

MINUTES OF ST GEORGE'S PCC MEETING HELD IN THE CHURCH ON MONDAY 3RD OCTOBER 2011

Present: Fr Mike, Fr Timon (Asst Curate), Richard Spurgeon (Churchwarden), Dick Handy (Churchwarden), Candy Williams (Deanery Synod), Barbie Lloyd (Deanery Synod), Linda Wainwright, Tony Rice-Oxley, Dawn Hyett, Anne Morgan, Abi Morgan, Sheilah Hall, Marian Haughton, Lindsay Chalk, Dawn Trimby (Treasurer), Jane Cook (Secretary)

ACTION

1. **Apologies for absence:**

Sandra Hewett

Fr Mike said a big thank you to everyone involved in the visit of the Bishop yesterday. The Bishop said he felt very relaxed and welcomed at St George's.

Also a big thank you to Dawn Hyett for making new curtains for the Lady Chapel.

2. **Minutes of last PCC meeting on 6th September**

Dawn Hyett gave her apologies for this meeting but it is not on the list.

The minutes were signed as a true and accurate record.

3. **Matters Arising**

- Page 2, Item 4(c) – Fr Mike said he had noted about the £10 challenge and will put something in the Bulletin. Of the 7 outstanding 4 have come forward and will get the money paid in.
- Page 3, Item 10 – Church electricity – Dick explained about this. A new circuit has now been put in the back of the church and this is all now working. When the original inspection took place the sockets on the piano side of the church were working but now they are not. This will cost another £502. Dick proposed that this work should go ahead, seconded by Tony and agreed unanimously. It was suggested that we ask for double sockets to be put in.

Fr Mike

Dick

4. **Church Finances**

a) **Treasurer's Report**

Dawn gave the following report:

Things that need to be mentioned in the September figures are

INCOME

Included in the donations figure is £200 from the social committee and £400 from Friday coffee morning as well as £47.77 from collections from Baptisms.

EXPENDITURE

The £147.78 included in music support is made up of the purchase of 6 copies of BBC hymnbook costing £117 and music for the service held at Crookhorn for £30.78. PCC had previously authorised a spend of £100 for the Crookhorn service and all the other expenses that we incurred have been re-imbursed in full. However this spend has now taken the budget for music support well over budget.

I attended the annual diocese budget meeting on Thursday evening.

The first thing to mention is that the budget that had been circulated and which we discussed at the last Fabric and Finance meeting is only a draft budget and it is proposed by the Bishop's council.

Points raised before going through this year's budget was the transitional fund, although budgeted to be used up last year, has not been touched and this was due to a reduction in clergy and an unexpected high return from investments, also grants were received from church commissioners for ministry.

Also the proposed increase in parish share is below inflation.

There is one main budget this year with three options on how to pay for it. A detailed presentation was given on how the budget is made up. One interesting fact that was brought up was, there are more children in our church schools on a daily basis than people attending services on a Sunday.

Questions were then put to the Diocesan Finance Team. The main area of concern was the cost of 'Ministry for Mission'. £100,000 has been put aside for a Mission Opportunities Grant fund. It was argued that without this cost there would be no increase of parish share this year. The other side was argued that if we do nothing the church will decline. In order to grow we need to support ministry and this cannot be done without spending money. There will also be a new post, proposed for 5 years to spearhead this initiative, and to ensure that the money is being spent on areas of ministry that work.

Each parish was given a vote on the 3 options which we discussed at the last PCC and agreed on option 2 for St Georges.

The final vote was 11 parishes voted option 2 and 6 voted for option 3.... 4 parishes were not represented.

In addition to this we were asked for our views on the clergy stipend. In general the diocese follows the guidelines issued by the main church. This year the recommendation is an increase of 2%. However in 2010 Portsmouth Diocese put a freeze on stipends which meant our clergy were being paid less than the recommended amount. To put this right a 3% increase has been built into the budget this year. We were asked if we thought the increase should be 2 or 3%.

13 parishes voted 3%
2 voted 2%

I abstained from voting as he was a member of the clergy and one parish said that half their PCC wanted 2% and half wanted 3% so this was cancelled out.

These votes are then passed onto the Bishops Council who meet next week and agree the budget and the way it should be paid for.

