

BIRSTALL AND WANLIP PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held at Wanlip Village Hall on Wednesday 14th May 2014.

Present: Revd.V Jupp, Mrs Debbie Shephard, Mr John Ward, Mrs Janet Waters, Mrs Dorothy Wakefield, Mr Bert Tegg, Mrs Marion Tegg, Mrs Cicely Plumb, Mrs Gillian Pope, Mrs Lesley Walton, Miss Sandra Robinson, Mr Tony Bloxam, Mrs Nicki Wills, Mrs Mary Bruce, Mrs Elaine White, Mrs Beryl McHugh, Mr Alastair McHugh.

Apologies: Mr Peter Chester, Mrs Annette Marshall, Mrs Leigh Reid

The meeting opened with a prayer.

1. Minutes of meeting held on 12th March 2014.

An addition to the minutes was received from Mrs Rose Parrott which was to include more detail than written. (a) Under section on Reports.

An updated report was presented on the work done by the Children and Family Services since their Annual Plan of 2013-14 was presented at the PCC meeting of 3rd September 2014. The report included (i) discussions and training items related to Safeguarding in the Parish, according to Diocesan Policy and Procedures.

(ii) Teaching plans to complete the Communion course, plan for the 9-14 year age group's needs and for the younger children in Sunday School.

(iii) Refurbishment for the family area in the Church within the summer holidays.

(iv) The provisional arrangements for the leadership of this team during Mrs Parrott's Sabbatical year (Easter 2014-Easter 2015).

2. Matters Arising

Mr Tony Bloxam pointed out that the statement within the minutes of 13th April should read **for** our insurers and not **from** our insurers.

Mrs Janet Waters stated that the decision about Mission and Evangelism will be made in June not in April. All were in favour on both matters.

3. Mission and Evangelism

Revd. Jupp states that the bid is now in and that we should know the outcome on 6th June. Mrs Janet Waters informed the meeting that Barry has sent invitations out to the Mission Shaped Ministry Group and that she would attend along with Gill and Peter Chester and possibly Mr Bert Tegg. The information will be repeated in general notices.

4. Finance.

- (1) Mrs Nicki Wills informed us that mandates are being transferred and that banking and writing cheques is now possible. Mrs Wills is attempting to expand the envelope and standing order scheme and explained that the difficulty with Gift Aid was being addressed by Mr Alan Lewin and that we would hopefully receive some money back from the Tax office. Revd Jupp stated that he was very happy that the jobs of Treasurer and giving within the congregation, was being undertaken by Mrs Wills.

- (2) Revd Jupp asked of those present how many had watched the short video regarding the Parish Gift. It was about half of those present. Although on the video the sum of 3.5% was stated Revd Jupp felt that rounding this up to 5% was appropriate as we are going to be getting £15.000 towards the growth fund and proposed that we give £57.000 equivalent to 5.27%. This was seconded by Mrs Debbie Shephard and Mr Tony Bloxam. All in favour.
- (3) Mrs Walton enquired where the money would come from however and Revd Jupp stated that we must have a systematic and more planned approach to giving throughout the year. Mrs Dorothy Wakefield asked if non churchgoers ever contributed and the response was yes, from those who used to come or have connections to St.James. Mrs Wills will try to make contact with those people. Mr Alastair McHugh asked if finance was bought up at either Alpha courses or Confirmation and it was noted to do this.
- (4) Revd Jupp stated that he and Mrs Wills are going on a day course in September and suggested that Mrs Wills be reimbursed a days pay to compensate. Mrs Wills declined the offer with thanks and said that she would take a holiday day for this.
- (5) The Walker Road property has had two offers of £195.00 one of which was a cash buyer and Mr Alan Lewin has accepted the latter.

5. Reports in Brief

Miss Sandra Robinson said there was nothing to report.

Mrs Lesley Walton also had nothing to report.

Mrs Beryl McHugh also had nothing. There were no other reports.

