

**MINUTES OF ST GEORGE'S PCC MEETING HELD IN THE CHURCH
ON WEDNESDAY 25TH MARCH 2015**

Present: Fr Mike, Linda Wainwright (Churchwarden), Rosy Stone (Churchwarden), Tony Rice-Oxley, John Hood, Barbie Lloyd (Deanery Synod), Candy Williams, Lynne McNeill, Marian Haughton, Dawn Trimby (Treasurer), Colin Monk

ACTION

Fr Mike thanked everyone for coming

1. **Apologies for absence:**

Jane Cook, Candy Williams, Geoff Davies, Sonja Barrand

2. **Minutes of last PCC meeting on 23rd February 2015**

The minutes were signed as a true and accurate record.

3. **Matters Arising**

Page 2, Item 6 – the drop down handle in the disabled toilet has not yet been replaced. John is still looking for a suitable strong one.

4.

Page 3, Item 7 b) Tony asked Barbie for an explanation regarding fundraising and she explained that, as stated, after Fr Mike's recent sermon she had received some feedback, that the message would be more effective coming from Fr Mike. However, there was still concern where it would leave the Social Committee.

Page 3, Item 9

Fr Mike said that he has the plaque which is to be fixed to the organ in memory of Stella.

5. a) **Treasurer's Report**

Dawn gave the following report:

The accounts are at the moment with Paul Read who has very kindly agreed to audit them again for us this year, but I hope that there will be no alterations to them.

Looking at Page 2 of the Balance Sheet the first thing to mention is that we ended the year with a deficit of funds of £29,598.60. This is after paying for the work on the organ which cost £17,841.60 of which we had £5,200 in legacies.

Our investment value has increased in value by £1,021.14 and was valued at £21,454.55 at the end of December. This was after making a withdrawal of £10,000 to cover our expenditure during the year. In addition to this we also withdrew £17,500 from the UTB account leaving a balance of £64,864.56 at 31 December 2014. We opened a separate savings account with HSBC which had a balance of £300.04 at the year end, to keep specific legacies in, in order to not distort the current account balance.

The main bank account held at HSBC had a balance of £6,020.48 at the end of December.

The accounts receivable at the bottom of the current assets column of £2,400 was an estimated figure which relates to the Gift Aid that is due back to us on the donations made during October to December but this was not received until March this year. The actual amount received was £2,584.71. Similarly the Accounts payable figure of £323 relates to the Assigned fees that have to be paid to the diocese for the same months, and this was not paid until January 2014-5.

Pages 3 to 6 show the income and expenditure for the past year and these mainly agree with the figures that I give you each month. Added to these

are the transactions made by the individual church groups that hold their own bank accounts. We have had the addition of the Ladies Group this year, and although it was difficult to get the figures from them initially, the accounts do now balance to the bank statements.

The donation figure is down on last year by £4,867.23. This comes from donations made to the church and also collections from baptisms which we receive half of and the other half goes to the charity of the month.

The fundraising figure is very good again this year amounting to £8,482.06 and takes into account the money taken by the auction (£1,329), and money received from Bonusball (£400), Friday coffee morning (£300) and £100 club (£568.54), votive sales (£356.50) and bulb sales (£1,021) to mention just a few.

We have received dividends from our investment and these have come out slightly lower this year at £1,049.89, which was to be expected with the current financial climate.

Moving to expenditure, we managed to pay our full parish share again this year amounting to £53,800. Church and grounds maintenance was over budget and this was due to the electrical work that was needed in the church and emergency repairs to the roof. A big thank you goes to John Hood who has steadily been working his way around the church and completing maintenance jobs saving us money in the process.

Honoraria has come in under budget due to the sad passing of Stella late in the year, and in contrast to this, fees paid out ended up over budget due to paying organists on a service basis.

Photocopying costs are high as it was discovered that we had not been receiving invoices for the actual copies used and this resulted in a bill of over £850.

I have again depreciated the church hall by 2% as in previous years and this came to £2,823 leaving a balance of the value of the hall as £138,319.

Tony raised a question about legacies. Fr Mike said that we have £300 left for a book which doesn't exist now and we may look for something else.

A discussion took place after Linda queried the amount of money the Toddlers Group holds and Dawn explained that quite a few toys had been purchased recently and £150 had been paid to the hall. Dawn added that we need to keep an eye on the situation so that it doesn't build up. Colin said that he would speak to Clare.

Tony asked what the difference is between designated and restricted and Dawn said she would look into it and get back to him.

Linda mentioned that she had received an email from Carol McKells saying that there is a need for another updated program to submit accounts. The cost will be £89 if purchased after April 2015 or £70 if purchased before. As there is no option this was agreed by everyone.