We were also given some information about investment options bearing in mind that we are holding over £20,000 in our current account at the moment. Mike Barge, who is the treasurer at Denmead, gave some details about a seminar held last week which I was unable to attend. Denmead use 'United Trust Bank' and they recommend them highly.

They are offering 2.15% on accounts with 60 days notice. I am going to look into this further and see how we go about setting up the accounts before the next Fabric and Finance meeting.

Tony said he has just come from the finance meeting and Option 2 was voted out and Option 3 was voted in. This means that the Transition Fund will be used for Ministry for Mission. This now goes to the Bishops Council on Thursday.

Richard queried the Liturgical costs which seemed quite high. Dawn said this was because they have bought a lot of candles recently.

b) **Charities Treasurer's Report**

Retiring collections for September:

Hannah's Holiday Homes (2 weeks) - £58.76

2 Saints Centre (2 weeks) - £130.91 (including £38 from a Baptism).

c) **Fabric and Finance Committee Report**

Not met.

5. **Pastoral Committee Report**

Minutes to be circulated shortly. Richard said that Rosemary needs as much help as possible on Sunday for the Parish Breakfast. Pastoral are discussing the possibility of running some sort of parish "theology" course.

All

6. **Hall Committee Report**

Meet tomorrow 4th October.

7. **Church Car Park Plans - update**

Tony has e-mailed twice for an update but has received no response.

8. **Other Committee Reports**

a) **Social**

Tony said it was disappointing to see that only 7 people attended the recent concert in church which was raising funds for St George's. They raised £20.

b) **Fundraising**

Crisis point regarding the shop. Tony said 2 shops have both fallen through. Jane has spent an enormous amount of time contacting people about other shops but at present its not looking good. As this is a major fundraiser its very worrying. Richard offered huge thanks to Jane and Tony for all they are trying to do.

9. **Deanery Synod Report**

Candy handed out notes from the Deanery Synod meeting held on 28th September and went through them.

10. **Relationship between PCC and WMF**

Richard said it was not his intention to try and persuade the PCC to give money to charity.

Richard said working with WMF he spends a lot of time referring back to the origins of the Music Festival. Opening our doors, using our space and encouraging people to come in is absolutely the work of the church and the PCC. The original PCC at the time the Music Festival was set up were prepared to underwrite any risk. Over a period of time WMF

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has become very successful and it has surplus funds and pays the church for the use of the building.

Richard said that through his role as Churchwarden he has spoken to people who feel that St George's only welcomes people in if there is a handout for us. He wondered whether perhaps 50p on every ticket or one of the concerts should be nominated for a charity.

Discussion took place about the role of the WMF. The majority of the PCC thought it was an outreach which was kept separate to church committees and the church received money to cover lighting, heating etc. Richard is happy for WMF to pay rent to the church but thinks the rest of the money should go to charity. Discussion took place about what rent to charge.

It was suggested that perhaps a summary of the accounts could go on the back of the programmes so that people know where the money goes – free workshops, lunchtime concerts etc. Put emphasis on what the WMF does for the community.

PCC is happy to support the WMF mission and outreach central to the work of the parish and would be willing to underwrite the WMF if it made a loss.

Richard proposed that the PCC charges the WMF £2000 per year for the next 3 years but this will be reviewed annually. This was seconded by Tony and agreed unanimously. This will be taken back to the WMF for discussion.

Richard

11. **Waterlooville Music Festival funds (Richard)**

Covered above.

12. **Parochial Fees 2012 – changes from General Synod**

Fr Mike said the way we have been charging fees for weddings and funerals has now been decreed as illegal. There was a brand new system of fees coming in with a global fee to cover everything and every church would charge the same but this wasn't passed. The information says that "parishioners have the legal right to receive the occasional offices of the church and neither the incumbent nor the PCC has any power to make the exercise of that right conditional upon the payment of money".

13. **Legacies update**

To go on agenda for the next meeting.

Jane

14. **Memorial Book**

To go on agenda for the next meeting.

Jane

15. **Twinning with Germany**

To go on agenda for the next meeting.

Jane

16. **Correspondence**

None

17.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday 9th November 2011** following the 7.30 pm Eucharist.

The meeting closed at 9.35 pm.

ACTION

All