

MEETING OF PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL ST MARY'S, SIXPENNY HANDLEY WITH GUSSAGE ST ANDREW

WEDNESDAY 21ST MAY 2014 7:30PM IN THE CHURCH

PCC Members:

Paul Bishop (PB)	Sheila Bradley (SB) Church Warden	Clair Brown (CB) Secretary
Catherine Chapman (CC) Treasurer	John Cullingford (JC) LLM	Rev Mel Durrant (MD) Chair
Jackie Molnar (JM)	Stella Symes (SS)	David Salmons (DS) Diocese
Rev Paul Skinner (PS) Curate	Roy Warner (RW) CWarden	

1 **Welcome** – Apologies Bobbie Carter (BC); Sue Curtis (SC); Peter Goldstone (PG)

2 **Holy Communion** – to celebrate the start of the new PCC

3 **Our Faith our Mission** - You are standing in the queue in the shop, and someone you know slightly says "You go to church, why do you believe all that stuff then?" You have about thirty seconds. What do you say? Ideas were written down and read out anonymously, followed by discussion. It was agreed they will be included in The Seeker in a future issue.

'I find peace and the chance to ponder on my thoughts of the past, present and future and be there to listen to others.'

'It feels like the most real part of me, in which everything might be able to hang together.'

'I was brought up to believe in God. When I was confirmed I experienced the Holy Spirit.'

'I'm a Christian and treat everyone like I would like to be treated – help everyone whatever their colour of skin, religion...'

'I'm a Christian and I believe.'

'I was privileged to be brought up in a Christian family, so I had the foundations. I have never regretted my commitment and my faith is now even stronger.'

'I have found that God is my best friend.'

'I'm not entirely sure about all of it, but some stuff I do get and other things are just a little beyond me. One thing is for sure: It is constant.'

'Jesus matters because he makes it possible for us to be forgiven for all the things we do wrong and know that we are loved and accepted.'

'I don't think this is the place, but if you'd like to come around for a cup of tea...'

4 **Minutes of the Meeting** held on 12th March 2013 A true and accurate record.
Proposed: CC; Seconded: SS; Agreed

5 **Matters Arising and Any Other Business**

5.1 Christmas/Winter Fayre to be held on Saturday 29 th November 2014. Maureen Lockyer has already held a meeting and preparations are under way.
5.2 Finance – Latest Share instalment about to be paid. Due to receive £4000 Gift Aid from the Government.
5.3 Green Envelopes – For Regular Giving and can be used when not at Church/on holiday, for example. After some discussion it was felt it would be advisable to outline the different giving options on the Notice Sheet; Downsman and mention it at the start of the service. A Standing Order is also to be included as an option.
5.4 Gussage St Andrew Garden Party – 17 th August 2014, in the house and garden next to the Chapel. Dorset Artsreach 22 nd May fro 2 weeks. 2 Artists will be using the Chapel for their exhibition.
5.5 Heating – A trial heater was shown. This would be bolted to the floor and the suggested is they be installed under each pew except the back few rows. Due to PG absents - no further discussion.
5.6 MD's Sabbatical – Soon approaching! To Do List: Lee Abbey Retreat; Retreat in Scotland; Deanery website; Powerpoint sharing website; own artwork and 3 weeks in Canada.
5.7 Sound and Vision – The Churchwarden on the morning of this meeting received an anonymous donation of £400 towards the Sound & Vision, with Gift Aid this amounts to £500. With this wonderful donation it is now not necessary to dip into the contingency budget at all. Waiting on a slight modification to the Faculty to allow the projector to be fitted to the roof and a possible start date has been mooted for 16 th June.
5.8 Synod Report – Women Bishops: All houses have agreed and the motion was passed. This is a progress. The Rural Dean has appointed a Deanery Development Worker, to be based at Blandford, provided by Pramacare. She starts in September and will support and energise volunteers in parishes who care for the aged and vulnerable. It was suggested she speaks with Chase Community Friends.
5.9 Waistcoat Festival – Carole Wyatt attended the 'mop-up' meeting and the festival it to be held every 2 years. Cream Teas in the church always very popular. We might move (some) of our stalls to the High Street, and we could show any videos on the new screen. The Church raised £1342.91 and will make a 10% tythe contribution to the Community Fund of £130. Proposed: JM; Seconded: DS; Agreed. Enormous Thank You to all who helped make it such a success. Special thanks to Carole Wyatt; Stella Symes and Maureen Penrose of the Church organising group. It was a marvellous day and one of the highlights was left to very last: The Candlelit Church at dusk... Many people came in, stood, sat or kneeled as they looked and listened to the music.

6 **Date of next meeting** Wednesday 23rd July 7.30pm, then 1st Oct, 3rd Dec, 18th Feb, 12th Mar, 19th April (AM)

7 **The meeting closed with Prayer**