

**MINUTES OF ST GEORGE'S PCC MEETING HELD AT THE VICARAGE
ON MONDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER 2007**

Present: : Fr Mike, Tony Rice-Oxley (Churchwarden), Carol McKells (Treasurer), Denise Rosser, Yvonne Jones, Richard Spurgeon (Hall Committee Chairman), Colin Monk, Dick Handy, David Palmer, Abi Morgan, Jane Cook (Secretary)

ACTION

1. **Apologies for absence:**

Margaret Symonds (Churchwarden), Adrienne Bridger (Deanery Synod), Wendy Pearce (Deanery Synod), David Cavey, Julia Spurgeon

2. **Minutes of last PCC meeting (18th July)**

Hall – In his absence David Cavey had e-mailed Jane to say that he thought the idea was to leave the initial meeting of the interested parties until after Fr Mike's return so that he could be involved from the outset. The PCC agreed with this.

Investments – David wanted to make clear that his suggestion was for £25000 of the existing investments of some £64000 to be switched into a straightforward interest earning deposit account, not £25000 in addition to the existing investment of £64000.

The minutes were then signed as a true and accurate record.

3. **Matters Arising**

First Aiders – Jane said that only her and Nikita had come forward. Fr Mike to put in the Bulletin again.

Paypal – Tony still to talk to John Johnson

Carpet – Tony will talk to Anne Willoughby as Hall Committee think she might like it for Toddler group if it is cut into smaller pieces. If not will try and sell it in the shop.

Edwards measured up the first week of August last year and heard nothing since so Fr Mike went over to remind them a year on and they came back again the next day. In order to remove existing plaque and clean it and put back the existing one plus a new one the cost would be £1700. As this was brought up by John Symonds originally it was felt that he should be asked to draft a letter to Havant Borough Council asking if they would meet this cost and Jane will type and send from the PCC. It was pointed out that a Faculty would be needed.

Fr Mike

TRO

TRO

Fr Mike

Jane

4. **Treasurer's Report including update on Koforidua appeal**

As you all probably know, Lloyds TSB wrote in July informing us that they intend to run the PCC account on business terms and charging as such. They say that as our turnover is more than £50,000 per annum they are in their right to charge. I wrote and asked them to reconsider but their answer was a flat 'no'.

I therefore did a little running around and felt that HSBC was the most approachable of the remaining 'big 4'. HSBC offers free banking up to a turnover of £100,000, so we have a little leeway.

I have also spoken to Mary Makin and when time allows, she will investigate any possibilities of preferential treatment if all parishes' accounts are held with one bank.

The HSBC account is now up and running with the usual signatories in place. Account information can be accessed via the internet and I have

access but only intend to use this for up to date statement information. I don't intend, at this point, to start making transactions over the internet.

Letters have been sent to those who donate via standing order and I requested the amendments to come back via me so that I could monitor. This is going well and to date have had 42 out of 55 forms returned. Until all the standing orders have moved across, the Lloyds TSB account will remain open.

Income

- S/O and envelopes a little behind by about £800
- Tax is still over budget. The next claim is due to be sent off at the end of September.
- Fete Bazaar and Fundraising is a fair way behind budget but will hopefully increase when the Shop gets going
- Sales continue to do well and are edging towards £1,000 over budget. At this point I need to mention that a bulk purchase of bulbs needed to be made costing £611.83. This came between PCC meetings so I consulted by e-mail the Finance Committee to authorise this payment. I would now like to obtain the PCC's approval. This was a large amount and I felt it inappropriate to expect an individual to foot the cost. This outlay was approved unanimously by the PCC.
- Income from the photocopier is still slow but hopefully this will step up with time.
- Fees income is more than £1,000 over budget.
- Extraordinary Income:
The £1,000 income is balanced out by £1,000 of the outgoing. In order to get the new HSBC account up and running £1,000 was moved from LTSB. Hence the two entries.

Over the next few months this will be happening regularly as we need to feed HSBC and run down LTSB.

