

ST. MARY'S RIVERHEAD and DUNTON GREEN
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING
HELD ON SUNDAY 26th April 2009
AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH RIVERHEAD
AT 11.15.A.M.

Present:

The Reverend Paul Francis (in the Chair)
Reverend Jane Edwards – Curate
Mrs. Diane Williams (Churchwarden for St. Mary's)
Mrs. S. Mace (Secretary)

And approximately 54 Church members.

Opening Prayers:-

The Reverend Paul Francis welcomed everybody to the meeting and opened with prayers

Election of Churchwardens:

Nominations had been received for Churchwardens and Norma Bridgland and Diane Williams will serve for the year 2009-2010.

The Vicar expressed his grateful thanks to both Churchwardens for their hard work and the fact that they do so more than is expected.

The Vestry meeting ended at 11.20.a.m.

Apologies for Absence:-

Professor and Mrs. Harris, Robin and Ann Tonge, Marion Lovelock, Rene Dicker, Mr. and Mrs. Howard, Norma Bridgland, Mary Butson, Karen Forster Pearce, May Randall, Philippa Kings, Ian Smith and Audrey Bernardi Nick Howitt and Margaret Nicholas.

Approval of Minutes of 20th April 2008:-

Robert McLintock requested two minor amendments to the Minutes which the Vicar approved and the Minutes were signed.

Matters arising:-

There were none

Vicar's Report:-

The Vicar stated that his annual report was attached to the Agenda showing numbers and Church membership and baptisms, weddings and funerals, and the Garden of Remembrance. There were no comments on the Vicar's Report and he thanks everyone for their continuing prayers and support as he does not only the Parish but also Readers and Training Days and Rural Dean for this area. The Vicar asked for special thanks to be recorded for Audrey Francis who gives such support.

Electoral Roll:-

In Margaret Nicholas's absence it was recorded that there 171 members on the Electoral Roll with 110 resident and 61 non resident. There were 14 less numbers that were on last year's Roll but we welcome 11 new members.

Finance Report and Accounts:-

Mark Merson gave his Report and Accounts within the Agenda and gave a brief resume of what was happening, and the way that our finances are managed. Bearing in mind that we had £37,000 of repairs under the quinquennial report we have done well. Also please bear in mind that the interest rate will be considerably reduced during the next year.

The PCC members have become Trustees of the Charity Commission.

Mark Merson expressed his very grateful thanks to Elaine Hanham for examining the accounts.

The Vicar thanked Mark very much indeed for all his hard work, which is very much appreciated, and the fact that the Accounts were in a very straightforward and clear format.

The Accounts were accepted.

Churchwarden's Report:-

Diane Williams stated that the Churchwardens Report was as printed with a couple of highlights to be mentioned.

Firstly we are desperate for more cleaning ladies once a month on a Friday as either people have moved away or are unable to do it. Secondly, Judy Borrowman needs people on the Vestry rota as here again it has diminished slightly.

Also on Friday of this week Sevenoaks District Council are tarmacadaming the front of the Church where it is quite unsafe.

The Vicar stated that he was again very appreciative of all that the Churchwardens do.

Deanery Synod Report:-

Other than the Report printed there were no comments on Deanery Synod.

Thanks were expressed to Anne Doris and Lee for their continued support on the Deanery Synod committee.

Parish Reports:-

1. Sunday School.

The Vicar stated that he is very grateful to all who are involved with the Sunday School. The work that is presented at the end of the service is lovely and the children do enjoy it. Thanks were expressed to Lynn and her team of helpers and thanks also for the lovely banners that the Sunday School made for Easter.

2. Littlecourt Lunch Club:

Gillian Roberts is moving to Hong Kong and is unable to run the Lunch Club. As at present there has been no one coming forward to take Gillian's place. The Vicar stated that we must get this matter sorted very soon.

3. Child Protection:

This is to protect children and young people. The CPR Officer is Sue Waller and the CRB Officer is Rosemary McLintock.

4. Tots and Toddlers:

The new Tots and Toddler's Club is up and running since September and is very popular with Mothers and their young babies and toddlers. An average weekly attendance is 20 but sometimes there are far more numbers attending. It has proved to be a great success. Thanks were given to Diane, Doris and Helen Best for their hard work.!

5. Church Hall Report:

Roy and Sheila and Margaret were thanked for all that they do for the Hall. It is a great asset.

6. Music Report:

Thank you Janet for everything that you do with the music, choir and junior choir. It is so valuable to us as a Church that we have such a good team. Janet stated that she would still like more people to come forward to be in the Choir. Janet was also thanked for the tremendous hard work she puts into concerts etc., which benefit the Church.

7. Mother's Union:

Other than the Report there were no comments on this.

8. Garden of Remembrance:

The Vicar wished it to be minuted that the Garden of Remembrance looks lovely and thanks were expressed to the team who do so much hard work. Mark Stott was thanked for his involvement and people comment how tranquil the new Garden is.

Elections of PCC:-

The following names were put forward for election to the PCC:--

Mrs. Ursula Warner and Jeannette Francis to be co-opted because of their involvement with Dunton Green.

Andrew Tawse and Joanna Emery were appointed to the PCC.

Sidesperson's List 2009:

Margaret Nicholas gave the list to the meeting.

Church Examiner of Accounts:

Elaine Hanham was duly appointed Church Examiner for Accounts for this year.

AOB:

1. Jo Howe asked when was the Church going to be open during the day. The Vicar is constantly aware of this and it was a signal to the community that we are a locked Church.
2. Margaret Curtis stated that as the Website for St. Marys is now up and running are the names of the people in the Garden of Remembrance on the site. It was stated that they were. The Vicar also expressed huge thanks to Hattie Hill for her considerable effort and time taken to get the web site up and running. It is a quality asset for the Parish and we are very grateful to Hattie for this.
3. Barry Sharp asked about Quest. The Vicar stated that this is on his mind but there are clubs at St. Nicholas and Bessels Green for the teenage brigade.
4. Denis Williams asked about the Sevenoaks Area Youth Worker and the monies we send each year. The Vicar stated that this was for a Youth Worker (not necessarily within the Church) to help the youngsters out in the Sevenoaks area. It is a very fruitful service to the Community.
5. Barbara Strudwick asked whether we could pay the Village Hall for the Thursday morning services and it was agreed.
6. Janet Sharp asked that when the Intercessions are given that we are given the opportunity to know the answer for the prayers.
7. Robert McLintock raised a concern about the publicity for the APCM – could it be advertised more widely?

8. The Vicar stated that it would be very appropriate to pray for Bishop Nazar Ali who is leaving Rochester in June with his wife and family to a new but as yet unknown area of ministry
9. The Vicar finally spoke about Faithworks Café at Dunton Green School of which we were part. It is held on a fortnightly basis with Bessels Green doing most of the work but we as a Parish would contribute towards the finances. It is going very well and sometimes there are a lot of people there who can just chat and talk or read a paper. It is very good.

The meeting closed at 12.30.p.m.

Date for the APCM Meeting in 2010 – to be agreed.