

**MINUTES OF ST GEORGE'S PCC MEETING HELD IN THE CHURCH
ON MONDAY 1st MARCH 2010**

Present: Fr Mike, Fr Timon (Asst Curate), Margaret Symonds (Churchwarden), Richard Spurgeon (Churchwarden), Dawn Hyett, Colin Monk, Linda Wainwright (Deanery Synod), Candy Williams, Dick Handy, Richard Brown, Carol McKells (Treasurer), Jane Cook (Secretary)

ACTION

1. **Apologies for absence:**

Tony Rice-Oxley, David Hodgens, John Towns, David Palmer, Julia Spurgeon, Lindsay Chalk (Deanery Synod)

Fr Mike welcome Richard Brown to the PCC meeting who was observing.

2. **Minutes of last PCC meeting on 18th January**

The minutes were signed as a true and accurate record.

3. **Matters Arising**

None

4. **Treasurer's Report**

Carol gave the following report:

Income

Very little of note, apart from tax on Gift Aid has been received a month earlier than expected which is boosting the figures somewhat.

There is one new item showing – Bulletin sponsorship – Edwards will be approached a little later in the year, bearing in mind they kindly paid for the Bulletin just last November.

Outgoing

The yearly insurance payment has been made to Ecclesiastical; Admin shows payments to RSCM of £81 and Pompey Chimes of £90.

There are four new items on the outgoing side – Church grounds, Music support, Sunday School and 40th Birthday celebrations. Church grounds and Music support are both a monthly budget, Sunday School is quarterly and 40th Birthday is budgeted in full this month, at £200. This has yet to be paid.

There is one outstanding bill due to Daniel Forshaw in the sum of £1,059.72 and as Quinquennial costs does not have a budget, I need the PCC's agreement that this is to be paid. PCC agreed that this should be paid.

Carol

The 2009 Accounts have been e-mailed to the PCC and I hope there won't be any major changes. Please e-mail me with any queries so that I can answer them at the next PCC.

Gordon Beer has collected the paperwork relating to 2009 Accounts. In order to get the paperwork in order after discovering the figures were not carried over correctly, I had to resort to support from Data Developments which has resulted in having to subscribe to a year's support – costing £66.75. I hope the PCC will agree to pay this as I am

ACTION

Carol

sure the support will be of great use for the new treasurer during the year. The PCC agreed this.

Finally, at the last Fabric & Finance meeting I informed the committee that I intend to stand down as treasurer to the PCC at the next APCM. This is not a decision I have taken lightly and apologise for the work this is going to create but wish the PCC luck in finding a replacement.

Fr Mike then read out Carol's resignation letter to the PCC. Carol has produced a job description of the role of the Treasurer for which he said many thanks. He thanked Carol for all the work she has done as Treasurer and said she will be thanked formally at the APCM.

I haven't passed on the post of Hon. Recorder to Tony as yet, but am happy to carry on with this if it suits Tony.

Linda Wainwright's report

Linda said that £684 had been collected for Haiti – there was some confusion over whether the £370 already collected was included in this but Linda will clarify and this will now be sent off. The retirement collection for Breast Cancer Awareness had raised £69 over 2 weeks.

5. **Committee Reports**

a) **Fabric and Finance & Quinquennial**

Dick didn't know if all the PCC were aware that Tony R-O has resigned as Chair of the Fabric and Finance Committee and he has taken over and Carol has taken over as Secretary. The minutes of the meeting on 26th January and 8th February had already been circulated. Dick said a lot had been covered in these two meetings. A lot of dialogue has taken place with Daniel Forshaw, the Architect. He had produced detailed drawings to go in the Faculty for the Diocese. Some contractors have tendered and one has been up the tower. Any more tenders should be back early March.

We are working on £50,000 for the Quinquennial work and the main share of this will be the tower but won't know amounts until all the quotations are in. At the moment we don't know how long it will take. Could be that we get a cheaper quote but it will take longer to complete so need to weigh this up when all the quotes are in. The Faculty has gone into the Diocese. Dick put various other things on there as well as the tower – replacement of putty round windows, guttering, gilding of the clock. The DAC met on either the 11th or 14th and came back with more questions. This may mean that we have to put the tower on a separate Faculty to the other work.

Much time was spent at the meetings discussing how we are going to pay for this. It is quite evident that we do not have the wherewithal to find £40 or £50K. A number of things were discussed to raise funds. On Friday 23rd April, St George's Day, we will have a stall in the market and make it a fundraising day. If this is successful we will contact Waitrose and Asda later in the year. David Ho has a list of grants that we could apply for. HBC has a list of employers in the area who employ more than 50 people we could write to. We intend to give out 2 letters to the congregation, the first going out in conjunction with a sermon on 21st March so they are aware of all the work needed and the cost. Instead of St George's Gift Day envelopes it was suggested we have a St

George's Gift Day when people could donate one off payments. Following the second letter a group of volunteers would contact people to ask whether they understand what planned giving is, what gift aid is etc. Richard said he has reservations about approaching people direct. He suggested a reply slip that people had to return to say they had received and understood the letter and then if people don't return it it would be easier to ring them. Colin said that people ringing need a format to work to so that everyone is getting the same message. Richard B said in his experience it works better if names are divided up and people ring members of the congregation that they know quite well. Fr Mike said it is his intention to go around visiting people and explaining it in detail.

