

The Parochial Church Council of St Andrews Church, Boothby Pagnell

Minutes of the meeting held at the Village Hall on Monday 11th April 2011.

Present : Mr A Osborne (Chairman/Churchwarden)
 Mr T Blake (Churchwarden) Mr M Collier
 Mrs P Collier Mr R Cornford
 Mr K Exton Mrs M Exton
 Mrs S Hodson (Treasurer) Mrs G Taylor
 Mr P Hunt (Secretary)

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Mrs B Cornford, Lady B Netherthorpe, Mrs G Riley, Mrs A Roberts and Miss H Osborne.

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
Tower Captain -	Miss E Osborne

A vote of thanks was given to Pam and Mike Collier for the excellent state of the churchyard, and to Jenny Hunt for organising the team and arranging the flowers in the church.

3. Approval of previous minutes

The minutes of the PCC meeting of 10th November 2010 were agreed and signed as a true record.

3. Matters Arising

a) Quinquennial Survey 2010

Mr Graham Cook, church architect, carried out the survey in August 2010 and we have just received three bound copies and an electronic copy of his report. He had also sent copies to the Archdeacon of Lincoln and the Secretary of the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC).

No major problems were identified – the most serious is a couple of persistent leaks in the roof. It was agreed that Mr Osborne should contact the man who carried out previous work on the roof to resolve the matter as soon as possible. As previously agreed the gratings that are causing problems would be removed, the void filled with sand and capped with a weak sand/cement mixture. This would provide a safe even floor. The infill could be easily removed, if in the future it was decided to obtain new gratings. The work would be done during the summer (**Andrew**).

It was agreed that an Asbestos Survey would be conducted prior to any repair work taking place on the organ.

It was also agreed that there was no need for an annual test of the lightening conductor. A successful test was carried out last year after a gap of several years, and that a test in three years time was adequate provided the ground at the base of the conductor was kept damp.

b) Dog show and fete 17th July

Discussion was left until the situation with the proposed event was clear.

4. Financial update

a) The audited 2010 accounts for the PCC and Friends of St Andrews had been presented at the AGM. The year end balances of the two accounts were £7378.62 and £6056.43 respectively.

b) A new mower had been purchased for the churchyard (£400). Planned giving amounted to £3700 per year of which £220/month was received in regular payments and the remainder in separate donations. As noted at the AGM there will need to be a follow up to ensure these donations continue. As members of the Church Repair Society we have applied to get 50% of the cost of the Quinquennial survey refunded (£260). New lights/junction box has been installed in the chancel (£50).

c) Even though the Rector has left it is imperative that the parishes of the Group continue to pay their Parish Share to show that we are a vibrant Group and are able to pay our way.

5. Diocesan Annual Return

The Archdeacon's visitation service will be at St Wulframs, Grantham on Monday 9th May at 7.30pm. The return needs to be made by 23rd May and this year's question relates to Funding and Stewardship. The secretary will liase with the churchwardens to complete the return.

6. Repair of the Organ

A discussion took place on a range of issues that can be summarised as follows. The PCC mothballed the Victorian Hope - Jones organ in 2006 and it purchased an electronic keyboard for use in services. Tom & Jo Blake have a passion for the organ and are looking at ways to fund its restoration and conversion to electric action. The PCC fully support them in this, on the premise that no existing funds are used and a separate stand alone fund is created for it. The current estimate for the works is £35,000 and Tom and Jo will be exploring every opportunity to raise money by organ recitals and to maximise grants from funding bodies. We are hopeful that our funding initiative last year, which will maintain the church into the future, will get appropriate recognition from funding bodies.

7. AOB

a) Future Services and Events

- Easter Sunday 24th April 10.00, celebrant the Ven. Tim Barker
- Sunday 22nd May **11.00am**, village service – our first!
- Sunday 29th May at 9.30am Rogation Sunday at **Braceby**, followed by walk to **Sapperton** (11.00, short informal service), **Ropsley VH** (lunch) and **Old Somerby** (3pm Evensong).
- Harvest Festival – we have requested Sunday 25th September
- Patronal Festival Sunday 27th November – Juliet's music group?

b) The Reverend Richard Ireson has now retired and left the Group. The process of filling the vacancy was discussed. The issue remains that until the Beltisloe

Deanery Plan is approved the actual Church of England process to get a new incumbent is stalled. The issue with the Deanery Plan is that it promotes the growth of the number of stipendiary priests against the Diocesan Plan, which looks to reduce the number of stipendiary priests and to rely on Lay Ministers instead. AU noted that the Ringstone in Aveland Group, whose Rector retired last August were still in the process and therefore it was unlikely that a new incumbent would be in place for a further 12 months (after Easter 2012 at best). Father Andy Hawes (Rural Dean), Vincent Hedley Lewis (Deanery Lay Chair) and Rick Clegg (Deanery Treasurer) are working assiduously to resolve these issues.

c) We have again received an application form from Speight's School Charity and invited to apply for funding towards relevant items for promoting religious education to the children of the parish. We obtained a range of books games last year (these were shared with the Sunday Club, but will now be held in church for use during the service). Suggested that the provision of bibles to village children under 10 and subsequently to children born in the village was a possibility – the secretary will draw up a proposal (**Percy**).

d) Andrew raised the issue with members on the possibility of using other styles of music at our services. Concerns were expressed but it was felt that it would be appropriate to try something new at the village service on 22nd May and see how it was received.

8. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday 12th September at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

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

Distribution

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Lady B Netherthorpe
Mrs G Taylor
Mrs A Roberts
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Mr T Blake
Mr & Mrs R Cornford
Mrs P Collier
Mrs S Hodson
Mr P Hunt
Mrs J Riley
Mr A Osborne / Miss E Osborne
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