6. Buildings

- (1) **Birstall.** Mr Tony Bloxam reports that there was a gas leak from a heater and that the appropriate people were called in. It also coincided with the service date so both repair and service were done on 14th May. The roof repair was carried out but a workman saw another piece missing. Both the Diocese and insurance say we can go ahead with a repair. The piece missing is the flashing between the old church and new and can be replaced with lead or with stainless steel. If we use the latter however this will require planning permission and that could take several weeks. The quotes from Norman and Underwood were £465.45 for tern coated stainless steel and £508.44 for lead, both plus VAT. Revd Jupp asked Mr Bloxam if he was willing to go through the procedure for planning permission, and Mr John Ward asked about building consent for Grade 11 listing. Mr Bloxam said it was straightforward and that he had no preference but as Mr Ward was concerned about falling foul of regulations Mr Bloxam will now talk further to Charnwood Borough Council. As it would be the solution to lead theft all were in favour of stainless steel pending further questions to the council and a written note saying that we don't need a faculty.

- (2) Mrs Wills asked about doing something to increase security. Mr Bloxam says that there are many schemes but they are very expensive. A quote had been requested for both Birstall and Wanlip but the one for Birstall had never arrived. Mr Ward said he had received the one for Wanlip and it was described as frightening. Mr Bloxam said that the insurance would only give an increased payout however and it may be wise to look at simpler forms to gain an idea of costs.
- (3) **Wanlip** Mr John Ward spoke of the need to develop the hall. To comply with health and safety regulations a sum of £30.000 was needed to refurbish the kitchen and a combination of grants and fundraising was the current approach. Revd Jupp remarked how great the side garden was looking with the aid of a Severn Trent grant and there was now the possibility for wedding marquees to be put up. With the acquisition of a bar license it would be possible to maximise the usage. There are five weddings booked for this year. It might be a good idea to lend £10.000 to the project with money from the sale of Walker Road and get it up and running sooner to bring in revenue. Mrs Marion Tegg was concerned however about the state of the toilets, feeling that they needed an upgrade also. Mr Bert Tegg said a document should be drawn up to safeguard the loan. Mr Ward said that when some finance is in place he will get three quotes. In principle, the vote was all in favour with the exception of Mr Ward on the grounds of a vested interest.

7. Discussion Items.

- (1) Mrs Dorothy Wakefield had raised the question of service times at the meeting of 2nd April and whether they should be moved back to 9.30am, having heard some say it was preferable. This invoked a discussion with both sides of the argument and Revd Jupp will compose a simple questionnaire to be placed at the back of the church for members of the congregation to express their preference.
- (2) CONFIDENTIAL ITEM
- (3) Fete Planning. Revd Jupp said that volunteers are still needed to oversee the preparations and that these should perhaps come from the PCC. Revd. Jupp, Mr Tony Bloxam, Mr John Ward, Mrs Debbie Shephard, and Mrs Beryl McHugh have all agreed to form the nucleus and share the chore.
- (4) Sidesman Rota. Revd Jupp and others to ask around for people to take up this valuable role.
- (5) Ride and Stride. This will take place at Wanlip but not Birstall in September.

8. Rectors Items

With regard to the advert for an organist, although placed in the RSCM there was no response, however there was an advert in Diomail from someone offering his services so Revd Jupp will follow that up.

Anne Crosby will be ordained on 29th June and her first service will be on 6th July followed by preaching on the following Sunday. There are tickets available on a first come first served basis for the ordination service. As a new Curate it would be a nice gesture to offer her a book grant, usually £150.00 a year. All were in favour. It was also suggested that a welcome party would be nice and Revd Jupp will look at this.

The next Deanery meeting which will be attended by Revd Jupp and Mr Bert Tegg will be in June. It was unclear when the next meeting was for the Churches Together and Mr Bloxam said he would clarify this. He has subsequently done this and the meeting will be held at St. Theresa's on July 9th at 7.30pm.

Revd Jupp read out correspondence from Mrs Betty Howard and this was with reference to the poor toilet conditions at St. James Church. The suggestion is that the dividing wall be knocked down to increase room and a general refurbishment take place which includes new flooring and some heating which Mrs Lesley Walton feels will improve the ambience. All were in favour of a general refurbishment of the toilet and Mrs Howard will be informed that her letter was read out and will be acted upon.

The date of the next meeting is 23rd July at St. James Church Birstall.

The Meeting ended with The Grace.