

**Meeting of Birstall & Wanlip Parochial Church Council
at Wanlip on September 15th 2015 at 7.30 p.m.**

AGENDA

Our vision is to be an open Christian community where people feel loved, respected and free to be fully themselves'.

- **Anne Crosby** opened the meeting in prayer
- **Apologies** were received from Lesley Walton, Sandra Robinson, Pete Chester, Janet Waters, Elaine White, and Julie Ward
- **Minutes from the previous meeting were read and accepted unanimously**
Alastair Mc Hugh asked to **have his name added** to the email distribution list.

- **Matters arising from the minutes**

Update on Broadnook.

A question was raised about where the children would go for secondary schooling from Broadnook. Not known at this stage.

There has been no further information about the charitable status of the partnership. The meeting with the Archdeacon has taken place. Vince is hoping the Archdeacon will facilitate a meeting of all PCCs concerned, and suggested our whole PCC attend in order to focus questions around this subject.

The Deanery meeting is on Nov. 11th, venue TBA, and Broadnook will be the topic under discussion.

Vince has sent Rob an email, again stating that the whole issue must be looked at very closely, especially as it concerns clergy deployment. In VJ's opinion, the 2020 plan needs to be revisited. Rob has agreed in principle.

A question asked about making this a conventional district is very relevant. The opinion was expressed that there seems to be confusion between the aims of the Deanery and our Partnership.

- **Mission and evangelism**

- Mission Partnership

There are now lots of opportunities for shared experiences, e.g. the **ACTS course** with D White,(S March assisting) the **marriage prep** course which is on-going and meeting regularly.

The menu of **training opportunities** is coming out in the autumn, people can dip in and out.

Once a month prayer – has not been so well attended. Is this a problem for the parish? It was observed that during Lent course, people came along when it was in their locality. It is important to remember people can't be at everything; working as a Mission Partnership gives us opportunities to offer more than simply one way to connect with God.

- Pioneer Work update (report in advance)

Favourably received. It was suggested that the report be made available at the back of church; this will be done.

- **Finance**

The copyright license has been paid. The 10k loan for Wanlip has been transferred to them.

Nicki is working with our donations co-ordinator (claiming tax back) – and everything is now on track in the new system for this year.

Insurances are up for renewal end of September, and will be paid in 12 equal instalments for no extra fee.

Planned giving overall is on target. We are all very thankful for all that Nicki does.

- **Reports in brief** (reports to be circulated in advance please),

- Social

The committee met and the plan for next year is in preparation. There will be a Parish retreat at Launde in October next year.

- Music and Worship

The committee met, and it seems that there is less pressure to buy software since different options have become available.

- Website

No report.

- Sunday School

We should have a children and families group meeting; new materials are out and some other matters need discussion. **Rose will arrange this.**

The Sunday School 'birthday' is at the end of the month (on 'back to church' Sunday, Sept 27th) so could we celebrate?

Note - 'Back to church Sunday' Sept 27th – we have dropped the idea of this specific Sunday as the result of public debate. We should be constantly encouraging others to come along, making disciples all the time.

- C.P.O.C.,

Meeting took place with the group concerned, and the outcome was that the agreement was reaffirmed for the next 12 months. This is awaiting the Archdeacon's signature.

- Hospitality

No report.

- Men's Group.

The last meeting was very successful. Next meeting Oct 18th where Peter Astill, recently ordained deacon in Catholic Church will speak. Nov 29th speaker is Peter Watson.

It was re-iterated that it would be very useful to have reports **submitted in advance by leaders of all groups.**

- **Buildings**

- Birstall

Work is progressing on the toilets, and should be finished by next PCC.

The Churchyard – Charnwood still have not provided answers to Tony's questions.

The seat by noticeboard has been cleaned and will be re-oiled for the winter.

- Wanlip

Fence was recently knocked over by a cow.

- Nicki asked if anyone takes photos of church /yard for future and remarked that it had been good to see old photos at opening of Wanlip hall kitchen.

- **Rector's items.**

- Fete committee 2016

We need to start thinking about things now in order to consider things well in advance, and separate responsibilities. Things were being submitted very last minute – too late, in fact, and this made the situation very stressful. Storage is a problem in the weeks running up to the fete. It would be best to decide the lay-out in advance.

On a positive note, this year the atmosphere was exceptionally good given short time-scale. There were some new ideas which really worked well, but overall we could have been better prepared. Some spiritual conversations did take place - this was a stated aim. Final figure raised £2163.42

The idea of setting up an open meeting to discuss last year's fete and express interest for the next one, hopefully with more people involved, was raised and agreed to.

Suggested date Wed 21st Oct. 7:30pm in St James. Tony is to chair. The first part of meeting will review this year's fete, and move on to discussion about next year. Sharon is to inform Sally and word the notice for the information sheet.

- Weddings, late agreement.

We now have an agreement for brides to sign if they are late – the running of the service may be affected. This sets boundaries. It was suggested that both parties sign it, not only the bride.

- **Deanery**

- Synod on 11th November, item for discussion: Broadnook Garden Suburb. Venue. T.b.a.

The Diocese is worried about cash-flow of the parish share. Offers for next year are down on this year. We are contributing fully.

- **Churches Together**

Mary Bruce has sent a letter to all collectors for Christian Aid. There will be a meeting at the Methodist church on Oct 3rd at 2pm to discuss ways of fundraising other than collection.

In the CtB 'pot' there is little or no money available.

Suggested items for CtB next meeting agenda –

-Rachel's timetable for her move.

-Father Sanji

-Operation Christmas Child

The next meeting is planned for Oct 27th at St Theresa's 7:30 pm. Note change of date.

- **Correspondence**

Letter from Tony - the Bishop's lay congress will take place on 14th Nov at St Martin's House

There is a Men's' day conference organised by New Wine - 'Restful Availability' 10th Oct

- **A.O.B.** (previously notified to the chairman)

- Samaritan's Purse 'shoeboxes' Operation Christmas Child – there is wide-spread controversy at the moment in the press. The organisation has been accused of proselytising by including literature with the boxes for distribution. The salaries of those at the top have been reported and seem excessively high. Following a meeting with those concerned, our local organiser has decided not to continue following the publicity, and the church has decided to stop its support of this organisation. We would

like to express gratitude to Doreen for all her work, and say how much we respect her integrity for not doing it this year.

- **Rose** will look into alternative organisations, but time is short, and so we may have to miss out on a collection this year, or re-direct people or gifts donated to a local organisation or to the Methodists, who have decided to continue.
- This matter **should be raised at Churches Together**.
- Dec 5th Christmas Bazaar at Wanlip. The Glenfield Co-op Ladies Choir in the evening Tickets will be sold. Idea will be to pay off some of the extra money required for the kitchen. Accepted.
- Ride and Stride – Wanlip church was open, 15 people visited.
- **Date of next meeting:** 17th November at St James
- **Grace was said.**

Meetings to April 2016 are all at 7:30pm as follows;

F and S meetings: 3rd Nov, 5th January, 23rd February.

PCC meetings: 17th November (B), 19th Jan 2016 (W), 8th Mar (B).

APCM 2016: 15th March