

ST MARY RIVERHEAD WITH DUNTON GREEN

MINUTES

Meeting of the Parochial Church Council
1 July 2014 – 8.00 pm
In the Church Hall

PRESENT:

Vicar (Martin Booth) – in the Chair

Barry Sharp, John Curtis, Stuart Wigley, Ronnie Todd
Martyn Berry, Margaret Curtis, Karen Forster-Pearce, Bennet Smith, Stuart Wigley, Jean Woods,
Diane Williams

1. Opening Prayers & Bible Passage

The Vicar opened the meeting with prayer and a bible reading.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from: Audrey Baker, Audrey Bernardi, Doris Gosnold, Chris Ledson, Margaret Nicholas, Anne Straight, Nicola Joyce, Robin Tonge

3. Minutes Of PCC Meeting 20 May 2014

The Minutes were amended to show the date of the meeting in the heading as 20 May 2014 instead of 20 May 2013. They were then approved by those present and signed as a true copy by the Vicar.

4. Matters Arising

DBS Checks – The Vicar informed the PCC that there is now the option of completing the DBS forms on-line.

A new position of “Recruiter” has been created to replace the current position of Parish Disclosure Officer. There will also be a “Lead Recruiter”.

Ronnie Todd to arrange a meeting of the Safeguarding Committee. A report of the meeting will be given at the next PCC meeting.

5. Finance

Stuart Wigley reported that the new CAF Bank Account is up and running. The standing orders have mostly been dealt with.

The gas and electric services have been moved to a new supplier – Opus Energy.

It is all arranged on-line with a fixed price for two years.

Stuart is in the process of completing a half year update.

There are leaflets on-line giving details of the Parish Share and how it works, if anyone is interested.

In future PCCs will have the opportunity to apply for an interest free loan.

At this point, the Vicar suggested that it may be helpful for Stuart to form a “Stewardship Committee” to be led by Stuart. The Committee would look at the various funds to establish what they are used for.

The Committee would meet two or three times per year. The PCC were all content for Stuart to go ahead.

The Vicar suggested the possibility of giving an annual amount of money to SAYT with a review each year. The Stewardship Committee were asked to look at the suggestion and proceed as appropriate.

The Fabric Committee advised that they have various jobs which will need to be done within the next year. They were asked to give a note of the jobs to the Stewardship Committee to review.

The Vicar suggested we buy 100 Songs of Fellowship hymn books together with an amount with music for the choir. This will save Margaret Nicholas having to make photocopies each time we have a non-traditional hymn. The PCC were all in agreement.

6. Church Fabric

Notice Board – Diane Williams reported that a faculty has been applied for erecting the new Notice Board. It will be a like for like replacement so should be straightforward. A photograph of the current Notice Board has been taken as proof of the “like for like” construction.

Lightning Conductor – Someone tried to climb up the lightning conductor and it has been pulled away from the wall. Diane has arranged for someone to look at the damage and advise us on the likelihood of repair.

Ibstock Core AGM – This will be held on Wednesday 9 July. Diane will be going. Any other PCC members were invited to go with her should they wish to.

Church Opening – Diane and Denis Williams have produced a new Church Guide. Diane is currently arranging for an estimate of cost for printing. It could be less than £1 per copy. Ronnie Todd was asked to send round an electronic copy for the PCC to review.

Margaret Nicholas has been asked to put a regular note on pew cushions in the mini-mag.

7. Events

The following dates were noted:

24/8 - Bring and Share Lunch at the Vicarage

6/7 - Picnic for Baptism Families 12.30-2.00

14/9 - Riverhead Carnival

28/9 - Bring and Share Lunch – Bishop Brian's Visitation

5/10 - Harvest Lunch

8. Outreach

SKET - It was reported that David Debenham will be giving a talk during Sunday morning's family service about the activities of SKET and the young girl we sponsor.

Photo Exhibition - There will be a meeting to decide on the formula of the Photo Exhibition. It was suggested that any monies made should go to Christian Aid and it should be held during Christian Aid Week. It will be more of a community event. Christian Aid should be able to provide bunting etc and some photographs of their work. We could also include the Exhibition as part of our Riverhead Carnival Stall and any monies collected will go to Christian Aid.

9. Church Services

The North West Fellowship Services will be held during August at St Mary's Church, Kippington. Our involvement will be at the service on 10 August at 6.30pm.

The NWF autumn service will be held on 19 October at 6.30pm.

Bishop Brian's Visitation will be on 28 September at 9.30am.

The Estonia Link celebration will be held on 5 October at 6.30pm.

10. Teenagers

Confirmation Classes – begin Sunday 24th August

Link with St Luke's & Kippington - The Vicar will be starting a co-ordinated link with St Luke's and St Mary's Kippington for teenagers to attend various events.

Youth PCC - A suggestion has been put forward to start a Youth PCC Meeting which would be held once or twice a year. The Vicar would Chair the meetings and invite one or two others from the PCC.

Churchyard Clean Up - The Secretary reported she had sent a letter of thanks to Isabelle Mercer at the Parish Council for arranging a clean up of the churchyard by the cubs and scouts. The Churchwardens have also sent a thank you email to the cubs and scouts.

11. Trinity School

The Vicar reported that the school were pleased with the Easter Communion Service. The School would like The Vicar to lead some more services before they leave their current school premises.

The Vicar reported he has had contact with local schools in Riverhead and Dunton Green and is able to confirm that the children do visit Abbeyfield and other like places and Care Homes.

The Vicar will mention to the local schools that they may like to have some involvement with the Christmas Tree Festival.

12. Any Other Business

Memorial Bench - Patricia Maurice has emailed the Vicar to ask if the family could donate a bench in memory of their late parents whose ashes have been interred in the Garden of Remembrance. Ronnie Todd was asked to draft a letter on behalf of the Churchwardens. We need to know the dimensions and how it is to be secured.

Dunton Green Churchyard - An email has been received from the Dunton Green Parish Council Clerk regarding the state of the War Memorial behind the building which used to be St John's Church. They would like to know whether St Mary's PCC has any responsibility for the upkeep of it. John Curtis has emailed Sarah Anderson at the Diocese and awaits a reply

Church Administration – As with the Stewardship Committee and the Fabric Committee, it was agreed that it would be helpful for Margaret Nicholas generally if she had others who also knew how things work Administratively in the Parish.

Estonia Link – In a similar vein, the PCC agreed that The Vicar should form a team to participate in matters related to St Mary's Estonia Link.

Caring Concerns - The Vicar reported that five people from St Mary's attended the Caring Concerns Course.

Parish Visiting Team - As with other St Mary's Teams (above) there may be a possibility of forming a Parish Visiting Team.

Wi-Fi – As per the previous PCC meeting, it was confirmed that it would be beneficial to have a Wi-Fi connection in the Church Hall Office. Stuart will continue to look into it.

Church Opening Sign - Diane Williams will investigate purchasing a sign which will be placed outside the church to let people know that the church is open. The PCC agreed an amount of £100 for Diane to spend.

Baptism - The Vicar reported that he has been invited to be part of a new Church of England Christening/Baptism pilot scheme which he considers to be a privilege for St Mary's. He has been sent information and leaflets which were passed round for the PCC to look at. It was agreed that they were all very bright, colourful and user friendly. The Project can also be seen on line. The pilot starts on the 1st July. The Children's Society are currently setting up a Christening present list which will include an ISA investment for the child being baptised. It was agreed that any donations given at future Baptism services would be passed to the Children's Society.

The meeting ended with Prayer

Date of next Meeting: Standing Committee – Tuesday 8 September (moved to Monday 1 September)
PCC Meeting Tuesday 23 September