- Other funds generated covers donations for St George's Baghdad and Sense, together with funds paid in from the Wednesday coffee collections.
- The combined bank balances appear healthy but in order to see through the initial Bank account changes, the Quota for August has been put off. Hopefully a double payment will go through in September.
- Retiring collection to Sense quotes £114.29 but the final figure is in fact £198.97.

Outgoing

- As mentioned, the Quota for August has yet to be paid.
- Clergy expenses is within budget but will be used for Fr Ray's expenses during Fr Mike's Sabbatical.
- Fees to Fundraisers, as already mentioned £611.83 has been paid for a bulk order of bulbs to be sold on. These purchases are already being sold.
- Extraordinary outgoing includes the £1,000 to HSBC Account, plus £37 to make up St George's donation to Koforidua. The breakdown for that Appeal is £243 donations and £37 PCC donation to make it up to a total of £280 which was pledged.

ACTION

5. **Committee Reports:**
These reports had all been circulated to members of the PCC before the meeting.
- a) **Fabric and Finance including discussion about investments**
Tony added that he hoped to see lots of people on Saturday 15th for the grounds morning.
There were a couple of things which needed the PCC's approval. The first was for the quote from Tree Care for £430 + VAT to fell the apple tree and crown lift the cherry and holly trees. Carol wondered whether the holly tree was something that Steve could do. It was proposed that we accept the quote from Tree Care subject to discussion with Steve McKells and this was agreed unanimously.
- The second item was regarding the guttering. Two quotes had been received from G Lympny – the first to carry out gutter services cleaning etc at a cost of £645 + VAT and the second quote was for £2,500 + VAT to totally renew the guttering around the Church which would involve scaffolding. The general feeling of the Committee was that we should go for the guttering service and consider again the quote for replacement in the new year. It was proposed that we accept the quote for the smaller sum for an autumn gutter service and this was agreed unanimously.
- Tony would like to ask David to postpone transferring the money as share prices have been knocked recently and would also like it to be discussed further when David is present.
- Tony said he has been in touch with the Diocese about ethics of their investments and was assured that the CBF fund is thoroughly vetted.
- Renewal of 2 porch noticeboards – it was questioned whether they were actually needed, how much the prayerboards are used and should it not be inside the Church now Church is open more? Dick said that the prayer board is used regularly and every week Mary puts them in a book and Fr Mike uses them on a Wednesday morning. Decided not to progress at the moment. Dick will discuss at Pastoral.
- A meeting had been held with some amateur TV people (Mr Smith) who would like to use the tower to put equipment to transmit between each other. They seem very genuine. They would pay us nothing but said they might be able to help out with problems of an electrical wiring nature. Tony has been to the Diocese and they can't foresee any problems. He has also talked to Ecclesiastical Insurance and they have outlined points we should make to them. Dick would like to ask them about power consumption, access etc and it was agreed that Dick and Richard would meet them after the 10am service one Sunday – Tony will arrange a suitable date.
- b) **Pastoral**
Dick requested a Taize poster from Richard.
Dick made people aware that he would be asking for help for the switching on of the Waterlooville lights on 29th November.
- c) **Deanery Synod**
No questions.
- All
- TRO
- TRO
- TRO/David
- Dick
- Dick/Richard
TRO
- Richard
- All

ACTION

d) **Hall**

Richard said he was very grateful to David Cavey who has spent a great deal of time looking at the accounts and was happy that the books were up to date before he went on holiday. Tony asked Richard whether all the notices were up to date in the hall. Richard said he has a new Entertainment Licence which should be on display but he would like to get some plastic to put them behind before he puts them up. Tony said a lady had complained to him that she couldn't read the sign on the First Aid box which needs replacing and he said he would pass it on.

Richard

Richard

Tony said the Church shop will take the old crockery.

Tony thinks one bookcase could be moved into the porch and the other disposed of and they just need a cupboard to fit 2 or 3 boxes of books for people to look through which could be got out on a Wednesday and Friday.

