

**MINUTES OF ST GEORGE'S PCC MEETING HELD IN THE CHURCH
ON TUESDAY 1ST NOVEMBER 2016 AT 8.00 pm**

Present: Fr Mike, Rosy Stone (Churchwarden), John Hood (Churchwarden), Barbie Lloyd (Deanery Synod), Sheilah Hall, Chris Gadd, Patricia Byrne, Norma Kershaw, Dick Handy, Colin Monk, Dawn Trimby (Treasurer), Jane Cook (Secretary)

ACTION

1. **Apologies for absence:** Malcolm Brewer, Lynne McNeill, Elaine Shimbart (Deanery Synod)

Fr Mike thanked welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming.

2. **Minutes of last PCC meeting on 26th September**

The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record.

3. **Matters Arising**

Page 1, Item 3 – John said the Faculty is registered for the Noticeboard. They have come back and said action is required and John has checked it electronically and can find nothing to answer so he will ring them. Northwood are very keen to get it up so they can have their photograph done with the cheque for the money they donated towards it.

Page 2, Item 7a) – Fr Mike said we must record our huge thanks to Patricia and Chris and all their helpers for the magnificent result from the church shop. Patricia said she enjoyed doing it as a one off!

Page 2, Item 7b) – The ChurchLive Harvest broadcast was very successful and over 1,200 people have watched it.

Page 4, Item 12 – Fr Mike said that HBC have denied all knowledge of owning the lych gate so we are free to put the Commonwealth War Graves Commission's sign there telling people that we have one war grave in the churchyard. It needs someone to go down to the Records Office which Rosy said is situated in the History Centre at the main Central Library in Portsmouth to locate the old church records regarding the ownership of the lych gate. Tony Rice-Oxley also suggested contacting Hilary Tyler, our Solicitor for advice.

Page 4, Item 12 – John said he had been unable to make the insurance meeting.

JH

4. a) **Treasurer's Report**

Dawn gave the following report:

Income

- Fundraising is from the Church shop
- Extra-ordinary income is £160.62 reimbursement for the organ tuning from WMF.

Expenditure

- Church maintenance includes keys, a new steam iron, the new sign for the front of the church and the window cleaner.

Dawn said she needs to have it minuted that we need to change the signatories on the HSBC bank account so she can show it to the bank. Dawn proposed that the PCC approve the signatories of the HSBC bank account as follows: Dawn Trimby (Treasurer), Jane Cook (Secretary), John Hood (Churchwarden), Rosy Stone (Churchwarden) and Richard Handy (Secretary of the Fabric and Finance Committee). This was proposed by Dawn Trimby, seconded by Sheilah Hall and agreed unanimously.

b) Charity Treasurer's Report

Lynne was not at the meeting and no report had been received.

c) Fabric, Finance and Quinquennial Committee Report

Minutes of the meeting held on 18th October have already been circulated.

- John asked whether the Health and Safety file has turned up yet and it doesn't appear to have done. He suggests making a soft copy of it once it turns up.
- Gardener – John said there seems to have been negligible work done this year and wondered whether we need to keep him on. Dick said he has been in today and took a van load and car load away with him. He only tends to come once every 2 weeks or so or when there is enough work to be done to keep him and his team busy. Dawn said under Grounds Maintenance only £106.21 has been used and this is including the mower repair bill. John said after hearing this he is obviously good value for money and we should keep him on. However, we need to keep June Diaper in the loop as Verger as to what he is doing.
- Colin advised that we have offers of £1,000 each from two Councillors at HBC to purchase a bench for the churchyard and a defibrillator for the use of the community which it has been suggested should be situated on the outside of the church hall. Jane Rice-Oxley has been researching the cost of the defibrillator and has so far found that the box and security lock is £800 before buying the defibrillator so the total would be in excess of £1,000. Colin wondered whether it would be safer situated on the Police Station. Jane R-O will do some more work on it but PCC agreed that this was important and should not be dismissed. Colin will ask Jane to find out what the total cost would be.
- The other part of this offer of money was for a bench for the churchyard. John has put together an estimate for the refurbishment of the present benches at a total cost of £448.62 for the materials and it is proposed that George's Men volunteers will carry out the work.
- The 2017 Budget had been copied to everyone. Colin said that as there were a few queries on it and as Dawn had been away she had not had a chance to look at it this may be liable to a few changes. He felt it would be a waste of time to discuss it at this meeting. Instead he suggested that the F&F Committee should arrange another brief meeting after Dawn has had a chance to look at it and we will put it as the main item on the agenda for the

CM

F&F

ACTION

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next meeting on 14th December. Everyone was happy with this suggestion.

- **Charities** – Fr Mike advised that the list of charities that we support throughout the year ran out in September. Lynne, as Charity Treasurer, has nominated charities to take us to the end of the year. He explained that a small committee meets once a year to agree on the charities we should support and asked for a couple of volunteers to meet with Lynne. Sheilah and Jane volunteered to do this.

LMcN/
SH/JC

5. **Pastoral Committee Report**

The meeting that was due to be held on 19th October was postponed until the 29th November.

6. **Hall Committee Report**

Minutes of the meeting held on 19th October have already been circulated. Colin said he had a couple of things to report on.

- Back in July Colin came to let people in for a children's party and a man was delivering a bouncy castle. After talking to him Colin discovered that the man only has insurance to cover deficiencies in the equipment. He only sets it up and then leaves. The Hall Committee are worried that if a child is injured they might come after us and the hall insurance. After discussion it was agreed that we contact our insurers, Ecclesiastical, to see what their advice would be and Colin will report back to the next meeting. Jane to put on agenda.
- Colin said unfortunately you may have noticed that the old gas fire in the hall is out of action. Andy from Highfield has said that it is now obsolete and he cannot get parts for it. The quote for a new gas fire is £1,270. Andy said we would need 2 radiators to replace this fire if we wanted to do that. However, with the type of usage the hall has people want heat immediately and you wouldn't get this with radiators. Colin has spoken to Tony R-O who thinks we should get this replaced as soon as possible. The PCC agreed that we have no alternative. Colin Monk proposed that we replace the gas fire at a cost of £1,270 and this was seconded by Patricia Byrne and agreed unanimously.
- Colin said as you are aware work has taken place to put paving slabs at the bottom of the steps leading to the hall. The Hall have paid the invoice for this work at £1,425. Colin proposed that this bill be split 50/50 between PCC and the Hall. Fr Mike said we did have another legacy of £100 last week which can be used towards it. There is possibly another donation towards it as well. Dawn will look into this and take it back to the F&F Committee.

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CM

DT

7. **Other Committee Reports**

Fr Mike, and the 2 Churchwardens, Rosy and John, recently attended a conference on how to grow the church. This was over 3 days and they had to work through a text book, a chapter at a time, over 8 sessions. Fr Mike reported that St George's actually came out pretty well and we already do quite a lot of the things mentioned. Where do

we go from here? Fr Mike and the Churchwardens have proposed that we want to do 3 things:

- 1) Create Mission team – 3 + 3 people making a team of 6 to see what we have to do to grow our church.
- 2) Once the group is established arrange a PCC Conference – away day or afternoon – so we can talk about how St George’s can move forward and establish a list of priorities.
- 3) Make a bigger awareness of the Pastoral Committee. We are getting new people into church nearly every week but the figures do not go up dramatically over the year so it would be interesting to find out why – who has gone and the reason why. Pastoral Committee will specifically take that on.

Fr Mike asked for the PCC’s thoughts on this. Dick said it is something we have to move forward with and thinks this is a good starting point.

Fr Mike said one of the things that came across at the Conference is that they are not expecting us to increase our numbers all of a sudden.

The PCC agreed that we should move forward on this.

- a) **Social and Fundraising Committee**
Not met – meeting next Wednesday.

- b) **Communications Team (Report from Chris Gadd)**

Chris said they have not met but gave the following report:

- Chris confirmed that Northwood are doing their Advent art competition. They have elected to choose just one school as it is their first year and the chosen school is Queens Inclosure. Fr Mike had suggested that they do a large Christmas Day Nativity scene in their main door as well and Chris confirmed that they will do this.
- Chris has had two meetings with MHA – retirement apartments and the Care Home which are just opening on the new estate in Hambledon Road. He spoke to the Managers of both these establishments both of whom were very enthusiastic about bringing residents up to St George’s for services. He might be able to ask them for some money for WMF as well.
- Stay Local – PCC authorised Chris to put adverts in. This came out at slightly more than anticipated at a little over £300. For this we get a joint advert in this month’s edition and an advert and post card jointly with Sacred Heart in the December edition.
- Radio broadcast of our Carol Service will take place on 18th December and the people will be coming up to sort out their microphones etc before that. It will be recorded on that evening and broadcast on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.
- ChurchLive was a success and it was great we had so many views. Chris felt that the church was a bit empty and several people agreed. Put something in the Bulletin to ask for the congregation’s opinions and also look at the numbers attending

MS

ACTION

- Harvest over the last few years.
- Fr Mike said the Advent Carol Service is coming up and the Mayor of Havant will be coming. Please come and encourage others to come as well.

All

8. **Deanery Synod Report**

Not met

9. **Correspondence**

There was no correspondence.

- Rubbish bins - Fr Mike said that the 2 rubbish bins in the churchyard are rusting badly and dangerous. The Councillor is taking it forward and thinks HBC should provide new bins. John said if we have to buy them we could pay £400 instead of £800. Someone has been today to look at them and said they may take them away. Colin said he raised the matter 20 years ago. He took the matter to the Council and Stephen Kerr agreed that as this is the only green space in Waterlooville and used by the public that they would install 2 new bins. He said from 1st April this year the Council has out-sourced their depot services to Norse but the Council is still responsible for the clearing of rubbish. Colin thinks we should go back to the Council and say they have cleared the rubbish for the last 20 years and need to continue.
- Opera Comique - Fr Mike said their concert in the church in September was a great success and they really liked the venue and have requested holding another concert in October next year. Fr Mike said it all depends when we hold our Harvest Festival next year. Do we want to hold it on 1st October which means the Harvest supper the night before would be in September or should we move it forward a week to 8th October. Whichever we do Opera Comique will have the other date. PCC agreed that we should have Harvest on 8th October next year.

MS/JH

MS

10. **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday 14th December** at the Vicarage starting at 7.30 pm.

All

The meeting closed at 9.25 pm