

MINUTES OF ST GEORGE'S PCC MEETING HELD IN THE CHURCH ON MONDAY 7TH JULY 2008

Present: Fr Mike, Timon Singh (Assistant Curate), Margaret Symonds (Churchwarden), Richard Spurgeon (Churchwarden), Carol McKells (Treasurer), Denise Rosser, David Palmer, David Hodgens, Leon Bartosiak, Colin Monk (Chair, Church Hall Committee), Tony Rice-Oxley, Dick Handy, Lindsey Chalk (Deanery Synod), Jane Cook (Secretary)

ACTION

1. **Apologies for absence:**
David Cavey, Julia Spurgeon, Linda Wainwright (Deanery Synod), Elaine Shimbart, Mabel Maginn

2. **Minutes of last PCC meeting on 2nd June 2008**
The last meeting on 2nd June was held in the Choir Vestry not the Church. The minutes were then signed as a true and accurate record.

3. **Matters Arising**
Page 1 – Carol confirmed that she is in the process of closing the account but it has a Nil balance Carol
Page 1 – Fr Mike said firm are trying to find the same red as before for the noticeboard. Fr Mike
Page 2- Colin was co-opted onto the PCC as Chair of the Hall Committee and was formally welcomed.
Page 3 – Tony said he now has Daniel Forshaw's costs in writing – the full preliminary survey is £950 + VAT for the Church and the Hall. Some of the bill will be paid by the Hall. It was proposed by Tony that we accept his services and his estimate for the Quinquennial survey and this was seconded by Margaret and agreed unanimously.
Fr Mike formally welcomed Timon to his first PCC meeting.
Page 5 – Mabel is kindly taking the money over to Axim this week.
Margaret wondered whether we should also send a picture of the Church with Mabel which Quintessance were selling during the Musical Festival. It was felt that this would be a good idea and Margaret said she would get it and drop it round to Mabel before she left. Cost is £14. Margaret

4. **Treasurer's Report**
Carol gave her reports as follows:
Incoming
Sales - £85.35 votives, £385 Plant sales
Fete – figure includes on the day proceeds and raffle ticket sales with a little more to come at the beginning of July.
Ex-Ord - £60 fete float money returned.
Outgoing
Honoraria - £200 still to come out to Julia and Sue which relates to May half term payment.
Ex-Ord - £28.71 Choir books (refunded to PCC from Choir funds in July) plus £60 float money withdrawn (corresponding entry to above mentioned item).

Year to date income is more than £3000 below budget and outgoing funds are also around £3000 below budget and we are left with a very low bank balance of £611. There are outstanding payments due to Julia and Sue, plus an organ tuning bill of £127.

The short term solution might mean missing July's Quota and hoping that we can make the final payment in December rather than November.

ACTION

Sending off a claim for Gift Aid this week for the quarter April – June and this should realise around £1768 at the new rate of 20/80, rather than £1994 at 22/78. I spoke to the tax office today and they mentioned that they make up the difference. So we shall see what we get!

I have still to withdraw funds from the Investment Fund. Is this still to happen or would it be better to wait until after the quinquennial? (Minutes dates 19th December 2007 refer).

Discussion then took place. It was decided that we must have sufficient funds to pay the quota. We should be receiving shortly around £1000 from Waterloo Music Festival plus up to £1000 from the Auction on Saturday. Tony therefore proposed that Carol takes £30,000 from the CBF funds and invest the £25,000 to whatever account David C. has proposed and retain £5,000 for the current account. This was seconded by Dick and agreed unanimously. However, this is only a short term solution. At the end of the day planned giving is down on budget figures. Fr Mike agreed to do a sermon this Sunday to explain that we have had to take £5000 from our investments to be able to pay our quota.

Carol

Fr Mike

David H. asked what the Capitation fee is – Tony said that we pay £20 per head to go to the Deanery Synod which goes towards paying the Rural Dean and his Secretary and other Deanery expenses.

5. **Committee Reports**

a) Fabric and Finance

Meeting next week.

b) Pastoral

Meeting next week.

c) Deanery Synod

Lindsey went to the last Deanery Synod meeting. Had a talk on Growing Leadership – courses being held “Developing Christian Leadership for the Church” – an 11 month course with 2 x 8 hr sessions and 2 away days. Get Kairos funding for the 24 hour away days but Church must pay £100. If anyone is interested there is more information on www.cpas.org.uk. Elections took place and there was a report on Koforidua and the Sugar Plantation. Churches are paying £50 per year over 3 years. Tony said a lot of Churches are paying the £150 in a lump sum. We have not paid our £50 for this year.

d) Hall

The hall report was circulated to everyone before the meeting. Colin said that they are doing what is necessary to keep it functioning until its future is decided. The hall floor needs urgent attention and thanks to George’s Men is going to be sanded and resealed. David P. was asked not to sell his plants and bulbs during the Thursday morning market as it conflicts with what they sell.

David P.

e) Future Hall developments

Awaiting report following Daniel Forshaw’s inspection.

6. **Cameras/TV facilities in choir loft**

Dick has looked further into the specifications of the camera that was discussed at the last meeting and it looks as if it is more for domestic use. He has now looked at commercial set ups but these could cost between £7,000 and £8,000. However he thinks if we buy everything separately and install it ourselves we could get away with £500-£800. Dick is still

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Dick

investigating and will come back to the next meeting. It may be that we could get away with just one camera looking specifically at the altar. Colin wonders if it would be worth setting up his video camera and TV to see what Cecil thinks before going ahead and buying something. Lindsey said she has a friend who might be able to help and she will talk to him.

Lindsey

7. **Comparative energy costs**

In David C's absence Tony said that David has spoken to the Utilities Warehouse guy about changing the accounts and invoices over and David has paid the £25 to join the Community Fundraiser. In the process of transferring the 4 accounts. There is also a charge of £1.50 per month for the second account ie the Church hall.

8. **Discussion on closing Churchyard for burials**

Tony said we had looked at this some years ago. Tony had spoken to Warblington who have closed their churchyard and have a sign saying "This Churchyard is maintained by Hampshire County Council". Tony also spoke to someone from Purbrook. He said do not close your churchyard as it is a minefield. Tony has a document called "Practical Guide for Parishes on Closing Churchyards" which he is currently reading. Several questions came up from this. Tony thinks we should write to Havant Borough Council not going for closure at the moment but saying that as this is the only public area in Waterlooville we would like the bins emptied regularly. Colin managed to get these bins originally. A letter should be sent from the PCC to Sandy Hopkins, Managing Director of HBC with a copy to Paul Buckley and Elaine and Gerry Shimbart, asking if:

Jane/Tony

- a) they will empty all the bins on a regular basis as they are used by the general public
- b) a donation could be made towards the upkeep of the grounds

If they are not prepared to do this we would like advice on churchyard closure.

9. **Correspondence**

- (1) letter received from the Cathedral asking for views of PCCs on the relationship between parishes of the Diocese and the Cathedral. Comments are requested by 22nd August. Fr Mike asked for a small working party to meet and discuss this and reply. Margaret, Dick and Lindsey volunteered to meet with Fr Mike to look at these questions and they will arrange a date after this meeting.
- (2) Gillian Griffiths has bequeathed £100 to St George's from her mother Ruth.

Fr Mike,
Margaret,
Dick &
Lindsey

10. **Any Other Business**

Photocopier

Colin and Tony want to know what to do with the old photocopier. This has been sitting in the Vestry for a year. Discussion took place and Colin proposed that we try and sell it on e-bay. This was seconded by Tony and agreed unanimously.

Colin

Welcoming New People

Margaret said she was sidesperson on Sunday and wondered whether the welcome that the new people got was slightly embarrassing and a bit overwhelming for them. Fr Mike said that of the 8 new people who turned

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up on Sunday, 4 actually got into the Church without being spoken to as the sidespeople were busy. He said this is far worse than them being greeted several times.

11.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on **Monday 22nd September** in the Church following the 7.30 pm Eucharist.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50 pm.