

PARISH OF ST MICHAEL'S, TILEHURST
Parochial Church Council
Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 12th January 2015

Those present:

Roger Toms (Chairman)	Sally Cairns	Joan Crossman
Patrick Woodlock	Rosemary Cooper	Pat MacDonald
Sheila Parker-Boyes	Jane Masson	Caroline Heron
Sozzie Kasomosuke	Laurie Haseler	Denise Easteal
Janet Fagg	Trevor Greaves	Alison Murray
Harry Dykes		

Apologies:

John Rogers	Jenny Beeney	Jenny Foakes
Alan Rutter		

The meeting opened with a short prayer

Substantive item – Dwelling in the Word – an invitation from the Bishop's Council

RT gave the meeting time to read the document which was circulated to the meeting and asked for comments from the floor. Most had read this through prior to the meeting. A lively discussion took place around how we could adapt Jesus' thinking to our situation and how we can take the positives from the document. It was wholeheartedly agreed that we could not take an hour out of each meeting to get fully involved with the idea as a PCC meeting is primarily to discuss the business of the church. But it made the meeting re-think ideas on how to have a spiritual content within the meetings. Thoughts on re-instating a short Communion service at the beginning of PCC meetings were discussed. It was agreed that the item needs to be revisited at the next PCC meeting to formulate some alternatives. DE offered to send an email to all members asking for their ideas and she will formulate this for the next meeting

RT proposed that we take DE up on her offer and a formula will be submitted for discussion at the next meeting (CH will help)

15 in favour. 1 against

Finance

PWo is putting together the end of year accounts. These will be ready for the next meeting. PMacD raised a query re Blagrove Trust which will be clarified at the next meeting. JC noted that the Christmas Collections for PACT had been earmarked.

Tabled Reports

Events Committee – It was decided that it would not be possible to arrange a newcomers' evening before the APCM. The idea has been passed to the Stewardship Committee to formulate. The gathering needs to include residents from Iris Court. Short discussion on the venue for the Spring Fayre and whether plants could be a more central focus as in the past.

Fabric Committee – A report should have been included dated 18th November. They are meeting again tomorrow and both reports will be included in the next PCC meeting

Updates from previous meetings

Restoration – Lighting – the lighting company spent several hours at the church with no charge replacing all the necessary bulbs.

Restoration – Sound – it was noted that there are many problems with the sound system. **RT was asked to get in touch with Andrew to get the suppliers in to check everything out.** If this is not possible, the JM will ask her husband to take a look

Roof Update – The tiles will be collected and the skip removed this week.

Churchyard – closure process – still awaiting response from RBC re closure

Churchyard – removal of unsuitable items – the notice has been displayed for 28 days and there has been a considerable improvement. Many unsuitable items have been removed.

Churchyard – War Graves Plaque – the Faculty has gone to the Diocese.

Churchyard – grass cutting – it was noted that the required number of cuts had not been done this year. Diane Morris will chase this again as no response has been received from Neil Curtis

Church Hall – Floor – we are in discussion with the contractors. There is a need to take the tiles up between the disabled toilets and Room 3.

Varying repairs are necessary at the Hall, £1000 has been put aside to cover these. It was agreed that we need to look at the Hall as a commercial proposition and a community resource and it needs to be attractive.

Church Hall – Fees – PWO advised that we need to balance the outreach element and have the fees low enough to attract people to use the facility. At the moment it is good value for money.

Book of recorded work done in the church – RT to get the book in situ by next week.
The Fabric committee be asked to record necessary items for the year 2014.

Terrier, Inventory – SC has progressed this and it is very nearly complete. Chris Johnson has taken photos of the monuments, there are already photos available for the silver. The completed document should be available for the next PCC. It will then be kept in the safe and not for the public domain. A vote of thanks was given to Sally for the work she has done.

Churchyard monument – faculty

Item redacted at this time until settled.

Correspondence

1. JC had received a letter from the Diocese asking for details of any employed Youth, Children's and Family Workers. We do not employ anyone

2. RT had received a letter from PRS Music asking for a return to be completed by 9th February. Passed to PWO to action

Minutes of the meeting held on 25th November 2014

These were agreed and signed by the Chairman

Matters arising not covered on the Agenda

Finance – the monthly budgets are now being displayed at the back of the church

A Stewardship campaign is now planned

A strategy needs to be formulated for the outstanding items on the restoration – **to be put as an Agenda item for next PCC Agenda**

5 year vision – we need to have a process in place to be discussed at the next meeting **SC, CH, DE and AM will meet prior to the next PCC to look at process.**

AOB

JM – She had been asked to bring a matter to the PCC. The times of special services during Lent and Holy Week had been changed from 8.00pm to 6.00pm making life very difficult for the serving team and working members of the congregation. She asked that this be re-considered and have further discussion with the Rector on his return. **The PCC was unanimous in their agreement**

DE – the subject of Lent Groups this year had not been discussed at the Stewardship meeting, are there any arranged? As nothing has been arranged at St Michael's, could we join the ecumenical groups within the other local churches. It was noted that the Rector is starting an Emmaus course on his return. DE is a member of the Fransiscan movement and has a film on the Life of St Francis which could be used within Lent Groups next year.

The meeting closed with the Grace at 9.30pm

Date of next meeting – Tuesday, 17th February 2015