

BIRSTALL & WANLIP PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday, 23 January 2013 at St James the Great, Birstall

(The venue had been changed due to inclement weather)

Present: Mrs Janet Waters (Chair), Revd Vince Jupp, Mr Tony Bloxam, Mr John Ward, Mr Alan Lewin (Treasurer), Mr Bert Tegg, Mrs Marion Tegg, Mr Peter Grange, Mrs Rose Parrott, Mrs Gill Pope, Miss Sandra Robinson, Mrs Lesley Walton, Mrs Doreen Wilson, Mrs Mary Belton, Mrs Beryl McHugh, Mr Clive Mobbs, Mrs Cicely Plumb (Secretary)

Apologies: Mrs Mary Houghton, Mrs Mary Bruce, Mrs Maureen Holland, Mr Peter Moyers

The meeting opened with a prayer/

1. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

2. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

3. Finance

- (i) The treasurer reported that the end of year accounts would be brought to the next PCC meeting in March. Because of the rebate on the parish share income and expenditure will balance.
- (ii) The treasurer also sought agreement from the members for the Mission allocation as shown on the agenda. It was suggested that lesser known charities should be chosen in future years as LOROS and Rainbows are very well supported locally by the general public. It was agreed that consideration will be given to this next year. It was proposed by Mr John Ward, seconded by Mrs Doreen Wilson and agreed unanimously that the Mission allocation for this year should be as set out below:

	£
CMS Church Missionary Society	1,000
USPG United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel	1,000
St James Day Centre	1,000
Bethany Orphanages	550
Diocese of Uruguay	550
Christian Solidarity Worldwide	275
LOROS	300
Rainbows	300
Launde Abbey	150
SWORD Christian drama group	200
Street Pastors	150
Guild of Bellringers	<u>25</u>
	5,500

- (iii) Increase in fees: The treasurer sought agreement for an increase in non-statutory fees of 2% for people who work in the church. This was proposed by Rose Parrott, seconded by Beryl McHugh and agreed unanimously.
- (iv) Funding programme: Revd Jupp reported that he had met with Andrew Nutter, Diocesan funding officer, and it was suggested that it is not appropriate for us to have a funding programme, because of the demography of our congregation, but we should concentrate more on such things as Thanksgiving Sunday, Harvest and legacies. He would be happy to be involved and has asked to be invited to the March PCC meeting, where he will give a power-point presentation. Revd Jupp and Alan Lewin will prepare for this. **Action: VJ/AL**

The treasurer confirmed that, following Thanksgiving Sunday standing orders were up by £40/month and envelope giving by £12/week.

4. **Mission & Evangelism** (Revd Jupp)

- (i) PMAG had met recently to discuss priorities. We are already doing things together and the marriage preparation course was a huge success. There is a suggestion of a “pilgrimage” along the river, taking in and stopping at each parish, to enable people to meet and find out about each other. It is hoped the newssheet will be out again shortly.
- (ii) Hospitality report: A copy of the report was distributed to members. Lesley Walton went through some of the measures taken to improve the hospitality and welcome we show to the community. Mugs have been bought to replace the paper cups and these were shown to and approved by the meeting. A welcome pack has been developed for new church members and a follow-up course, “Discovering God”, will commence on 24 January. There is also a plan to produce banners for Lent. The sum of £500 has already been raised for church funds from the market place stall on Sunday mornings. A get-together had been held for people who had attended the CAP course and there was very positive feedback from them and they were grateful to the church for the course.

The Chairman congratulated the hospitality group on their achievements so far and the work they are still doing.

5. **Reports in brief**

- (i) Bid Group: Bert Tegg
There is nothing further to report at the moment but Mads Morgan, Youth Ministry Officer for the Diocese, who has a lot of experience in this field has been invited to talk to the Mission Group on Wednesday, 6 February.
- (ii) Youth and Community:
 - (a) Marion Tegg spoke about Tiny Tots, a group she runs with Elaine White. This is a popular facility for young families and is also useful to keep in touch following baptisms with parents who may not come to church but do appreciate their children hearing Bible stories, etc. However, she and Elaine are in desperate need of more help but

no-one has come forward since the appeal in the notice sheet. It was suggested that Marion should speak to the congregation directly at the All-together service on 1 February and this she agreed to do.

(b) Rose Parrott reported on the Sunday school, which is going well. Two events have been planned, a “grapes and grain” session at half term at Wanlip and on 12 April an open air event starting at Watermead Park. A meeting is to be held shortly to plan next term’s programme.

Revd Jupp congratulated everyone, in particular Jo Burgess, who had been involved in the Journey to Bethlehem, which had been very much appreciated by the schools.

The Chairman thanked, on behalf of the PCC, everyone involved in youth and community work.

(iii) Social Committee: Sandra Robinson

The Social Committee report had been sent to members prior to the meeting. A social calendar is being prepared to be given out with the next information sheet and will also be available on the website. A “High Society” evening is to be held on 3 March and thought is being given to a summer event on the church lawn. The committee will be pleased to receive suggestions for future events.

(iv) Music and Worship: Beryl McHugh

At the last meeting there had been discussion around the services at Advent and Christmas. Most services had been very well attended, the exceptions being the second service at Wanlip and Midnight Mass. The suggestion was made that Midnight Mass should commence at 11pm this year, instead of 11.30pm, but after discussion a vote was taken which resulted in 2 for, 2 against and 11 abstentions. The Chairman had the casting vote and understood tradition favoured the status quo. The service will, therefore, remain at 11.30pm.

The fifth Sunday services at Wanlip had proved successful and the committee would like to hear from anyone who would like to take part in this service. The possibility of purchasing new hymn books was also discussed, as the ones in current use are over 20 years old.

Revd Jupp reported that it was time to review the All-together service as this had been going for six months. After discussion it was agreed that a review should be held after a full calendar year but, in the meantime, Revd Jupp would produce a questionnaire for the congregation to gather their opinions. **Action: VJ**

The Music and Worship Committee had also discussed the question of the clarity of intercessors and lesson readers and suggested training should be given on the use of the microphone.

6. Buildings

(i) Birstall: Tony Bloxam

Tony reported that after receiving the go ahead from the PCC to contact the DAC to approve the repair of the roof, a fourth section was found to be leaking. A further quote was sought from Norman and Underwood

and this came to £26,565 including VAT, to re-copper completely the sections. After discussion with the architect it was suggested that Norman and Underwood should be asked to start at the bottom section and work upwards until there is no leakage. Norman and Underwood had agreed to progress in that manner and this could possibly save around £4,100.

It was proposed by Gill Pope and seconded by Bert Tegg that Tony Bloxam should seek approval from the DAC to request Norman and Underwood to proceed with the work up to a cost of £26,545. This was agreed unanimously. **Action: TB**

Emergency lighting: Following an incident recently when the lights had failed, Tony had ascertained that the estimated cost of providing emergency lighting is £150. The committee agreed, with one abstention, for Tony to proceed with the provision of emergency lighting at the rear of the church. **Action: TB**

Kitchen upgrade: The kitchen in the Howard Room is being upgraded and new flooring is required. Rose Parrott provided details of a type of floor-covering which is claimed to be breathable and damp-proof and Tony agreed to investigate further. It is hoped to acquire a dishwasher, coffee machine and possibly a cooker. Revd Jupp reported that Revd Stephen Crofts had agreed that the money collected in memory of his wife, Minne, could be used for the purpose of refurbishing the Howard Room. He felt it was an appropriate way to use the money raised. Lesley Walton agreed to investigate further the coffee machine and Tony Bloxam will try to find an appropriate dishwasher. **Action: LW/TB**

It is also hoped to redecorate the toilets but agreement was not reached at this meeting regarding the removal of the partition.

St James Hall Project:

Revd Jupp requested approval from the PCC to seek a pre-application advice at a cost of £390 including VAT, in order to go forward with the next stage of the process. This was agreed unanimously. **Action: VJ**

(ii) Wanlip: John Ward

The Quinquennial report has been received. Some repairs have already been carried out. Work is required to parapets and stonework and the cost of re-pointing is estimated as £36,000 at £75 per square metre and he considered that this should be budgeted for at around £5,000 per year.

Piano: The DAC had considered this at their December meeting and had raised queries. It is to be discussed again in February. They may request a valuation and condition report.

Houseling Cloth: If it is still desired to display the Houseling Cloth in the church, the DAC is asking for a detailed Conservation report and detailed drawings of the proposed display cabinet/mounting method. There would obviously be costs incurred, possibly around £650, and further costs in constructing the display cabinet and undertaking any repairs required by the Conservator.

After discussion it was agreed that, as long as people could access the Houseling cloth when required, it should be left where it is for now and the Wanlip congregation should be asked for their opinion.

Boilers: There was a problem with the boiler in the rooms recently. This has been rectified and the opportunity taken to have both the church and rooms boilers serviced.

Car Park: A complaint has been received from a neighbour regarding young people creating a nuisance by using the car park at night. In the short term the car park floodlight has been set to come on every night to see if this has a deterrent effect. The neighbour has suggested a gate across the entrance but we would need agreement from River House and Jelsons, who own the access road.

7. **Rector's items**

- (i) Garden Fete: This will be held on August Bank holiday Monday again this year and a decision needs to be made as to where money raised should be given. In previous years half has been given to the church and half to a charity. Various suggestions were made and after a vote had been taken it was agreed that the charity to benefit this year should be the City of Sanctuary.

8. **Deanery**

Bert Tegg reported that there has been no meeting since the last PCC.

9. **Churches Together**

The next meeting will be held on 10 April 2013.

Lent Course:

This year the Lent course will be a Christian game called Table Talk and will consist of five meetings to be held in the evening and moving around the churches, including Wanlip. This will be publicised widely and transport will be arranged where necessary. Tony Bloxam will speak to other churches regarding arrangements for transport for members of their congregations. **Action: TB**

10. **Correspondence** None

11. **Any other business**

- (i) 50th anniversary of the church extension:
This will be on All Saints Day, 3 November, and ideas are being asked for on how to commemorate the occasion. It was suggested that memorabilia should be sought and displayed in the church and the church should be open over the weekend for the benefit of the general public. The Social Committee will also put this on their agenda in June. Information will be put in the newsletter to make the congregation aware in good time.
- (ii) General catering: In response to an email received from Mrs Sheryl Jupp, Tony Bloxam reported that although the Social Committee take

care of catering on occasions organised by them there are a number of occasions when refreshments are required and no-one knows who should be the co-ordinator at such times. It was agreed that a catering co-ordinator is required and two names were put forward. It was agreed that they should be approached to see if they wished to take on this role, either together or individually. **Action: SR/TB**

- (iii) Health & Safety Policy statement: This has been reviewed and agreed. The next review will be in December 2015.
- (iv) APCM April 2013. Revd Jupp will welcome suggestions for the format for the meeting in April.

12. **Next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 19 March, 2013 at St James the Great, Birstall. **NB:** Not 20th March as originally planned.

The meeting ended with the Grace.