

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN,
KEMPSEY, HELD IN ST MARY'S HOUSE ON MONDAY 26TH APRIL 2010 AT 7.30 PM**

PRESENT: Mr A Plowman (Chair), Mrs M Childs, Mrs S Cook, Mrs S Fitzjohn, Mrs R Frank, Mrs R Garratt, Mrs E James, Miss Z Jenkins, Mr P Kemp, Mr D Lowe, Mrs M Walters, Mrs G Warfield, Mr M Wood.

During Rev Peter Holzapfel's sabbatical, Alan Plowman as Churchwarden will chair the meetings.

Alan opened the meeting by welcoming the new members.

1. OPENING PRAYER: This was led by Alan. Libby will lead at the next meeting.

2. APOLOGIES: Mr C Bursnall, Mr P Fitzjohn, Rev D Hassell, Mr A Kelly, Mrs H Kelly, Mrs J Romer, Mr D Smith.

3. MINUTES: Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 18th January, having been circulated, were signed as being a true record by Alan.

4. MATTERS ARISING:

a) Update on sound system: This was deferred to the next meeting due to David Anfield's absence

b) Valuation of valuables: This was deferred to the next meeting due to David Hassell's absence.

c) CRB forms: Sue had attended a recent training course at which it was made clear that only volunteers working with C & YP more than once a month need to complete a CRB form.

d) First to the Lord: This was deferred to the next meeting due to David Hassell's absence.

5. CORRESPONDENCE:

* A letter had been sent by Peter to Bishop John asking for permission for Alan Plowman and Paul Kemp to serve as chalice bearers at the altar. It was assumed that Peter had received an affirmative reply.

* A letter had been received from Bishop John regarding a Back to Church Sunday conference to be held on Thursday 17th June 2010 at St Peter's Baptist Church from 10.00am to 12 noon. Rosemary, Peter Fitzjohn and possibly David Lowe and Sheila will attend.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT: This was deferred to the next meeting due to David Hassell's absence.

7. FABRIC OF THE CHURCH:

a) Update on new wiring & lighting: Papers had been sent to the solicitors for signing to obtain a faculty. Plans had been passed by the DAC.

b) Update on North Aisle: Alan reported that the Wulstan Foundation was putting us forward for further funding towards this project.

c) Update on Tower Appeal: Henry Morris was dealing with funding for the bells and Jonathan Campbell and Colin Anstey were fundraising for the tower and roof repairs. Henry and David Hassell had met with the architect and plans were being drawn up.

d) Disability access report: An audit had been carried out a year ago and one of the recommendations was that a rail was erected at the chancel steps. Also that better lighting would make it easier for poorly sighted people.

e) Rail for chancel steps: Some discussion took place and the general feeling was that if a person needed help, there were people present who were willing to give it. Therefore a rail was unnecessary. However, it had been suggested that a rail leading to the lectern would help those reading from it. The possibility of purchasing some steps with a hand rail attached would be looked into. There were no chairs with arms which made getting up from them easier for people with a bad back, hips or knees. **It was proposed by David Lower, seconded by Sue Fitzjohn and unanimously agreed that two such chairs are purchased**

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a) Mission: Sheila said no meeting had taken place.

b) Social:

* Libby reported that the Tradecraft Saturday had raised the profile of goods available both in church and on sale in supermarkets.

* The Lent lunches had been a great success and raised £527.

* The Welsh choir concert had been greatly enjoyed and thanks were paid to Julia for organising it.

* On Pentecost Sunday, 23rd May, a picnic will be held after morning service. The village Songs of Praise will take place in July, A Baptism tea on 12th September and an American evening some time in the Autumn. Severn Stoke will host the Harvest Supper this year.

c) St Mary's House: This was deferred due to David Hassell's absence.

d) Fete: Libby reported that preparations are under way for the fete on Saturday 3rd July.

9. CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE: Martin Wood said the band was a great success last night. They practice twice a month and play at different churches within the Deanery. The grant Vision 33 had been awarded was spent on an amplifier, microphone and literature for distribution. Thanks were paid to Les Turner for his support.

Libby said Children's Church was moving forward although not many children were involved. A Diocesan representative was looking at what resources were available in our church. They are now linking in with the theme of the service. David Lowe is making a frame on which the children can hang their work. It was suggested that the children could sit around a table at the end of the service whilst their parents had a cup of coffee. Little Angels was growing remarkably well. Sue is putting together a portfolio of evidence which will help with their working towards achieving the Kitemark award. The dance group, song group and Arts and Craft group from St Mary's School Club had taken part in morning service. Sue was speaking to some sceptical Year 6 children regarding Open the Book and Gill had talked to three classes about the bible. Groups of children were visiting church where Gill explained the meaning of various signs.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

* It was suggested by Margaret that a letter of thanks is sent to Mac McCall for his tending of the grounds around Kerswell Green Church. **Marian will do this.**

* Alan is to speak to the Archdeacon's secretary regarding a Fair Trade certificate.

* Sue has taken a bag of spectacles to Vision Aid Overseas.

* Our parish is being prayed for by the cathedral this week.

11. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS:

7.30pm Tuesday 22nd June in **church**

7.30pm Tuesday 7th September in **St Mary's House.**

The meeting closed at 8.20pm