

**MEETING OF PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ST MARY'S, SIXPENNY HANDLEY WITH GUSSAGE ST ANDREW
24TH OCTOBER, 7:30PM, THE VICARAGE**

PCC Members Present:	Paul Bishop (PB)	Clair Brown (CB)	Mike Carter (MC)
Ted Cox (TC)	Rev Mel Durrant (MD) Chair	Stella Symes (SS)	Maureen Penrose (MP)
David Salmons (DS)	Rev Paul Skinner (PS)	Carole Wyatt (CW)	

(01) Welcome and opening prayer: MD welcomed members and opened with a reading from *Psalms 98* followed by a prayer.

(02) Apologies: Peter Goldstone (PG), John Cullingford (JC), Jackie Molnar (JM), Naomi Booth (NB), Ricky Ironside (RI)

(03) Minutes of the meeting held on 19th Sept 2012: with a few corrections, as annotated, were accepted and signed.

(04) Matters Arising & Any Other Business

(4.1) Church Fete There will be no whole village event next Spring. The Community Fund Committee were very keen to support the Church if we go ahead with our own fete. We can pick up on the enthusiastic team for the Autumn Fayre. Date proposed for the event to be the Saturday of the Bank holiday at the of May to coincide with the Cowboy Weekend. DS suggested a theme for the event, such as the history of the village and the bygone days.

Action: Team to organise – MP, SS, CW, CB and TC

(4.2) Lee Abbey May 2013. Date to be arranged soon (following the release of dates in December). Weekend runs from Friday teatime to after Sunday lunch and the cost is from £136 full board with reductions for children. Please let MD know if interested - 5 people have expressed interest so far.

Action: Please tell MD if interested.

(4.3) Rope, St Mary's. The pros and cons of roping of the back pews were discussed. It was suggested to move the pew carpets from the back to the front for more comfort and thus leaving the back pews less appealing.

Action: We will continue for the time being, but make it look a little gentler and leave the very back row clear.

(05) Financial Report

(5.1) Giving Envelopes & Gift Aid CW reported she will be liaising with RI to check through the Giftaid list to ensure claims are being made on all giving as appropriate.

(5.2) 2013 Share This will be £29,657 at Category C + 1. This is a reduction on last year of around £700.

(06) Worship, Ministry and Mission

(6.1) Harvest - Feedback More people stayed for lunch than last year and the atmosphere was very good. The format of the service went well and will be considered for future combined services.

(6.2) All Souls, Remembrance, Carols, Christmas, New Year etc
DS referred to a comment from the Bishop that big celebrations draw people in, and could we have more of them, possibly each month; ie Valentines etc.

(6.3) It was noted that the two morning services are often virtually the same size.

(6.4) All Age Children's Work, 11am. Louise does a fantastic job with all of the children, but there is a definite divide in the ages and the need to cater for 2 groups. We need to consider taking the older children to work in the Vestry and leave the little ones to continue working in the corner. Anyone interested/suggestions?

Action: Please pray about this, and see MD with any thoughts.

(6.5) Men in church Invite them! Please invite the men-folk to Churchyard Working Party and other practical things.

Can we advertise the churchyard working parties in the Downsman well in advance?

Action: MD to liaise with the team and arrange working party dates for next year and advertise.

(07) Buildings and Fabric Update

(7.1) Sound & Vision Sheila Bradley has agreed to look into any grants that we might get. She already has some ideas. Would be good to get this done as soon as possible. It was suggested we could approach the Rushmore Estate / Pitt-Rivers as they have a charity that gives to churches in Dorset.

(7.2) Heating No further developments at this time.

(7.3) Path The Public Notices are up and Faculty application submitted to Registrar, so should be able to do the work soon, although it needs dry weather! We are told it will take two men two days. PS queried if we have the money - We will know at the end of the year.

7.5) Churchyard Working Party: 27th October. *Please come*. Invite men! (re Item 6.5)
The churchyard team would like to take on the maintenance of the area around the war memorial from the Parish Council.
Action: DS will approach the Parish Council.

7.6) St Andrew's Quinquennial and Chalice 23rd October
Thanks to PS and John Davis for straightening the chalice, at a cost of £15.

Concern was expressed about the key at St Andrew's and the number of people that seem to know its location. CW suggested a key safe be fitted to resolve this issue.

Action: CW to acquire and fit a Key safe.

CW and MD are seeing the organisers of the Gussage Garden Party to talk about some ideas, including the curtain (previously discussed) and the possibility of advertising St Andrew's Chapel (CB suggested through English Heritage) and having staffed open days.

(7.7) Chancel Repair Liability Nick Sherman has produced a discussion document on this issue, which CW will circulate for a quick discussion at the next meeting. DS also has some pertinent reports on this topic and will circulate.

Action: All - Please read the document.

(08) Fundraising and Social Activities

(8.1) Scouts Bonfire Night - 3rd November – Please make sweets, to be sold at 50p a bag. Thanks to Mike Dyer.
Please support!

(8.2) Autumn Fayre 24th November – Thanks to Bobbie and Jean and their very large team. *Please support!*

(09) Synod Report The next Milton & Blandford Deanery Synod, 20th November 2012, 7.30pm at Tarrant Keynston Village Hall. An open meeting with a presentation about 'Footprints' - working with prisoners.

On 26th June 2013 the Deanery is coming to Sixpenny Handley Village Hall, it's been 20 years since their last visit.

(10) Date of next meeting Wednesday 5th December 2012, The Vicarage, 7:30pm. Financial Review

The meeting finished with prayer.