

RIVERHEAD with DUNTON GREEN

MINUTES

Meeting of the Parochial Church Council
Tuesday 15 January 2013
In the Church Hall

PRESENT:

Vicar (Martin Booth) – in the Chair

Diane Williams, Ronnie Todd

Susan Allender, Audrey Bernardi, Martyn Berry, John Curtis, Margaret Curtis, Doris Gosnold,
David Holmes, Chris Ledson, Ruth Merson, Anne Straight, Stuart Wigley, Jean Woods

1. Opening Prayers

The Vicar opened the meeting with prayer.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from: Barry Sharp, Elaine Hanham, Margaret Nicholas

3. Approval of Minutes of PCC Meetings dated 6 & 27 November 2012

The Minutes of 6 November 2012 were amended under Matters Arising – Church Roof Alarm to read: “...suggesting a roof alarm for the church...”. Replacing “...suggesting a roof alarm for the church hall...”. They were then approved by those present and signed as a true copy by the Vicar.

4. Matters Arising

Children’s Officer – The **Vicar** will be sending a round-robin to those involved with vulnerable people to discuss any matters/problems before the APCM.

Slippery Surfaces – Diane Williams reported that the two mats placed outside the church hall door had been quite successful. A rail is also needed. The **Churchwardens** will be applying for a faculty.

Damage to Downpipe – **Diane Williams** will check whether the downpipe has been repaired and report back at the next meeting. (Update: downpipe has been repaired)

Littlecourt Lunch Club – Pam and Deirdre are continuing to run the club, A meeting will be held to try and find someone to help oversee the running of the club.

Hermitage Ensemble – The Vicar asked the **PCC** to give some thought to this project. A volunteer will be needed to oversee the administration and accommodation will also be needed.

Accident Claim – Diane Williams reported that the Insurers are to settle the claim with the person involved. They are in the process of obtaining medical evidence. The Insurers will report again when there is any news.

Photocopier for Bishop Simon Chiwanga, Mpwapwa – The Vicar advised the meeting that our offer of £100 towards a photocopier will be put to the Diocesan fund for supplying ink and other photocopier essentials.

5. Financial Update

Discussion re 2013 Budget/APCM - Elaine Hanham was not present at the meeting. It was reported that **Elaine** will be meeting with Stuart Wigley next week and will have the draft budget ready for approval at the next PCC meeting.

Kitchen Facilities – At the last Quinquennial we were advised that a new kitchen will be required in the next couple of years. The PCC agreed it would be a good idea to have a dishwasher. Unfortunately there is no room for one in the present set up. It was agreed that we should wait until we have a new kitchen installed.

Legacy – The Vicar informed the meeting that Olive Kitchingman had graciously left some money to the PCC. It was agreed that this could be marked for something specific to be purchased. At which point we would consider putting up a plaque in Olive's memory.

Sound System – The subject of the church sound system was discussed as it has been giving problems. It was suggested and agreed by the PCC to pay for someone to come in and check it.

6. Events Update

The New Year party was a success and worked well with everyone contributing food and others providing party pieces.

The 2nd Wind Concert Band will be sending us a cheque for £270 as a result of proceeds received from their concert held in the church before Christmas.

7. Outreach

Poverty & Hope - The Poverty & Hope 2012 Appeal is still running. We still have envelopes and leaflets in church which will be given out at the next couple of services before sending off monies collected.

Charity Shortlist for APCM – The congregation will be asked to give suggestions of their favoured charities. The PCC will shortlist and the APCM will vote for four to be our chosen charities for the year. Current charities such as Poverty & Hope and Diocesan appeals will be kept separate.

SCET – Diane Williams reported that we had received a reply from SCET regarding our sponsorship of Catherine Kimochu. They would prefer that we sponsor a new girl rather than continue with Catherine, who has now finished her education. The PCC agreed that we should continue supporting SCET. **Diane** will take advice from David Debenham and report back.

8. Church Services

Replacement Organist/Choir Leader – the cost of having a joint organist/choir leader is continuing to be explored.