Linda expressed her appreciation to Dawn for all she does and Fr Mike added his huge thanks.

b) Approval of Annual Accounts

Linda proposed we recommend these accounts to the APCM for acceptance subject to audit. Seconded by Colin.

c) Charity Treasurer's Report

The February retiring collection of £106.65 has been sent to Havant Women's Aid.

Colin

d) **F&F & Quinquennial Report**

Not met since last PCC meeting.

Pastoral Committee Report

Rosie reported that the meeting took place on 10th March. Sonja is organising E learning for members of the Pastoral Visiting Team and there is a session this Saturday in the church office. Sonja is also looking into arranging another date for those who cannot make it. However, there is one member who cannot do it on line but it is hoped that they will be able to in time as it is not possible to print anything off. Rosie added that Sonja has been working hard with the newly completed clearance application forms and has delivered them and we have had them back. They had to be taken personally because they lose things and Linda said that it is very concerning and that she will take it up with the Arch Deacon.

Also, one member has withdrawn from the visiting team. Tony asked who it is they visit and it was explained that it is by request but only from church members.

Fr Mike reported that Candy has the perspex card holders in hand which are bright red and people can now take a card when they light a candle.

Linda

Hall Committee Report

The meeting was held today. Tony reported that there is a large balance in the account but Geoff is not keen to reduce it. There is £9,200 in the current account. As Geoff is giving up as Hall Treasurer in December there is a need to look for someone else. Father Mike might know someone. Work on the side ramp is still not able to be done due to the weather. Tony has gone back to Bernard and said it is to done by mid May or he will have to get a quote from someone else. Tony said he is still keen to get something done about the side door and to get 2 other quotes to replace the whole thing including the frame. There is a limit to what we can expect John to do but will involve him. The stage curtains are looking tatty and need renewing including the rail and hope that money will come from an external source. The blue chairs are on ongoing problem with the clips falling off. It was decided by the committee this morning to gradually replace the new chairs in church and move old church chairs to the hall. John will take one of the tables to replace with Formica. With regards to the roof Tony said that he has had a quote of £4k to replace the tiles facing in the direction of Sainsbury's but will get 2 more quotes as the work has to be done. Will come back to the PCC as the cost is over £1k. Bookings are doing well for one off events and we are keen to increase advertising as it is the cheapest hall to hire in town. Fr Mike suggested WMF. Colin said that there was something that had not happened – Geoff to transfer £1k to church from the Hall Committee and a cheque would be sent to Dawn. John mentioned that the roller blind needs attention and this will be discussed at the next meeting. Tony mentioned a document which lists all the activities for each organisation co-ordinated into one for use at the back of the bulletin. Tony will ask Lesley to take over the updating of the master list.

Tony

Other Committee Reports

a) **Social**

Next meeting 14th April

b) **Fundraising**

The Fundraising Committee met on 4th March and Linda said that the Easter bonnet competition was launched. With regards to the sweepstake, there is a need to be mindful because unless the whole of the takings go to the winner, there are going to be gambling license implications.

Deanery Synod

Barbie reported that both she and Fr Mike had attended this meeting and had received the minutes which were better. There had been an interesting talk about an Arab Christian living in Palestine.

Correspondence

Fr Mike reported that advertisements had been placed in the Chichester Diocese Magazine, Pompey Chimes and CMQ for the position as organist and that 3 people had expressed an interest. Mark has fully recovered and is happy playing but we do still need to get someone else in place. It was discussed whether to pay Mark £25 per week from when he came back on Ash Wednesday or £50 per month in recognition of him running the choir plus service fees. Tony proposed the latter and all agreed.

Fr Mike read out a letter he has received from Allan Yalden at St John's, Purbrook regarding the Geo-cache hidden close to St George's. The letter states that the barrier that the magnetic key safe was hidden on has been removed as part of the adjacent road works and no other suitable site is available. (Geo-caching is a family based treasure hunt). The PCC agreed a Geo-Cache box could be hidden in the Church grounds. It would be the responsibility of Mr Yalden from St John's Church, Purbrook.

Margaret Symmonds has suggested we have a monthly lunch club and Fr Mike said it should go to the Pastoral Committee to arrange.

Any Other Business

A discussion took place regarding the rat problem. Rosie said she has telephoned Simon since seeing 2 more.

John brought up the subject of pew cushions. Dawn said this has not been forgotten and Fr Mike said he will speak to the 2 people involved. Also Colin suggested that we would now need to get a new quote.

Fr Mike

Dawn is having a slight issue with the bulletin costing from Redemptionist Publications. She has requested a summary of the direct debit payments for 2015 but they seem to be unable to give this information. It is needed for us to be able to invoice Edwards the cost of the bulletin for their sponsorship. Fr Mike added that all March bulletins had the wrong reading on. Dawn said she was on the case.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be the APCM on **Sunday 19th April 2015** at 11.15 following the 10 am Eucharist.

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm.