

The Parochial Church Council of St Andrews Church, Boothby Pagnell

Minutes of the meeting held at the Village Hall on Thursday 3rd April 2008, immediately following the AGM.

Present : Rev. R Ireson (Chairman)
 Mrs P Collier Mr R Cornford (Churchwarden)
 Mrs S Hodson (Treasurer) Mr P Hunt (Secretary)
 Mrs J Riley Mrs A Roberts
 Mrs J Spence Mrs G Taylor
 Mr A Osborne (Churchwarden)

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Mrs B Cornford, Lady B Netherthorpe and Mr T Blake.

2. Election of Officers

The following officers were elected:

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Treasurer - | Mrs S Hodson |
| Secretary - | Mr P Hunt |
| Group Council Representative - | Mr A Osborne (deputy Mr P Hunt) |
| Church Flowers - | Mrs J Hunt |
| Mistress of the Robes - | Mrs G Taylor |
| Churchyard Representative - | Mrs P Collier |
| Village Hall Representative - | Mr P Hunt |

3. Approval of previous minutes

The minutes of the PCC meeting of 9th October 2007 were signed as a true record.

4. Matters Arising

We had not been able to hold the tombola event (Dec. 2007) due to the changes in the legislation regarding gambling and lotteries. We need to establish whether it will be possible under the revised legislation to hold a tombola in future.

(Action: Secretary)

5. Pattern of Services

This item was discussed at the AGM and the conclusions recorded in the minutes.

6. Update on current church projects

Bells

The final specification (revised – a small calling bell, electrically powered, has been added) is before the DAC Committee that is due to meet shortly. Given the work and consultations that have taken place we are hopeful of approval without further delay (**Update** : Faculty agreed 2nd April). In which case the new bells should be in place by August.

The works involve:

- The dividing wall in the bell ringing chamber will go which will lighten the gallery.
- Additional and repositioned lighting will be required (see lighting).
- All the existing bells will be removed. One will be used as a tolling bell (electrically powered from the ground floor). The other two will be stored in the bell ringing chamber. One bell has been offered to Bassingthorpe who will need to progress a faculty to obtain it.
- Five new bells (from Ainsby) will be installed in the belfry.
- A new timber boarded ceiling needs to be constructed.
- An additional floor will be installed (at the corbel height) under the bell chamber to muffle the noise.
- The ladder to the bell chamber will be amended so that it can lie flat against the wall and be safely brought out when access to the belfry is needed.

Because of the time delay of two years, since the original quotation, the current quote for the bell work is increased by around £2000 to the current figure of £17,354 (+ VAT which can be reclaimed). The total cost, when architect fees and fitting work is included, is approximately £20,000. As this is appreciably more than originally estimated we will investigate whether there are any available grants. (**Act: Juliet Riley supported by Andrew Osborne** on form filling). Since we are in a position to cover the shortfall in the short term it was agreed to proceed.

Lighting

The planned work has been completed at a cost of £8,000. This was £500 more than the estimate due to additional small pieces of work that became necessary after the meeting about the bells in December to provide safe access and power to the belfry and ringing chamber.

The lighting in the chancel is "old style" and gives a yellower light; the system is unearthed, which is legal in an existing system, and does not pose additional risk. The lights (4) could be replaced at a cost of £1260 + VAT which would be more aesthetically pleasing and provide a more efficient modern system. This cost also includes for a small light in the Lady Chapel to highlight the altar and statues. Following a discussion it was agreed not to proceed at present with the replacement lights, given the financial situation.

Heating

Some of the old heaters have been re-sited directly under the pews with beneficial results. We are also in the process of testing out a new more efficient style of heater. This style of heater has the advantage that they come to full heat almost immediately, whereas the current heaters are switched on 6 to 12 hours or so before to reach maximum output. Given the range of options it was decided to have a **meeting in church on Friday 23rd May at 7pm for all PCC members(##)** – so that we could produce a number of options that seem most appropriate to our use of the building. Costs could then be established and the complete options considered at the next PCC meeting.

7. The year ahead, special services

a) *Pentecost Sunday 11th May at 10.00am – Group Service*

Village Hall to be booked for post service refreshments (**Act: Andrew Osborne**). We will need to provide tea/coffee and biscuits (**Act: Secretary**).

b) *Harvest Festival Sunday 12th October at 3pm*

An organist will be required (**Act: Secretary**).

c) *St Andrew/Advent Sunday 30th November at 10.00am – Group Service*

Village Hall to be booked and refreshments organised (**Act: Secretary**). Additional music to be provided by the children (**Act: Juliet Riley**).

d) *Carol Service Thursday 18th December at 7pm*

Need to arrange organist, readers and post service refreshments (**Act: Secretary**).

8. Any Other Business

a) *Items of information*

- Rev. John Spriggs has a contact in NADFAS who provide an expert session to determine the cost of repair to ceremonial “clothes and awnings” (Update : Mary Sleigh, Textile Advisor DAC, visited the church and her assessment together with a copy of the fabric inventory is attached)
- Agape supper to be repeated next year in North Beltisloe, probably Ponton Village Hall
- North Beltisloe Group AGM is Tuesday 3rd June at 7pm, Boothby Pagnell Village Hall
- Christian Aid Week is 11th -17th May and is being co-ordinated by Percy Hunt. New collectors very welcome

b) *Church/Churchyard matters*

- We have a considerable number of candle stubs. No one expressed an interest and they will be recycled (**Act: A Osborne**)
- Email addresses of all PCC members will be passed to the Group Secretary to aid communication (**Act: Secretary**)
- Two issues concerning spoil from graves. Currently there is a spoil heap which it seems could be used to level an uneven grave area in the south

east corner. We also need to decide how spoil heaps from grave digging will be dispersed in future. Could the area in the north east corner be used? (**Act: A Usborne/P Collier**). With regard to future work of the grave diggers (**Act: R Ireson to co-ordinate with A Usborne or P Hunt**)

- Our green bin for vegetative waste has been ordered
- Jenny Hunt (Church Flowers) enquired whether further shrubs could be planted in the churchyard. The answer appeared to be "no". However, revised Churchyard Regulations have just been issued and they will be discussed at the next PCC (**Act: Secretary**)
- The cost of the quinquennial survey is likely to be around £500 (not £1000 as stated at the meeting). Complete quote will be approved by PCC. (**Act: Secretary**)
- We will run a Good as New stall in the Isaac Newton Centre – ideally in August. To be discussed at the next PCC; a booking will be made (**Act: Secretary**)

9. Date of next meeting

It will be held on **Thursday 12th June 2008 at 7pm.**

Percy Hunt
Hon Sec PCC
(586131/pfhunt@bigfoot.com)

Distribution

Hard copy

Mrs G Taylor (T)
Lady B Netherthorpe
Mrs A Roberts
Mrs J Spence (T)
Mr & Mrs K Exton
Mr & Mrs R Cornford (T)
Village Hall Notice Board (Mrs Collins)
Church Notice Board (T)

Email

Rev. R Ireson (T)
Mrs J Riley (T)
Mrs P Collier (T)
Mr A Usborne
Mr T Blake (T)
Mr P Hunt (T)
Mrs S Hodson
Village Website

(##) Meeting in church on Friday 23rd May at 7pm for all PCC members

Whilst principally a meeting about the heating a number of other items can usefully be considered at the same time.

1. The use of volunteers to do the works to the bell chamber (Removal of partition, construction of false floor, dust screen etc) .
2. The report from the Diocesan Fabrics advisor.
3. as a result of 2 above the location of the Altar to minimise future damage to the altar fronts.
4. A plan for the churchyard (planting and disposal of spoil) - I now have an hard copy of Diocesan Guidance on planting that I will copy and circulate. (Note : Andrew has passed me 9 copies and I have indicated where the copies are with a T in the distribution list).
5. The repair/replacement of the heating grates in the central aisle.