Lent Course – The Vicar had received a Lent Course from Rochester called “My Grace is Sufficient” with five themes. He is not proposing to use the course this Lent as others are being arranged through Churches Together in Sevenoaks. Martyn Berry reported that Betty Gilbert has offered to host a Lent Course. It may be that the Diocesan Course can be used at another point in the year.

Sundays during Lent – The Vicar reported that three out of five Sundays in Lent will be given to Lenten sermons based on the interface between Christianity and Science. Sam Berry of St Nicholas Church has kindly agreed to preach on 3 March.

Peter Flynn 16/2 – The Vicar advised the PCC that Peter Flynn has been invited to give a five part seminar - to be held over one day in Lent - which looks at Christian scripture through a Hebrew lens. The Hall has been booked and a bring and share lunch will be suggested. The seminar is in the process of being publicised.

Big Brew – Anne Straight informed the meeting that a Fairtrade Big Brew is being held in the church hall

on 9 March.

9. Teenagers

The Vicar is preparing a form for people to sign up to confirmation classes.

A service is being prepared by St Mary's youth and will be held on 10 Feb. **David Holmes** and **Ruth Merson** will oversee the preparation.

10. Car Parking

No further news. The **Churchwardens** will continue discussions with the Parish Council.

11) Sevenoaks Christian School

The Vicar reported on progress. The school has been re-named and will now be known as Trinity School, Sevenoaks. A location is still being sought. The Head Teacher (Matthew Tate) has been appointed. There have been a good number of applications for places.

Form B which was attached as Appendix 2 to the 6 November Minutes, is now not the appropriate form. It has been replaced by Form A which needs to be approved by the PCC, signed by the PCC Secretary and sent to the registered office of SCET, attention of the Company Secretary. (Form A will be sent to the PCC asap before the next meeting.)

In order to complete the form, we need to find a representative and a delegate. This could be the Vicar and one other person or two people from the PCC or the congregation. Those who are currently involved with secondary schools would be particularly suitable.

Those members of the PCC who may be interested requested more time to consider once they have received all the relevant information.

The **Vicar** agreed to prepare a summary on a handout for the congregation and ask for interest.

The PCC were happy for the **Vicar** to inform SCET that we are interested in being a member church.

12) Outside Lighting

Diane Williams reported that we now have a faculty for the new outside lights. It is hoped these will be installed sometime during February.

13) APCM

The PCC were asked to make a note of the date for the APCM which is 14 April 2013.

14) Church Electoral Roll

Margaret Nicholas will be preparing a new Church Electoral Roll.

15) Any Other Business

i) The North West Fellowship will be holding its usual lent Lunch service. It will hold its Autumn Evening Service at St Mary's on 13/10.

ii) A service during the Week of Christian Unity is being held at The Drive Methodist Church.

iii) The Vicar has received a notice re Prayer for Sevenoaks from CTSD with a programme of dates for specific prayer meetings. The **Secretary** will forward the notice to all PCC members once she has received it from the **Vicar**.

iv) **Margaret Curtis, Jean Woods and Diane Williams** will be meeting with Faithworks re the Dunton Green Fun Day.

v) A welcome notice is being prepared for delivery to the new housing development in Rye Lane. It was agreed that it would be best if it were professionally printed. The PCC were happy for Diane Williams to provide costs from Highland Printing.

vi) Parochial Fees have been increased. A list of the new fees is in the filing cabinet in the Vestry.

- vii) The PCC agreed to donate £60 to “Flush Away Poverty” which is a charity sponsoring loos in the Developing World.
- viii) An open letter had been sent to the PCC secretary regarding the vote on Women Bishops, asking that it be distributed to PCC members. The letter was duly distributed.
- viii) The Vicar asked the PCC whether they would be interested in a share of a part-time youth worker. After some discussion it was agreed the **Vicar** should look into the cost and report back.

To Note Date and Time of Next Meeting

The date of the next Standing Committee Meeting will be:
Wednesday 20 February 2013 at the Vicarage

The date of the next PCC meeting will be:
Tuesday 5 March 2013 in the church hall

The meeting ended with prayer