6. **Christmas Crib outside Church – report from Richard**

Richard said he had spent a long time looking at how to put something up between the trees but then thought it would be best to have it on the front of the tower in the shape of a banner with Christmas lights around the edge 2m wide by 3m tall. This would cost £250 + a budget of another £50 to get some lights to go around it. People went outside to find out if there was enough room to put it under the cross and above the door and there is if it is done landscape. It will be secured through the vents in the tower. Richard thought a stained glass nativity scene would be a good compromise – nothing tacky but this needs to be looked at in more detail. A small sub committee of Dick, Denise, Yvonne and Jane would join Richard to look at designs. A budget of £300 was agreed unanimously.

Richard

7. **Appeal from St Alban's Church**

Carol McKells said she had seen on TV that St Alban's have had more trouble from vandalism and wondered whether there was any way in which we could help. Tony said he had heard that they were not repairing the vandalism damage but were putting money into the car park. Fr Mike explained that this is because the stones from the car park are what is being used to throw at the windows. Yvonne said she had tried to contact them since seeing the news but without success. Tony said that the Deanery have agreed to reduce St Albans quota by £6000 and spread it around the rest of the Deanery next year which will help them. Tony agreed to contact the Churchwarden to see if they are doing anything about the vandalism and whether there is any way we can help.

TRO

8. **PCC minutes to go on the St George's website**

Jane had had a request for the minutes of the PCC meetings to be put on the website. John Johnson said that this would not be a problem and he could create a link. It was agreed that as these minutes are available to the public there would be no problem with this and Jane will arrange with John.

Jane

9. **Church cleaning**

Richard advised the PCC that he didn't feel that the £20 a month which was currently being paid to clean the Church floor should be borne by the Hall Committee any longer. Tony said that the Finance Committee had discussed this and suggested that Richard transfer this payment over to the PCC with effect from the end of this year.

Hall/Finance
Committees

ACTION

10. **Arrangements for Fr Mike's Sabbatical**
Fr Ray has said that he is responsible for all priestly, liturgical, sacraments, pastoral emergencies and home communion where needed in Fr Mike's absence. He will not accept the remuneration but he will charge Diocesan mileage at 40p a mile when he takes the services if the PCC is in agreement. The PCC were in full agreement with this and very grateful to him for taking this on in Fr Mike's absence. Colin wondered whether we could ask a few people to go on a list to offer Fr Ray breakfast between the 8 am and 10am services when he wasn't returning home rather than him sitting in his car. He had mentioned this to Fr Ray who was very grateful. Colin will organise this.
- Fr Mike handed out a sheet on arrangements during his Sabbatical with a list of people with certain responsibilities.
- Tony said that Margaret is not well at present and could be away for two months. He would like to make sure there is a Churchwarden at the back of Church every Sunday during the Sabbatical and obviously he might not be there every Sunday. Dick offered to do this in Tony's absence if
- Margaret is still unwell. The PCC wishes Margaret a speedy recovery.
11. **Parish boundaries**
Fr Mike handed out a map of Parish boundaries. When the new building work starts the plan is that the area of the new building will be moved from Southwick and split between Purbrook and ourselves. Fr Mike pointed out 4 areas which are to be tidied up – we lose some and gain some. Richard suggested a slight change to one area which Fr Mike will bring up at the next meeting with the Archdeacon. A formal proposal was made by Dick to accept these changes to the boundary including Richard's proposal. This was seconded by Yvonne and agreed unanimously. These new boundaries have to be signed over by the Queen in Privy Council. The proposed Church school will come on Purbrook's boundary but will be dealt with jointly.
- Fr Mike said that the access site by Ladybridge roundabout has been sold for £¾M and the money is with the Diocese. It was agreed that the money would be used for the benefit of the community and for the church school. However, in the minutes it has come out as the money will be divided across the Diocese so we will be fighting this. We are nearly at the point where PCC's will be asked to write to Hampshire LEA making the point strongly that local people want a church school.
12. **Future PCC meetings and date of APCM – [post meeting note]**
PCC Dates 2008
January 14th
February 12th
April 2nd
April 20th - APCM and Parish Lunch
May 6th
June 2nd
- Colin
- TRO/Dick
- Fr Mike

ACTION

13.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday 9th October** with Tony R-O in the Chair. The meeting will start at **8 pm** and there will be no Eucharist beforehand.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.35 pm.