

PARISH OF ST MICHAEL'S, TILEHURST
Parochial Church Council
Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 17th February 2015

Those present:

John Rogers (Chairman)	Roger Toms	Sally Cairns
Joan Crossman	Patrick Woodlock	Rosemary Cooper
Pat MacDonald	Alan Rutter	Sheila Parker-Bowes
Jane Masson	Caroline Heron	Laurie Haseler
Denise Easteal	Janet Fagg	Trevor Greaves

Apologies:

Jenny Beeney	Jenny Foakes	Harry Dykes
Alison Murray	Sozzie Kasomusoke	

The meeting opened with prayers

Substantive item

5 year vision – process – report prepared by SC,DE,CH,AM for decision

The above report had been circulated prior to the meeting. The four members of the PCC had met together once and had a full discussion. They believe we should build on what has already been started and not embark on things that are completely new. The aim of the plan is to define the activities we undertake to deliver on the five marks of mission within our church – to grow our church to be inclusive and to nurture people on their Christian journey whatever their stage in life. This ties in well with our Vision statement. Questions and comments were invited from the meeting. Thoughts on a 5 year or 3 year plan were discussed. It was felt that the 5 marks of mission will become part of the core process in the selection of a new incumbent in 2 or 3 years time so a 5 year plan is needed with emphasis put on the first 3 years to enable change to be incorporated later. The wording of the process was also discussed as some corporate words are not acceptable in a church environment but we need to agree the ideas and agree the language later. Timing on deliverance is important. It was felt that the 5 sermons should be delivered to all services on 5 consecutive weeks and then a Parish day held soon afterwards.

The Rector suggested that there had been other successes as a result of the Mission programme – new Mass setting, congratulations to the choir and Jenny Foakes for all her work in developing the All Age Worship to incorporate the uniformed organisations.

The meeting was asked to agree the aim and adopt the report in it's fullness. All in favour

The people who helped to create the report were thanked for their excellent work and CH was asked to co-ordinate the group for the future. The Rector offered to join the group if he is wanted and suggested co-opting other people as and when necessary. It was noted that the PCC is the Sponsor of any group formed within the PCC

Mission – In view of the 5 year vision, the mission programme is now redundant – All agreed

Dwelling in the word – report by DE

The circulated report was very well received and once again, DE was thanked for the work she had done. After much discussion the meeting came to some conclusions and recommendations.

Dwelling in the Word, in its entirety, is too cumbersome for this group but the idea in principal is good as all PCC meetings should be “God” based

The first PCC meeting of the new term would commence with Holy Communion

At subsequent meetings a bible reading or spiritual reflection would be used at the beginning of the meeting, chosen and read by a member and used for thoughtful prayer.

All in favour

Finance

The Rector will distribute the end of year figures at the end of the meeting. (Copies in pigeonholes for absentee members) Please send any comments or queries to PWO and the Rector by 23rd February in readiness for the finance meeting on 2nd March (JC offered her apologies for the meeting – LH will take the minutes)

Giving – report prepared by DE

Regular giving has dropped quite substantially since the last big campaign in 2008 but people have been giving in other ways – Restoration and Roof appeal. £5000 may not sound much, but it is, in fact, 10% of our income from our Congregation. The Stewardship committee have agreed that a big campaign will not be done this year as restoration work is still not complete, but people will be encouraged to give in a gentle way. The PCC agreed that orange envelopes (general) now need to be put in the pews in place of the yellow restoration ones but these will still be available at the back of the church. **The Rector will advise Oliver of this decision**

It was noted that DE wishes to stand down as Chairman of Stewardship and the committee needs new members.

The sub committees need bringing to the attention of the PCC members at the first meeting of the new term. **Can the Chair of committees e mail JC with details of their members so that we have up to date details for that first meeting**

JC asked about the newcomers evening – it is in hand (DE)

Tabled Reports

Fabric committee x 2 – no comments

Updates from previous meetings

Restoration – outstanding items – Andrew Plumridge has been asked for an itemised breakdown of outstanding items to enable the items to be fund raised individually. We need recommendations at the next full PCC to be able to take positive actions to the APCM. Time constraints may make this unviable.

