

The Parochial Church Council of St Andrews Church, Boothby Pagnell

Minutes of the meeting held at the Village Hall on Thursday 24th September 2009.

Present : Rev. R Ireson (Chairman) Mr T Blake
 Mr R Cornford (Churchwarden) Mr & Mrs K Exton
 Mr P Hunt (Secretary) Mrs G Taylor
 Mr A Usborne (Churchwarden)

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Mrs P Collier, Mrs S Hodson (Treasurer), Mrs J Riley and Mrs A Roberts.

2. Funding Programme

Mr Keith Halliday, Diocesan Resources group, joined the meeting for this topic. It was agreed that the postponement of the programme until next May was sensible given our lack of preparation. Mr Halliday briefly summarised the process and the discussion that followed aimed to identify the corrective steps needed.

The discussion was wide ranging and the main points/action items are listed below.

a) The strategy of sending three letters to parishioners seemed a good approach and one that had worked well elsewhere, possible timing (following a mention at the Carol Service).

January – newsletter detailing expenditure and thanks (Keith has sent an example from Scunthorpe – this was produced in A3 and proved effective).

February/March – prior notice of the Social Event at the Hall (22nd May, to be confirmed) and the invitation to all parishioners.

April – formal invitation, with agreed process to collect/receive replies from all.

b) *The key to success will be the brochure* that is handed out with the information package at the social (Keith distributed an example). We need to say what we've done and what we have to offer.

c) We should look to produce a Mission Statement. The process of doing it will of itself be very valuable.

d) Confidentiality is critical so that what people give is known only to the Treasurer and the "Planned Giving" co-ordinator if different.

e) Personalise? Need to decide whether letters will be individually addressed to recipients and also whether signed.

f) *Establish the facts regarding external church finances.* As a PCC we need to have all the answers and be comfortable with them. For example, a) how is the annual charge calculated and how does that compare with surrounding parishes, b) what happened to previous glebe land and did our church lose out? We need to list all such questions and Keith and Rick have indicated that they will supply the answers.

g) Stewardship – we need to recognise that some people do, or could, provide valuable services to the church as opposed to money. We need to strike a

balance that values these contributions but retains a focus on the need for financial contributions as well.

h) If we are going to ask the village to contribute it would be helpful if the current church supporters are able to make a commitment so that we can indicate we have made a start, although as above details will be confidential. Keith suggested that the Steering Group members might show the way? At present we have one committed contribution.

i) Surprise – whilst some concerns were expressed Keith indicated that we are likely to be surprised by the positive response from some people. In any case there would be nobody left unaware of the state of the church finances.

Having completed the discussion Keith was thanked for his contribution. He indicated that he was available to help further – the more notice the better. He then left the meeting.

3. Approval of previous minutes

The minutes of the PCC meeting of 23rd April 2009 were signed as a true record.

4. Matters Arising

a) Quinquennial Survey – It seems that we may be able to have the survey carried out using a ladder and without the hire of expensive equipment.

(Andrew/Percy)

b) Hangers for chasubles – a quote for £130 had been received from John Clifton. Whilst relatively expensive the hangars are non-standard and they will be consistent with the quality of the cabinet. Gill provided Andrew with a catalogue from St Martin's Vestments Ltd against which to compare the quote. It was agreed, proposed by Robert and seconded by Tom, that we should accept the quote in the absence of a better alternative **(Andrew)**.

c) Church Keys – the present key holders are

Richard Ireson	All church doors (+safe key)
Andrew Osborne	As above + padlock to porch screen
Gill Taylor	All doors
Pam/Mike Collier	All doors + padlock to porch screen
Jenny Hunt	Vestry door – she needs to access the church so the door from the vestry should be bolted but not locked

Andrew has a further key that needs to be checked to see if it is viable.

The secretary will draw up and retain a list and get all key-holders to sign

(Percy).

d) Building Insurance – it was agreed, proposed by Andrew and seconded by Tom, that we should renew the current insurance when it becomes due **(Susan)**.

We will continue to investigate the options for insuring the fabric of the church **(Andrew)**.

e) The review of policies and templates for Health and Safety, Child and Vulnerable Adults, etc. is in progress; there will be a report back to PCC on completion **(Andrew/Percy)**.

f) Group website – there will be a two-way link between the village website and the group website.

5. Outstanding arrangements for future services

a) Harvest Festival Sunday 4th October at 3pm

The organist has been booked and will be contacted regarding hymns for the service (**Richard**). Teas and cakes have been organised (**Pam** and **Susan**). The readers will be organised and a flyer put round the village (**Percy**). The flyer will invite gifts of produce, flowers etc. and any surplus will be auctioned at the tea. The retiring collection will be for Harvest Africa.

b) Advent Sunday 29th November at 10am

Scottish music plus the piper will be organised (**Juliet**). Refreshments will be Dundee cake and shortbread (bought) plus tea and coffee (**Percy will get helpers – volunteers?**).

c) Carol Service Thursday 17th December at 7pm

Provision of mulled wine (**Juliet**) and mince-pies (**Percy**) for refreshments. Readers organised (**Andrew**) and we will see if the crib set can be revitalised (**Margaret**).

6. AOB and Information

- Lincolnshire Bell Ringers – Curry and Quiz 26/09 at Boothby V H
- Ian Dawson and Irnham ringers will be in action on 17th October
- Bells will be rung prior to services 4b) and 4c) above
- Boothby/Old Somerby Village Service proposed for 23rd May at 10am
- Rogation Sunday 9th May – walk will proceed from Boothby to Bitchfield via Bassingthorpe
- Lenton 8th October at 7pm re-dedication service with Bishop Bill

7. Date of next meeting

Thursday 19th November at 7pm in the Village Hall

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

Distribution

Hard copy

Mr & Mrs R Cornford
Mr & Mrs K Exton
Lady B Netherthorpe
Mrs G Taylor
Mrs A Roberts
Village Hall Notice Board
Church Notice Board

Email

Rev. R Ireson
Mr T Blake
Mrs P Collier
Mrs S Hodson
Mr P Hunt
Mrs J Riley
Mr A Osborne / Miss H Osborne
Village Website