at today, the Treasurer has only paid £9,000 towards this year's parish share instead of the £10,500 which is owed. • A donation of £2,000 has been received, intended either for general funds or towards the Hall improvement fund. The Treasurer has initially paid this into the general account and proposes that this be reviewed at the end of the year (<i>i.e.</i> December) with a view to transferring funds to the Hall if possible. This was agreed by the PCC. • Due to changes in international tax legislation the Bank has requested confirmation of our tax status before 11th May 2017. The Treasurer will reply on behalf of the PCC. • The Treasurer will stand down from the PCC and Deanery Synod with effect from this year's APCM. He is happy to stay as Treasurer until 2018, as previously agreed, but may not be able to attend every PCC meeting. A successor is being sought, to work alongside the Treasurer for this year. In addition, this year three Deanery Synod representatives can be elected; D. Foster has indicated his willingness to stand again. He explained that the Deanery Synod meetings included some interesting talks and that the general scope of the job included having some knowledge of how church hierarchy works, as well as the individual being a good communicator and contributor to meetings. Four new PCC members are also being sought this year. | BT |
| 7 | <p>GROUP MINISTRY: A meeting was held on 14th February at which the Lent course, and joint services for the rest of the year were discussed. A change of speaker for the Lent Lectures was notified for 18th March at St. Peter's. This will now be Domenica Pecoraro, Kent Refugee Project Officer. A Songs of Praise will be held on 18th June, during Dickens Week and there would be a patronal service at St. Peter's on 2nd July. The Harvest Group had now re-located from Broadstairs to Ramsgate. The three Ministers had now begun to meet regularly and support each other. The next Group meeting was arranged for 23rd May at 2.00 p.m. at St. Peter's which D. Foster, as Deanery MMC member would also attend.</p> | |

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| 8 | <p>DEANERY SYNOD: D. Foster reported that a talk was given by the Area Dean on “Time to be Born, Time to Uproot”, which concerned making changes. A group discussion was held on how to make the church relevant, what to take down and what to take up (similar to the topics at the PCC’s meeting in Minster). The new Archdeacon will attend the next meeting in June. Feedback from the “Dream Team” on their meetings was given (meetings held by the Church Army at churches around the Deanery, focusing on exchanging talents). One was held at St Peter’s in January but unfortunately not communicated to the group.</p> | |
| 9 | <p>PCC REPORTING STRUCTURE: An organogram of a proposed reporting structure was discussed. The background was explained that the many groups working within the church did not know how to get to the PCC if they needed help, information, etc. A cross-section of the congregation “brainstormed” a formal communication link to the PCC via the four sub-committees of Finance, Fabric, Mission and Worship. The Chairmen of the four committees will report to the APCM and refer to the work of the groups in their areas. This will, however, not preclude anyone who wanted to read out an individual report (<i>e.g.</i> Voyagers) from doing so. The sub-committee leaders now know which teams are in their groups and will inform their teams accordingly. There is some blurring of the boundaries between Mission and Worship teams and this will be addressed as we progress. The Fabric committee has recently been subsumed into the Community Hall improvement scheme, but will now be resurrected. D. Foster was the original chairman and agreed to continue. Other members will be sought.</p> <p>On the topic of “Fabric”, G. Silsbury reported that a pre-cast concrete shed had now been built in a corner of the church grounds, which had enabled some tidying up around the church, as well as being used to store hoops required for the belfry ladder. The boiler house had also been cleaned out. In the church a sideboard now housed the flower ladies’ equipment.</p> <p><u>Dropbox</u> was discussed, as part of the new PCC working. A small trial had taken place with the Leadership Group, with reports being put into a commonly shared place instead of being emailed out to individuals. This was in its early stages and R. Collins will take the lead in progressing it. Further investigation needs to take place, such as who will be the owner of a report (present opinion is that the person who wrote it, owns it); how far back should reports be kept/how long do we need to keep them for; what space do we have and whether it would be better to pay for the business version at £75/year and administer it via the church office, thus giving considerably more storage space. These and other considerations to be re-addressed when we know more about it. Some members of the PCC already had Dropbox installed; others would be willing to have it. Reports currently in Dropbox had the prefix “StA” and PCC Minutes would be labelled by year/month/date. In addition to reports and minutes, Dropbox could also hold lists of intercessors, readers, and information from the Broadstairs Group, Deanery, Friends, etc. Dropbox had the PCC’s support and agreement for R. Collins to investigate further.</p> | <p>GS/RC/ BT</p> <p>RC</p> <p>RC/All</p> |

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| <p>10</p> | <p>ANY OTHER NOTIFIED BUSINESS: The dates for PCC meetings for the ensuing year are: <u>2017:</u> April 26th (APCM); May 10th; July 5th; September 6th; November 8th. <u>2018:</u> January 10th; March 7th; April 25th (APCM).</p> <p><u>Temple at Jerusalem Exhibition:</u> This will be in the church on Sunday, 19th and Monday, 20th March, with set-up on the Saturday, 18th March. It will be accompanied by Paul and Jenny Hames from the CMJ who will be guest speakers at the 10 a.m. Service on the Sunday. Other churches have been invited from 3.00-4.00 p.m. on the Sunday afternoon to visit the exhibition and hear their talk, and on Monday local schools will have the opportunity to see it. The tabernacle will be displayed in the Hall along with the costumes of the day. Four volunteers are needed to provide orange juice and biscuits for the children.</p> <p><u>Visit to Chichester Cathedral:</u> Proposed for sometime in mid-May or June, which would include tea with Barbara McParland at her new church, ideally on a Wednesday. Dates to be canvassed from the congregation via the news-sheet. It was also suggested to obtain a specific invitation to the Cathedral via Barbara, so as to get the most out of the visit.</p> <p><u>Prayer Walk:</u> Rev'd Musindi proposed a virtual walk around the church, using a leaflet, starting at the entrance porch and pausing for prayer at various places, such as the font, and so on throughout the church. This would be aimed at the housebound who haven't been able to attend the church for some time. Other suggestions also included seeing if this could be made into an audio presentation as well and also putting something on the website.</p> <p>There being no other business, the meeting closed with The Grace at 9.00 p.m.</p> | <p>PJ</p> <p>PM</p> <p>PM</p> |
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