The PCC endorsed recommendations for individual breakdown

JM's husband has looked at the Sound System and produced a detailed document relating to the usage. He is prepared to do some work if approached. JM asked to thank him and the report will be discussed at the next Fabric meeting.

The Rector's Board will also be raised at the next Fabric meeting. It was suggested that someone took control of this individual part of the fund raising but no-one came forward

Roof Update – roof now finished. The flint work still to be done

Churchyard – closure process – A meeting has taken place with Archdeacon Christine Allsop and we are awaiting her report. She has commended us on all our approaches. The churchyard around the church is included in her report as is dealing with Bereaved Families.

A response has now been received from RBC and they are in agreement with the closure.

The Faculty for the War Graves Plaque is on its way.

Church Hall – bookings and use/administration – income and expenditure – the budget figures will enable a small surplus to be made but some figures are still a task in hand

Andrew Plumridge has met with the loss adjustor and the insurers have agreed to fund some of the work. The skirting will be removed and the expansion gap re-instated for further damp testing. This will be done again after 3 months. The floor does appear to be drying out so hopefully the problem is resolved

Book of recorded work done in church – this is still work in progress but will be ready for the APCM.

Terrier/Inventory – Electronic copy now on computer ready to be finalised. Awaiting photos.

APCM Preparations

Please let Barbara have group reports asap. (She is away the week prior to the APCM) JC has all paperwork in hand

LH, SP-B and JB are coming off this year. 4 members should be elected each year for a period of 3 years

PWo will be co-opted as Treasurer creating a further vacancy for 2 years

Michael Crowther-Green – 55 years

The PCC were advised that Michael will be celebrating 55 years of ordained ministry in the Autumn and it was felt that we should mark this in some way. **The Rector will do this**

Pastoral Care – CRB checking

CRB checking has been replaced by DBS (disclosure barring scheme) All current forms have to be re-done. People who visit as pastoral care visitors with an "official hat" on should be DBS checked. SC will look at the position of Area Contacts as well.

Secretary's correspondence

JC Has received the usual 6 month correspondence and some items need minuting

Data Protection Form – JC to deal with after APCM

Deanery Synod reps – JC to deal with after APCM

Electoral roll info – to James Foster

Statistics for Mission return – SC has dealt with this

Finance return – to PWo

Annual reports and charities – to PWo

Listed places of Worship – roof repair fund – N/A
HRBA Training day – N/A
PCC Secretary training day – N/A
Churchwardens training – SC has this in hand
Parish info website – JC
Engagement with General Election – The Rector advised there is a hustings meeting on April 19th in the afternoon – he will advertise this on the Pew Notice
Hearing Loops and Vat – N/A
Minimum Wage – we already pay in excess of this
Dwelling in the Word – already actioned

Correspondence

JC had received several e mails but none needed action

Minutes of the meeting held on 12th January 2015

The minutes of this meeting were agreed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman

Matters arising not covered by the Agenda

AOB – the evening services during Holy Week and Ash Wednesday will be held at 7.00pm

Churchyard – grasscutting – Neil Curtis has sent a quotation with a price of £900 per cut with agreement to complete within 10 days. The PCC felt this was excessive and asked the churchyard committee to negotiate with him for £800 per cut but with approval to go to £900 if necessary. There would probably be a need for 9 cuts per year which would keep the figure within budget. It was noted that once the churchyard is closed, this will not be St Michael's responsibility.

AOB

JFa – Asked that notices be put in the toilet area asking people to take away soiled nappies for hygiene purposes. **Agreed – JFa to action**

JC – asked that the charity to be supported by the Lent lunches (Launchpad) be officially adopted by the PCC. **Agreed**

JC – asked that the Rector re-iterate the “be still” moment at the beginning of the 9.30 service – **Rector**

The meeting closed at 9.30pm with the Grace

Date of next meeting – Monday, 2nd March -To approve draft accounts – no Agenda will be circulated

Date of full PCC Meeting – Monday, 23rd March