The proposal from Fabric and Finance is that the two letters go out on 21st March and after the APCM. The PCC are happy that the first letter goes out on 21st March. The second letter will go out immediately after the APCM. It may be better to put the name of the person who will be contacting them on the letter – eg "Your visitor/caller will be _____". Please call him/her to arrange a meeting. If we don't hear a member of the Fabric and Finance Committee will contact you".

The PCC agreed some time ago on advice from David Cavey that we do not hold all of our reserves in one place. He suggested that we realise £25,000 and hold in a cash fund for emergencies. As the market is gradually picking up can we agree that when the FTSE reaches 5,500 we will sell £25K. Dick said he was hopeful that this could happen over the next few months. This is done through the Diocese and David C will have all the paperwork ready and signed in readiness to go immediately.

Richard proposed that we realise £25K from our investments when it reaches this trigger point and put into the CBF deposit account. This was seconded by Dick and agreed unanimously.

Dick

- b) 40th Anniversary
Fr Timon said that the Committee were very happy with the £200 that had been agreed by the PCC and we can now go ahead.
- c) Pastoral
The minutes had been circulated before the meeting.
- d) Hall
The minutes had been circulated before the meeting. Colin said there are ongoing problems with various leaks and tiles slipping. He is waiting for the guy to come back and repair. He will also remove all the decorative concrete from around the windows as some of this is cracking and is a health and safety issue.
- e) Fundraising
Not met
- f) Social
The minutes had been circulated before the meeting. It lists all the dates over the next year.
- g) Deanery Synod
Linda gave the following report:

There was a presentation by the Area Dean, Jonathan Jeffery, on strategy for Ministry for Mission emphasising this is to drive change (re coping with fewer stipendiary clergy) in a managed way to equip church for mission in the 21st Century. Subject considered by PCC members

ACTION

on 2nd February and parish response already sent. Individuals encouraged to complete feedback sheet. Some members at Synod meeting thought more information was needed to reach conclusions – estimated clergy numbers etc. Information to be collated. Dean overseeing, consult with new Bishop and Diocesan Synod regarding reaching decision.

Revd Tim Jessiman gave presentation on Back to Church Sunday on 26th September 2010. Theme is “Come as you are” one to one invitations proposed.

2008 – 37K / 2009 – 105K

Need to register interest on line by 15th June. All encouraged to participate. Tim will speak to PCCs on request and follow up with each parish. [Pack of 100 invites/posters £25, team DVD £30+]

Fr Mike

Kairos Buildings phase completed. Havant Deanery finances duly examined. Tony thanked for his work as new Treasurer, Alan Elliott, takes over. PCCs thanked for prompt quota payment in 2009.

Koforidua Palm Oil project continues but Stipend Fund Project completed as Ghanains have themselves added £2K to £3K to amount sent by Havant Deanery.

No enthronement date yet for Bishop Christopher Foster.

6. **Church Garden Upkeep**

A budget of £400 had been approved to hire someone to come in a couple of times a month. David Cavey had been in touch with the Blendworth Centre and a man came and visited Tony and was very non-committal but in his formal reply said that they are not interested. Tony and Dick to contact people – ongoing.

Tony / Dick

7. **Feedback from Charities Committee on 2nd February**

The minutes had been circulated before the meeting and it was proposed by Richard that we accept these charities. This was seconded by Colin and agreed unanimously. Fr Mike said that if people had suggested a charity could they please make sure they get the information together and put it on the noticeboard.

8. **Altar Ramp – Barbie and Dick**

Barbie and Dick have purchased a new altar ramp at a total cost of £130. Fr Timon demonstrated it. The PCC thanked Barbie and Don for getting this.

9. **Outcome of meeting on 2nd February on Deanery Consultation Document**

Linda has already talked about this in her report above. Several people got together to discuss this, the Minster ministry model was chosen and a response has gone off. Personal responses need to be in by 11th March.

All

10. **Correspondence**

- (1) Hampshire County Council have advised that the underpass will be closed for resurfacing work and they have asked if they can use our church car park while they do it. Fr Mike will let Colin know once the date is known.

Fr Mike

ACTION

- (2) World Hospice Day is on 9th October and to mark it there will be a Singalong day for the Rowans Hospice. Opera Comique will perform the entire repertoire of Gilbert and Sullivan from 8 am until 1 am next morning. They have asked if we would like to host it. Everyone thought this was a good idea and in keeping with our WMF background.
- (3) Fr Mike read out a letter which had been received from Jane and Tony Rice-Oxley advising that they will be standing down from leading the youth club at the end of the summer term. They have done a fantastic job over many years. The PCC agreed that it was important for the youth club to continue. Fr Mike and Fr Timon have been in discussion and will contact individual parents of youth club children and any other interested parties to invite them to a meeting to discuss what will happen now. A big thank you to Jane and Tony and to all the regular helpers.
- (4) Dawn handed a letter from the Parish Priest at the Redeemed Christian Church of God, Buckland Community Centre, Malins Road, Portsmouth PO2 7BL inviting members of our congregation to a service on 21st March from 12-5.
- (5) Dawn said that Lindsay had asked her to mention that her and Dawn have agreed to help Jules out with Sunday School.

Fr Mike

Fr Mike /
Fr Timon

All

10.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday 24th March 2010** following the Eucharist. This meeting is to present the Accounts. This will be the last meeting of the PCC for this year and will be followed by the APCM at 11.15 on Sunday 18th April.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.25 pm