

The Parochial Church Council of St Andrews Church, Boothby Pagnell

Minutes of the meeting held at the Village Hall on Tuesday 9th October.

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

The meeting opened with a prayer.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Mrs P Collier, Mrs B Cornford and Lady B Netherthorpe.

2. Approval of previous minutes

The minutes of the 4th May meeting were signed as a true record.

3. Matters Arising

a) Secretary Mr P Hunt was elected (Prop. Mr Osborne, Sec. Mr Exton). Arrangements will be made for his name to go on the Bank Mandate.

(ACTION : Mrs Hodson)

b) Gift Aid Envelopes have been obtained. They will be placed with pens in the pews. **(Mr Osborne)**

c) Reservation of grave space for Mrs Mary Bean It has been duly authorised.

d) Piano Has been purchased at a cost of £2327.

e) Vacuum Cleaner has been purchased at the cost of £255.

4. Electoral Roll

It has now been completed (contains 25 names) and a laminated copy will be placed in the church. **(Messrs Osborne/Hunt)**

5. North Beltisloe Group Meetings (incl. Beltisloe Deanery Plan)

The key activity has been the development, by a working party, of a Deanery Plan. It is an optimistic plan because Christianity is an optimistic faith. It looks to strengthen the ministry team and this will require increased financial support from all churches (currently 81% of costs are being met). The allocation of money and calculation of the parish shares is proving quite difficult and has caused a slight delay in producing the final version of the plan. It will then be circulated to all parishes. It is an exciting development which will mean that the Deanery becomes much more responsible for its own future.

Rev Ireson indicated that thought was being given to monthly group "family service" along the same lines of the current group services. There was a

sensitivity to the need to balance the frequency of group services with the individual services at each church.

6. Arrangement for Harvest Festival (14th October) and other Festivals

a) Harvest Festival (3pm)

Gerald Necklen will be the organist; he will be advised of the hymns by the rector (**Rev Ireson**). The dedication of the new digital piano will take place during the service. An invitation needs to be delivered to all inhabitants (**Mr Hunt; done!**) Refreshments will be provided after the service and access to the hall will be required at 2pm to set up the tables (**Mesdames Collier, Collins, Hodson and Spence**).

Offers to provide cakes were received from (**Mesdames Cornford, Exton, Roberts, Taylor and Mr Osborne's daughters**). It would be appreciated if cakes could be cut up and brought to the hall between 2 and 2.15pm.

b) Patronal Festival (25th November at 10.00am)

The piper, Mr Bill James, has been booked. The hall needs to be booked (**Mr Hunt**). Tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided after the service (**Mesdames Spence and Taylor – offers of help welcome**)

c) Carol Service (20th December at 7pm)

The organist and hall need to be booked (**Mr Hunt**). Readers for the lessons need to be organised (**Mr & Mrs Riley**). Tea, coffee, mince pies and/or biscuits will be provided after the service (**Mesdames Spence and Taylor – offers of help and mince pies welcome**).

There will be a service on Christmas Day at 9.30am

It was agreed that when we arrange for an organist we will pay them £20.

7. Update on Church Restoration and Repairs

We have engaged Mr Graham Cook as our architect and he will be used as appropriate with the bells project and the quinquennial survey (this has been delayed because of the work being done, although notification from the diocese has not yet been received). Contact with Mr Cook will be made regarding the level of insurance and a new leak in the roof, also with Malcolm regarding tiling repairs by the altars (**Mr Osborne**).

There has been a delay in the installation of the bells, however it is anticipated that work will commence early in the new year. A proposal concerning the lighting has gone to the DAC. As part of this project we will trial a different type of pew heater.

The members expressed their appreciation of the work done by Mrs Riley and Mr Osborne on these projects.

8. Housekeeping

a) Better use of the space under the bell tower

After a discussion of the issues involved it was agreed that a working party be established and that they develop recommendations for the approval of the PCC. (**Mrs Collier, Mrs Hodson, Mr Hunt and Mr Osborne**)

b) Churchyard

During the summer it became clear that the strimmer was beyond economic repair. An ad-hoc sub-committee, led by Mrs Collier, agreed that a new strimmer was needed and this was acquired at a best price of £224. A motion to endorse the purchase was approved (Prop. Mr Osborne, Sec. Mrs Spence). The yew tress will not be required to be trimmed until next year.

c) Review of Books/Document for Archive

Mr Osborne had identified a number of books and documents that could go to the diocesan archive (list circulated at meeting). Subject to checking whether any of the items would be of interest to the choir (Liza Grenfell) it was agreed that the **Mr Osborne** contact the archivist (Prop. Mrs Riley, Sec. Mrs Hodson).

There were a number of bibles/books that were in a poor condition. The archivist's view should be sought on whether repair was justified – it was felt that recycling was the most likely option.

It was noted that a previous register of baptisms had gone missing. **Everyone** was urged to keep a lookout for it.

9. Planned Giving/Stewardship in 2008

A number of points were made in an extensive discussion. In summary, the need for a Planned Giving initiative was recognised but it was felt that it was too early and that a number of issues need to be addressed before any launch. It was felt that once developments in the church were complete, and the legacy had been utilised, we would be in a better position to consider a campaign. The purpose in increasing income would be to meet cost incurred in achieving the plan for St Andrews and the Deanery. It is important to make clear the distinction between our normal operating costs and the extraordinary costs involved in maintaining the fabric (preferred term is repair fund).

It was agreed that we would not embark on a Planned Giving campaign at this time, but we should start to "get the message" across on what we have done and what we plan to do. It was agreed that a leaflet be produced (Prop. Mr Osborne, Sec. Mrs Spence) that could be distributed at the time of our Patronal Festival (**Mrs Riley/Mr Hunt**). Progress will be reviewed at our next meeting.

Mr Clegg will be advised of our decision (**Mr Hunt**).

10. AOCB

a) Additional church keys were being cut/repared (**Mr Osborne**).

b) Mice are about in the church, action required (**Mr Osborne**).

c) A request was made for the time of the morning service to be earlier than 11am. Rev Ireson indicated that it was not possible to bring it forward in isolation. An alternative suggestion was that perhaps we could swap our timings with one of the other churches so we could take it in turns to have an earlier service (e.g 3 or 6 monthly schedules in rotation). **Rev Ireson** will consider this.

d) Thanks are recorded to Mrs Riley for her work in getting the new digital piano.

e) Thanks are recorded to the ladies who organised the recent charity stall. The next tombola stall will be on 15th December. Mrs Spence indicated that she is unlikely to be available on the day. There was an agreement to go ahead and members agreed to run the event (**PCC members**).

11. Date of next meeting(#) and AGM

It was agreed that the AGM would be held on **Thursday 3rd April at 7pm.**
Unless there was a need to convene an earlier meeting the next meeting of the PCC will follow the AGM.

The meeting closed with the Grace.

Given the time to the next meeting please advise me of any errors or omissions in these minutes. It would also be appreciated if you would advise me of the completion of action items so that I can keep all members informed.

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

Distribution

Hard copy

Mrs S Hodson
Mrs G Taylor
Lady B Netherthorpe
Mrs A Roberts
Mrs J Spence
Mr & Mrs K Exton
Mr & Mrs R Cornford
Mr T Blake

Email

Rev. R Ireson
Mrs J Riley
Mrs P Collier
Mr A Usborne