



Minutes of the Parochial Church Council meeting of St Mary's, Sixpenny Handley with Gussage St Andrew.

Date: 1st September 2010

Venue: The Vicarage

Chair: Rev Mel Durrant

Started: 7:30pm

Ended: 8:45pm

Present:

Mrs Naomi Booth
 Mr Mike Carter
 Mr Ted Cox
 Mr John Cullingford¹
 Mr John Davis
 Rev Mel Durrant
 Mr David Lockyer (Treasurer)
 Mr David Salmons²
 Rev Paul Skinner¹
 Mr Mark Wolstenholme (Secretary)
 Miss Carole Wyatt (Churchwarden)

Apologies for absence:

Mrs Bobby Carter
 Mrs Jackie Molnar

1 Licensced Lay Minister
 2 Diocesan representative

Summary of meeting:

- [13] • Minutes of last meeting approved with minor change to 8b
- [14] • No matters arising
- [15] • Retirements and appointment of Bishops in the Salisbury Diocese
 - PCC Away Day – details for September 4th
 - Women Bishops – feedback planned for future meeting
 - Charity www.acts345.co.uk – first look
 - LPA update and continuation of drop-in sessions
 - Future services, including changes to Easter 2011
- [16] • Approval for Treasurer to sign cheques for recent Pakistan flood relief
- [17] • Resolution approved to start work on St Andrew's once faculty granted
 - Mitchells chosen as contractor for St Andrew's work
 - £1,000 contingency for use by project team approved
- [18] • Upcoming fundraising events highlighted
 - Purchase of four small folding tables agreed
- [19] • Synod update
- [20] • Any Other Business (AOB) – None

[13] Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of 30th June 2010 were approved with minor rewording of 8b to clarify the statement about unpaid fees.

[14] Matters arising

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes that were not covered by the agenda. Mel opened the meeting with a prayer; reading from Psalm 62.

[15] Worship and ministry (Mel D)

(a) Mel informed the meeting that two of the three Bishops in the Salisbury Diocese are leaving; Bishop David who is retiring in September and Bishop Stephen who will be leaving to be the Bishop of Ely next year. Christopher Herbert, retired Bishop of St Albans, will be covering until a new Bishop of Salisbury can be appointed.

(b) PCC Away Day, Saturday 4th September, 10.30am to 3.30pm at Langton Long. Mel mentioned arrangements, transport and parking. There will be three sessions, bring-'n'-share lunch and an optional walk.

(c) Women Bishops; the issue has moved to the stage of seeking feedback from the church laity. The timescale for this consultation isn't yet known, but the PCC to be aware and begin thinking about it. David L recommended chapter five from the House of Bishops report as a good outline of the arguments for and against. The report is available as a PDF at: www.cofe.anglican.org/info/papers/womenbishops.pdf

(d) The charity www.acts345.co.uk was discussed. This charity, supported by the Archbishop of York, enables donations to be given to a specific need. We would participate as a church and would require an advocate to assess local needs. It is only for needs up to £100. The PCC were encouraged to take a look at the charity for further discussion at a later meeting.

(e) Drop-in sessions – The LPAs have decided to continue the current Saturday drop-in sessions until the end of October and to run them again next year. They have been considered a worthwhile exercise. The PCC would like to thank the LPAs for their work in this. Mel's monthly drop-in mornings in the Post Office will continue. These too have been fruitful.

(f) The LPA commissioning service will be held at St Mary's on Tuesday 7th September with three new LPAs from our area and four from other churches. The service will be taken by the new Archdeacon.

(g) Back to Church Sunday is on 26th September. Mel encouraged the PCC to take the lead on this and ensure that as many invitations are made as possible.

My Notes:

[15] Worship and ministry (*continued*)

(h) Harvest Thanksgiving – 3rd October with lunch.

(i) The carol service will be on the Sunday before Christmas at St Mary's and Friday 17th at St Andrew's.

(j) The Easter services for 2011 will be a little different because of Easter falling late in April which means that Mothering Sunday, Palm Sunday and Easter all fall in April. Mothering Sunday will be, as usual, a combined family service at 10am. but that Palm Sunday will be two services, Traditional and Informal with the donkey being at the 11am service. The AGM will now take the place of the evening service on Sunday 10th April.

(k) Service attendance during August held up very well. The LPA floated the idea of having a Sunday tea and Songs of Praise service through all of August. Please think and pray about the idea. Different teams of people would be needed to run the teas.

(l) A Teddy Bear's picnic and service to held next June for everyone who has been baptised since Mel started as Vicar. The gift of a bear would be made.

[16] Financial brief (*David L*)

(a) The financial brief was reviewed by the meeting. The funds available for the electrical work at St Andrew's was clarified (£3,800 + £4,500 of grants that would be made available once the work was in-hand.

(b) Approval for the Treasurer to sign cheques for monies collected for the Pakistan flood relief aid. David explained that he could only sign cheques for charities approved by the PCC. Cash could not be passed on and had to be paid using cheques so that all giving can be accounted for. Approval to do so was proposed by Carole W and seconded by Naomi B and passed.

(c) The use of collection envelopes was clarified – any monies given through the envelope system only goes to the general collection. This must be explained when an "emergency" collection is made, for example to the Pakistan flood relief aid.

[17] Buildings and Fabric update

(a) A resolution was passed by the PCC that the electrical, heating and conservation work at St Andrew's Chapel will be undertaken as soon as the faculty is granted. Proposed by John D, seconded by Carole W and passed.

My Notes:

[17] Buildings and Fabric update (*continued*)

(b) Choice of electrical contractor – A summary of the three quotes for the electrical work at St Andrews were reviewed;

Hook Electricals	E C Electricals	Mitchells
£9,750.00 + VAT	£6,976.00 + VAT	£4,890 + VAT

The PCC thanked Margaret Durrant and Sheila Bradley for their tremendous effort and noted how useful it was to question the original recommendation to go with just a single approved contractor.

All three contractors were approved by the church architect. Even choosing the contractor now, the earliest any work could begin was November. Adjustments to the schedule will be possible within the contract, for example to alter the arrangement and output of the lights.

John D started the discussion on contractor choice with a very helpful outline of what would work at St Andrew's. Bobby C had also emailed her choice. The meeting agreed that Mitchells provided the best fit for the work. Proposed by Paul S, seconded by Carole W and passed.

(c) Approval for £1,000 contingency to afford the project team flexibility during the electrical work to make adjustments was given by the PCC. Proposed by David S, seconded by Paul S and passed.

[18] Fundraising and social events (*Mel D*)

(a) Back to Church. David S asked to make a cake for the interval between the morning services. Further details under item 15-g.

(b) Coming events – Trussell Trust coffee morning Wednesday 8th September. Historic Churches Cycle Ride, Saturday 11th September. Coffee Morning at Marion Tozer's house, 2nd October, the Signals Band concert, Friday 8th October and Christmas Fayre, 13th Nov.

(c) Purchase of small square folding tables for church events. Bobby suggested that these would be much better than the large tressle tables. The PCC agreed. Bobby to purchase four to start with at about £20 each. Proposed Ted C, seconded Mark W, passed.

[19] Synod report (*David S*)

The next meetings of the Synod and Deanery are due in November. David is seeking a timescale for feedback on Women Bishops and reiterated the importance of full consultation with the membership. He asked the PCC to pray about that and the workload of Bishop Graham.

[20] Any Other Business – None

Mel closed the meeting with a prayer.

Date of next meeting – Friday 3rd Dec and Wed 8th Dec (Finance)

My Notes: