

PARISH OF ST MICHAEL'S, TILEHURST
Parochial Church Council
Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 18th April 2016
First meeting of the new term

Those present:

| | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| John Rogers (Chairman) | Sally Cairns | Joan Crossman |
| Patrick Woodlock | Jane Masson | Sozzie Kasumisoke |
| Alison Murray | Linda Toms | David Bardwell |
| Dee Anderson | Rosemary Cooper | Caroline Heron |
| Sue Stevenson | Jenny Foakes | Liz Fagg |

Welcome and Apologies (1):

| | | |
|----------------|---------------------|---------------|
| John Morris | Glenis Kerr Elliott | Giles Winter |
| Laurie Haseler | Trevor Greaves | Russell Vince |
| Fiona Vince | | |

The Rector welcomed the new members to the PCC

Welcoming Eucharist (2)

The meeting opened with a shortened version of the Easter Eucharist

Substantive item: Duties of PCC and Trustee leaflet (3)

2 leaflets had been distributed with the Agenda – Trusteeship and what members need to know about Parish Finances. The Rector outlined the meaning of Trusteeship for the benefit of new members, advising that, as members of the PCC, they were jointly and severally liable on financial matters and anything that goes on in this place. He went on to say that he manages meetings robustly and moves them at a swift pace but members are encouraged to speak up with their input and listen to others. Members of the PCC discuss, debate with passion, sometimes disagreeing with decisions but whatever decision is reached, this has to be promoted outside the meeting by all members.

He then invited new members to join various sub-committees. DB is willing to join the Fabric Committee and both he and GW have been invited to join the Core Group to meet with the Architect re building works and restoration projects. The role of the Standing Committee was explained – it is the only sub committee which is authorised to make financial decisions (up to a value of £1000) – and it is made up of the Rector, Churchwardens, Secretary and Treasurer and one other from the PCC. This currently is Rosemary Cooper who was asked to continue in the role. JC advised that Standing Committee meetings are generally done remotely and minutes agreed by e mail, she keeps a copy. All other sub committees come to the PCC for decisions. He concluded by asking everyone to read the circulated leaflets and raise any questions with him.

Finance (4)

PW advised there is nothing to report. He will have the first quarter figures for the next meeting. Once again, thanks were given to Patrick for the accounts being audited in time for the APCM. PW explained to the new members that he tries to keep the presentation simple but he is always willing to go into more detail when asked.

LH has carried out investigative work on the utility bills, coming up with the best deals. It is recommended that we continue with British Gas as the provider for a 3 year fixed contract through UCR consultants saving us £400 per annum on current costs. **All agreed.**

Tabled Reports (5)

Bereavement meeting 13/04/16 – Following lots of work by GKE this meeting was set up as a result of the “What Next?” programme. The group are exploring and looking at different ideas and ways to take them forward. It was noted that Jenny Beeney is a very useful member of this group because of her work as a civil celebrant

MAD 12/04/16 – As DB is now a member of PCC, any questions regarding this report to be directed to him. The MAD group were congratulated on their work doing the posters and liaising with local media over the last 4 to 5 years. It has made a big difference to the publicity of events. DB advised they were disappointed at the response to the Christmas Card competition, there were no junior entries and only 6 adult ones. Two have been chosen to go forward.

Minutes of the meeting held on 29/03/16 (6)

The minutes of the above meeting were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman

Updated from previous meetings – see action points (7)

All updates on attached table

Full details of some points:

Rectors’ Board – final design now with Rector. It is hoped to have the calligraphy finished by end of April. [NB it will then need to be framed and installed]

Churchyard – removing adornments prescribed by regulations – The Rector advised that this has not been pushed forward as quickly as hoped as the two main people involved have had their own family illness to deal with but this now needs moving on as people who have taken notice and removed their unsuitable momentos are becoming fed up because others have not done so.

Pram Service – SC arranged a meeting on 5th April, none of the young parents attended and she has not been able to speak to any of them since. She has emailed all of them. The idea of a pram service may need to be looked at with a different format in mind

Appointment of Architect – Robin Nugent now appointed and will be looking at the outstanding restoration projects and any other agreed works. His fees for each project will be discussed at his meeting with the Core Group. It was noted that he is employed as an individual, not as a member of his firm as he is the person who carries all the necessary certification.

Toilets – should be finished within the next couple of weeks

Commercial Use of West Room – John Stevenson reported through SS that this was definitely unacceptable as agreed in the original planning consent. None of the rooms can be hired for commercial use, only used by church members and groups.

