

ST. MARY'S RIVERHEAD w DUNTON GREEN

MINUTES

Of meeting of the Parochial Church Council

On the 13th January 2009

In the Church Hall

PRESENT:

The Reverend Paul Francis – in the Chair.

Norma Bridgland, Diane Williams, Ursula Warner, Jeannette Francis, Martyn Berry, Beryl Ellinor, Ruth Johnson, Sarah Stott, Lynn Wilson, Jean Woods, Miranda Cormack, Robin Tonge, Doris Gosnold, Lee Kings, Jane Edwards, Anne Straight, Audrey Bernardi, Mark Merson and Sheila Mace.

1. The meeting started with worship

2. Apologies received from Anne Bourne Tim Johnston Barry Sharp and Yemisi Howitt.

3. Minutes of the meeting of the 13th November 2008 were approved and signed.

4. Matters arising:-

i) Quinquennial – Diane Williams stated that there were a couple of points outstanding especially the Hall repairs. To be reported later.

ii) Faithworks Café – No separate account has been set up yet so we have not yet paid the £500 that we committed to this project. We agreed that we would also have a direct input once a month. The Vicar's Advent letter asked for volunteers on the organising. Rosemary McLintock is happy to co-ordinate on the day and time. We are to do the 4th Sunday in each month and we are next on on the 25th January.

iii) Stonework. The repair has not worked on the front of the Church. We are considering having a post fitted which will be approximately £125.00 at least. Do we go ahead? Robin Tonge said that an alternative would be more stones on the corner. To be reported at next meeting with prices etc. Diane Williams also spoke about the wire fence at the top of the car park and again estimates will be obtained for this.

iv) Printer. The Vicar stated that at long last he feels that the printer is going very well and that we can now take this item off the agenda. Thanks must be given to Margaret Nicholas and others who have been so very patient with this matter.

v) Broadband: Broadband is now working on the Vicar's computer. However it is very slow as it is 8 years old. Robin Tonge suggested that we purchase a new lap top at a price to say not exceeding £650 for a computer. Everyone was in agreement. Resolved that we purchase the new lap top proposed by Robin Tonge and seconded by Diane Williams.

vi) Church Hall: The PCC spoke about the door lock to the Hall and the combination lock in the office. It was agreed that we would have the combination lock number changed and the new lock to the Hall door. This would amount to £230 + VAT from Locksecure with 30 keys for keyholders and it was agreed that we go ahead with this as soon as possible. Roy Mace to sort. Once we get the new locks sorted, we must make all our Hirers aware of security and safety in the Hall.

5. Sevenoaks Mission 2009: Plans are being made by the churches in Sevenoaks area for a mission later in 2009 and we have been invited to support this. There will be a series of four

evening meetings late October/November and the leader will be Nick Cuthbert Diocesan Missioner from Manchester Diocese . The focus of the mission will be to explore the way faith affects peoples lives. Very open approach will be exercised. There will be a tester evening in October for Church members but at this early stage ask such Churches how to consider being an official sponsor. There are different levels of involvement but being an official sponsor would commit us to financial support being involved in the planning and execution. It is estimated that the cost would be £40,000.00 spread over all Churches and not equally i.e. bigger Churches bigger amount smaller Churches smaller amount. The Vicar suggested that we register an interest and support but not to commit ourselves to sponsor at this stage. We will look at this possibility at a later stage. There are 33 Churches in the Sevenoaks area. Miranda Cormack would be interested to be a representative of our Church. The Vicar will complete the form to say that we would like to help and ask someone to visit us to give more details.

6. Sunday School Report.

Lynn Wilson reported that there are no problems. 48 children registered 20-25 average Sunday attendance. The Banners were superb and the Vicar said how grateful we were to Lynn for all that she has done for the Sunday School.

7. Tots and Toddlers: Doris Gosnold stated that this started in September and is growing steadily with 21 children most weeks. Thanks must be expressed to Hatty Williams for all her hard work on the website which has attracted a lot of the mothers to come. The musical praise part will be at festival times and a pancake day is to take place before Lent and an Easter party prior to Easter. The Vicar expressed his thanks to all concerned for the commitment to this venture.

8. Events Committee:

The Vicar stated that he would like to set up an Events Committee who will take responsibility of looking ahead in the calendar for the year. Doris Gosnold, Sarah Stott and Diane Williams and Norma Bridgland have put their names forward as did Sheila Mace. To be reported at next meeting what has been arranged,.

9. Mission Statement – Aims and Objectives.

The Vicar stated that at the last meeting we decided that our first stage was to be a welcoming and inclusive Church in other words a Ministry of Welcome. The Vicar suggested a Church Family Register so that we can compile a directory of who is in the Church. Mark Merson suggested that duty sidesmen Churchwardens etc. have a label on to say who they are and also the suggestion was put forward to have a Service on a Sunday with the theme “Getting to know you Sunday”. The Vicar and the Curate offered to build this in to the planning of Family Services To be reported further.

10. Lent Courses 2009 – The Vicar stated that as per his letter at Advent there were five speakers booked and the theme for Lent this year is “I AM” sayings of Jesus . They will be at 8 o’clock on the five Wednesdays of Lent and there will be coffee/tea afterwards.

11. AOB

i) The Vestments and Altar linen. These are now in desperate need of replacing and after much discussion it was decided that the Vicar Jane Edwards and Judy Borrowman compile a list which will be brought back to PCC. Together with supportive costs. It was suggested that perhaps the Easter collection will be put towards this.

ii) Sevenoaks Kenya Education Trust. Sponsor a young child through their final schooling. Diane Williams and Martyn Berry gave brief resumes of what is involved and here again Martyn/Diane will liaise with David Debenham and ask him to talk to us about this sponsorship.

iii) Members of PCC signed the Trust Deed required in the light of our annual financial turnover now exceeding £100.000

The Vicar asked that the Minutes as agreed be submitted for The Review the Website and Church Notice board.

The meeting closed at 9.50.p.m. with the Grace.