

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, KEMPSEY, HELD IN CHURCH ON TUESDAY 22ND JUNE 2010 AT 7.30PM.

PRESENT: Mr A Plowman (Chair), Mr C Bursnall, Mrs M Childs, Mrs S Cook, Mr P Fitzjohn, Mrs S Fitzjohn, Mrs R Frank, Mrs R Garratt, Rev D Hassell, Mrs E James, Miss Z Jenkins, Mr A Kelly, Mrs H Kelly, Mr D Smith, Mrs M Walters, Mrs G Warfield.

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

1. OPENING PRAYER. Led by Libby. Sheila will lead at the next meeting.

2. APOLOGIES: Mr D Anfield, Mr P Kemp, Mr D Lowe, Mrs J Romer.

3. MINUTES: Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 26th April 2010, having been circulated, were signed as being a true record by the Chair.

4. MATTERS ARISING:

a) Update on sound system: David Anfield and his son had corrected the existing problems. They suggested the purchase of some new microphones in the future, but the system will run as it is for the time being until work on the North Aisle is completed..

b) Valuation of valuables held in the bank: David H reported that Richard Peplow has a record of the valuables. It was proposed by Duncan Smith, seconded by Peter Fitzjohn and unanimously agreed that the damaged chalice is repaired at a cost of £100. Arthur will speak with Henry Morris and arrange for PCC members to visit the bank to see the valuables. Duncan will photograph the chalices. **The valuables will be an agenda item for the next meeting.**

c) Update on First to the Lord: Since Mel Smith's visit in February and the subsequent request to the congregation to increase their giving, David H reported that over 90 people gave via a covenant, 50% of which have increased. Giving has dropped significantly and the time has come to look at different ways in which to raise money. The possibility of holding a Talent Sunday was discussed and in principle it was agreed that new ideas for fund raising should be addressed. A note will be placed in the newsletter asking for a volunteer to chair fund raising events for the church.

5. CORRESPONDENCE: Marian had written a letter of thanks to Mac McCall for his work at Kerswell Green church grounds. Sue Fitzjohn will keep us up to date regarding Safeguarding. There is no record of a reply to the letter sent by Peter Holzapfel to Bishop Inge on 26th January 2010 requesting permission for Paul Kemp and Alan Plowman to serve as chalice bearers. Marian, as Secretary, will write again asking for confirmation that permission has been granted.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT: Copies of Income/Expenditure up to the end of May were circulated and explained by David H. He was hopeful that by the end of the year, the deficit will not be too great

7. FABRIC OF THE CHURCH:

a) Update on new wiring and lighting: The faculty for new wiring has been received and Mark Harrison quoted £15,250+VAT for the necessary work. David H showed a photograph of new lights 9 of which are required at £500 each. The DAC has to approve the design, but as they have been put in other churches, this should not prove difficult. Mark Harrison has quoted £4500+VAT to install them and enable them to be lowered to facilitate the changing of bulbs

and cleaning. Legacies have been received to partly pay for these. **It was proposed by Rosemary Frank and seconded by Sheila Cook that these lights are purchased. All members agreed apart from one abstention therefore the motion was carried.**

b) Update on North Aisle and removal of pews in Lady Chapel: Alan and David H will meet and work should be carried out during August. The pews will have to be removed to enable the work to be done and the question was asked as to whether they are replaced with chairs as in the St Andrew Chapel. **A faculty which will be applied for immediately, is required to remove them and it was suggested that this faculty covers the possible removal of the front two pews in the knave. This was proposed by Gill Warfield, seconded by Sheila Cook and unanimously agreed.** The Wolfstan Foundation has given a grant of up to £4000 towards the cost. Duncan reported that there are some graves under the floor in the Lady Chapel and he will photograph them before they are covered up again.

c) Update on Tower appeal: David H and Henry Morris had met with the architect. With the English Heritage grant and extra fund raising by Colin Anstey and Jonathan Campbell, we should be in a position to fund the project within two years. **It was proposed by Arthur Kelly, seconded by Duncan Smith and unanimously agreed that a faculty is applied for.**

d) Hand rail for lectern: Duncan is getting costs for a hardwood rail and also a brass one. He will get a quote from a Philomusica member and also speak to Ron Couzins regarding the man who made the sound cabinet. Jennifer Romer has kindly offered to pay for a wooden rail (probably oak) with suitable fixings to commemorate her and Charles' golden wedding.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a) Mission committee: Sheila reported that a meeting will take place in the summer.

b) Social committee: Libby gave details of recent and forthcoming events. The village Songs of Praise evening has been postponed until next year.

c) St Mary's House committee: This has now been incorporated within the Fabric committee.

d) Fete committee: Libby thanked all the committee for their hard work in preparations for the fete on 3rd July. There will be someone at St Mary's House each evening from 28th June from 6.30 – 8.00pm to receive goods.

9. DAVID ANFIELD'S CONTRACT: Alan and Libby met with David on 5th May when the final job description wording was agreed, copies of which were available for PCC members.. **It was proposed by Libby James, seconded by Sue Fitzjohn and unanimously agreed that the revised job description is approved and signed by David A on his and Peter's return. Music in church will be agenda item at the next meeting.**

10. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE: Libby was pleased to report there are now more children than tables and more furniture is to be purchased funded by a legacy. Sue F reported Open the Book was much appreciated by the school, but more volunteers are required. Children's Church is developing well and Becky Garratt was thanked for her help. Vision 33 are doing well and are hoping to extend the band.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

* Colin will write an article for the magazine explaining how much work is carried out in the church and the cost involved. He also suggested that the younger members of the PCC have an explanation of what is going on thereby making the meeting easier to comprehend.

* Sue suggested the Children and Young People item is put higher up on the agenda in order that the representatives can leave the meeting after these items have been discussed.

* Rosemary suggested that the church choir is asked to give a concert as a fund raising project.

* Arthur gave a report on the recent incident when some church windows had been broken by stone throwing. The police arrested two young people whose parents have initially agreed to pay for the repairs. He will report back at the next meeting.

* Sheila reported that posters and invitations have been ordered for Back to Church Sunday on 26th September. She suggested all Electoral Roll members are invited and PCC members were asked to invite any people they know who once attended church and no longer do so. **This will be an agenda item at the next meeting.**

* Alan had met with Mr and Mrs Slack, who once lived in Kempsey, wish to reserve a burial plot for which they need PCC approval. **This was proposed by Arthur Kelly, seconded by Gill Warfield and unanimously approved.**

* David Hassell thanked Alan for stepping in to chair the meetings during Peter's sabbatical. Thanks were also paid to the Ministry team for their hard work and support over the past three months.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Tuesday 7th September 2010 at 7.30pm in St Mary's House.

The meeting closed at 9.25pm.