What Next update (8)

CH suggested that the group report to the PCC on a 3 monthly basis not as a standard Agenda item. As the group are meeting shortly, it will be on the next Agenda.

CH has done a comprehensive response to the questionnaire on prayer circulated at the last meeting. It was agreed that this idea needs a lot more thought and discussion. JC was asked to circulate new members with the questionnaire and the prayer booklet which need to be read in tandem. If any of the new members would like to take this forward, please see the Rector. Also any thoughts on the booklet and questionnaire to him.

It was noted that John Pritchard has written a very good book "How to Pray"

JF advised that there is a meeting for anyone interested in House Groups on Thursday.

Pastoral Care – DBS checking (9)

Ongoing – see amendment to last month's minutes

Appointment of Architect – update (10) Rectors Board – update (11)

Already covered

Matters arising not covered on Agenda (12)

None

Correspondence (13)

None

AOB (14)

The Rector explained that, although it is better if any items for AOB are sent 24 hours in advance, he always gives members a chance to bring things up but they might be deferred for discussion to the next meeting

JR – As already agreed, DB and GW to join Core Group

JR – The Rector needs to bring a matter of policy to the meeting. We have been approached by a family who want their young child, aged 4, baptised at St Michael's but they live outside the Parish and are not on the Electoral Roll. The PCC have a policy in place that families wishing to have their offspring baptised must be on the Electoral Roll and to be able to be on the Electoral Roll they have to have been worshipping at St Michael's for 6 months.

If this is not the case, it is suggested that they have the Baptism at the church within their parish, this being the preferred option before considering St Michael's. The family concerned have extenuating circumstances wherein the grandfather is terminally ill so the baptism needs to be arranged asap. The Rector is asking the PCC to give him their blessing to make an exception to the policy on this particular occasion. It would be possible to arrange the baptism for the first Sunday in May. After a full discussion the meeting agreed to this exception advising the Rector to tell the family of the policy at St Michael's. It was felt that the family may become members of St Michael's and the child may come to Sunday School

Sozzie – Asked for an item on the next PCC Agenda – Feedback from the Bishops' conference on divisions in the Anglican Church. He will write up something for the discussion

JR – The Rector has met with Bishop Andrew to follow up an initiative promoted by the Mothers Union – A Hope and a Future. Maybe St Michael's can get involved

The meeting closed at 9.15pm with the Grace

Date of next meeting – Tuesday, 31st May 2016 at 7.30

(FYI – most meetings for the forthcoming year will be arranged for Tuesday evenings)

Action Points

| Action Date | Item | Who by | Status |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| 2014 | Rector's Board | Architect/Contractor | Final design with Rector |
| 2014 | Flint work | Architect/Contractor | East end of Lady Chapel to be done mid-summer |
| 2014 | Churchyard Closure | Churchyard Committee | Chased Ministry of Justice re timing |
| 2014 | Churchyard – Removing adornments prescribed by Regulations | Churchyard Committee | Faculty now received Removal of adornments delayed |
| 2014 | Churchyard - War Graves Plaque - | Churchyard Committee | Faculty approved chasing installer |
| 2015-1 | Recruiting of sides persons | SC | Ongoing |
| 2015-1 | Anyone willing to do a reading at Beginning of PCC meetings to email JC. | All | PW |
| 2015-4 | Pram Service | SC | No-one willing to lead |
| 2015-4 | Church Diaries | Rector | Ordered |
| 2015-5 | Lighting | Rector | LED lights needed – re architect |
| 2015-6 | Church Hall emergency lighting | Church Hall Committee | To be installed |
| 2015-6 | Organ Surround | The Masson Team | With Architect |
| 2015-7 | Wall Repair | Rector | With insurer and architect |
| 2015-8 | Restoration - Clock | Core Group | With Architect |
| 2015-8 | Restoration - Tower | Core Group | With Architect |
| 2015-8 | Proposal for new bells | Bellringers | With Architect |
| 2015-8 | APCM lunch | ??? | Complete |
| 2015-8 | Toilets | Rector/Fabric | Now underway – complete in 2 weeks |
| 2015-9 | Mission giving | Stewardship | To be decided by mid summer |
| 2015-9 | Commercial use of West Room | John Stevenson | Not available – complete |
| 2016-1 | What Next programme | CH | To report every 3 months |
| 2016-2 | Brief on Bishops' Conference | Sozzie | On next PCC Agenda |