

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, KEMPSEY, HELD IN ST MARY'S HOUSE ON WEDNESDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2011 AT 7.30PM**

**PRESENT:** Rev P Holzapfel (Chair), Mr C Bursnall, Mr J Campbell, Mrs M Childs, Mrs S Cook, Mrs R Frank, Mrs R Garratt, Mrs E James, Mr A Kelly, Mrs H Kelly, Mr P Kemp, Mr A Plowman, Mrs J Romer, Mrs M Walters,

**1. OPENING PRAYER:** Led by Jennifer. Paul will lead at the next meeting.

**2. APOLOGIES:** Mr D Anfield, Mr P Fitzjohn, Mrs S Fitzjohn, Rev D Hassell, Mr D Lowe, Mr D Smith, Mrs G Warfield.

**3. MINUTES:** Minutes of the meetings held on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> November and Monday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2010, having been circulated, were signed as being a true record by the Chair.

**4. MATTERS ARISING:**

**a) Update on the votive candle stand:** Duncan will follow up the sketch for the stand from Tim Jeffrey. He has also discussed designs with Garry Fullagar.

**b) Update on handrail:** Duncan had a meeting with a local artisan blacksmith, Garry Fullagar which generated some exciting ideas for a rail. He now awaits his proposals and sketches.

**c) Update on the loop system:** This was deferred to the next meeting due to David Anfield's absence.

**d) Microphone training:** It was agreed that everyone who reads or wishes to read in church, together with those who read intercessions, should receive training from Gill in order to project their voices effectively.

**5. CORRESPONDENCE:** A letter from the Diocese asked for forms to be filled in and returned regarding election of members to the Deanery Synod and details of the Electoral Roll.

**6. FINANCIAL STATEMENT ON THE FABRIC OF THE CHURCH:** Due to David Hassell's absence, the main report was deferred until the next meeting.

Alan summarised the work which has taken place over the last few years. He emphasised that the cost of repairs etc had been met from grants received from various bodies and efforts were made not to take money from church funds. The Church Lands Trust pays for the electricity and gas, but these monies are diminishing. It was agreed that an article is placed in the parish magazine reminding people of the cost of maintaining the church. David Hassell is speaking in church on 27<sup>th</sup> February about the need for increased giving. The possibility of holding another Gift Day was mentioned. Alan was thanked for his on going hard work regarding the fabric of the church.

Peter had received a message from Mike Rogers regarding the Diocesan question as to whether they should commission a review of the current Parish Share formula. After some discussion, it was agreed that Peter would tell Mike Rogers, who is collating responses, that we need some options to enable us to identify which is best.

**7. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE:** Libby was pleased to report that the Young People had run a lovely Christmas service at which Zoe Jenkins preached. They are leading a morning service on 20<sup>th</sup> February. The St Mary's School Clubs are starting after half term and Open the Book is still very well received by the school children. Little Angels has started again with a growing number of mothers and babies/toddlers attending. The Families Together service at

which breakfast is served beforehand, had been well received. Lots of ideas are being talked about and the plan is to encourage more families to attend.

**8. MUSIC IN CHURCH:** In the absence of David Anfield there was little to report although it was much appreciated that the choir was coming to more morning services. Marian will write to David Anfield to express the thanks of the PCC for this. The choir has recorded a CD of popular wedding hymns and fifteen wedding couples will attend a service on 13<sup>th</sup> February during which they will hear the choir sing.

**9. CHANCEL REPAIR LIABILITY:** A letter was received from the Diocese regarding the need for registration of these, emphasising the importance of the PCC's responsibilities. Copies of the letter together with the form were circulated after which lengthy discussion took place. Jennifer will give Alan details of how to obtain a "Chancel Check" and Marian will write to Robert Higham for clarification on the way forward. Person or persons from the PCC will have to collate information obtained from past minutes, memories and records.

#### **10. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**a) Mission:** Sheila reported that due to the reduction of giving to Mission, Leprosy mission envelopes are to be given out, envelopes for the Bible Lands Society will be given out during Lent and at the Lent lunches, money will be raised for the Barnabas Society.

**b) Social:** Libby reported that refreshments at the Crib Service had been very well received as had the breakfast prior to the Families Together service. This is now moving towards a proper breakfast with more variety of food available. She gave a list of forthcoming events and said a programme for the coming year was being drawn up. It had been agreed that the committee will in future be known as the Social and Fund Raising committee.

Becky said she was hoping to arrange a relaxing weekend away for church members at Lee Abbey in North Devon in the early summer. She outlined details and will explore it further.

**11. CHRISTMAS FEEDBACK:** All festive services were praised for their excellence and Peter was pleased with attendance despite the adverse weather.

**12. CHRISTMAS TREE/CAROL SERVICE SPONSOR:** Marian will write letters of thanks to Ernie Morris for kindly donating the magnificent Christmas tree, Mrs Cox for kindly sponsoring the Carol Service (£50) and Beatrice Duckworth for lending a Baby Burco heater to warm the mulled wine at the Crib Service.

#### **13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

\* Colin expressed disappointment that not more people attended the three family services.

Peter said it would take a while to build these up, but more families are making a commitment.

\* Peter announced there is to be an open meeting on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> February to discuss the forming of a visiting team to address the increasing need for such a service in the village.

\* Reports should be sent to Marian during February in readiness for the AGM.

#### **14. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS:**

AGM                                      Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm in St Mary's House (followed by a short PCC meeting).

Full PCC meeting                      Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm in St Mary's House.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm