

**Meeting of Birstall & Wanlip Parochial Church Council
at Wanlip on 26th April 2016 at 7:30 pm**

*(Meeting held in the church of Our Lady & St Nicholas due
to problems with the electricity supply in Wanlip Hall)*

Present: Revd Vince Jupp (Chair), Tony Bloxam, Mary Bruce, Annette Marshall, Rose Parrott, Cicely Plumb, Andy Proud, Debbie Shephard, Bert Tegg, Lesley Walton, John Ward, Julie Ward, Janet Waters, Nicki Wills, Sally Dewsbury (Secretary)

Not present: Elaine Moyers, Paul Tarry

- **The meeting was opened in prayer by Revd Vince Jupp**
- **Apologies were received from:** Peter Chester, Revd Anne Crosby, Marion Tegg
- 1) **Minutes from the meeting held immediately after the APCM on 15th March 2016** (to elect church officers) were accepted.
 - a) **Matters arising from the minutes:**
 - Debbie Shephard pointed out that there is only one PCC representative on the F&S committee and asked if there were any volunteers for the second vacancy.
 - She also enquired whether the names of newly-elected churchwardens and deputy churchwardens were on the church website. Tony Bloxam suggested that the list of PCC members and churchwardens be added to the website. Sally Dewsbury to action this.
- 2) **Minutes from the meeting held on 8th March 2016** were accepted.
 - a) **Matters arising from the minutes**
None
- 3) **Mission and evangelism**
 - a) **Pioneer Community Worker's Report**
The report from Stephen March provided a summary of the NEARER group's activities. Revd Jupp commented that three people have now applied to be licensed as pioneer workers, and congratulated Janet Waters whose efforts which have played a big part in this.
 - b) **Mission Partnership**
The churches within the Partnership have been working well together, but Revd Jupp expressed his concern that the loss of clergy personnel will present challenges in the coming months. Until personnel are replaced (which could take up to a year), there may be the need to cut back on mission-focussed activities, whilst maintaining weddings, baptisms and so on. It was suggested that this could be a time of reflection to think about priorities.
- 4) **Finance**
 - a) **Update**
 - Nicki Wills presented her report showing that everything is on track. She highlighted that, via the Diomail, utility bills will now be paid with 5% tax and there should be a rebate on bills already paid. Two new cheaper BT packages have been put in place, one for the rectory and the other for St James which will include Wi-Fi.
 - Forms have been received from the Charities Commission for completion by the churchwardens and the rector. These will expedite the closure of charity accounts which

appear to be more trouble than they are worth and are no longer needed, and will save a lot of time as well as simplifying the accounts.

b) Parish gift offer

Revd Jupp reminded those present that Nicki Wills will be presenting the parish gift on 16th June 2016. As the parish is in receipt of the maximum grant for its Pioneer work, the proposal was that the gift should be increased by 3% from £58140 to £60000. Proposed by Revd Jupp, seconded by Debbie Shephard, and unanimously agreed.

5) Reports

a) Social

No comments.

b) Music and Worship

- Debbie Shephard reported that the Lent course had been reviewed at the last meeting; it was felt that the course had gone well and had been well supported. It was agreed that the Advent period should be more reflective and that the number of services should be reduced. It was decided that planning for Advent could be discussed at the next meeting on 14th September in good time for the rota to be planned for the December services.
- Bert Tegg informed the meeting that the official birthday of Her Majesty the Queen on 11th June had been discussed at the Deanery chapter meeting, and asked whether something could be organised by the church to mark this occasion. After some deliberation, it was decided that he would discuss the possibility of this with Revd Anne Crosby and Kerry Emmett, and Tony Bloxam.

c) Website

Sally Dewsbury reported that the website is being kept up-to-date, and expired information has been removed. The weekly news sheet is being emailed to Revd Jackie Bullen (curate in the Fosse Team) with a reciprocal exchange of information.

d) Children and Families

Rose Parrott presented a report, and brought attention to the following items:

- The school visits for Highcliffe and Riverside primary schools have been arranged for the academic year from Autumn 2016 to Summer 2017, as well as a joint carol service to be held on 13th December 2016.
 - Josephine Burgess is continuing to work with the Cedars school as to its requirements.
 - Everything is progressing satisfactorily with Sunday school. With regard to baptism preparation and possible open days, Rose Parrott is investigating the possibility of using social media to invite anyone in the community who would like to know more about baptism, to attend Sunday school.
- e) Safeguarding**
- Revd Jupp informed the meeting that the policies for the safeguarding of children and young people and adults in the church had been officially updated for April 2016 (although they remain unchanged). Tony Bloxam proposed that the policies be accepted, seconded by Rose Parrott, and unanimously agreed. A controlled copy would be kept in the St James' church office, in which any amendments should be noted on the back page.
 - Annette Marshall presented a report summarising the safeguarding statistics within the churches. Having recently taken on responsibility for adult safeguarding, Annette Marshall indicated that she will attend any training course for adult safeguarding should one become

available and will check that her DBS covers vulnerable adults as well as children. Revd Jupp emphasised the need for continued vigilance and urged anyone with concerns to approach Annette or a member of the clergy. John Ward queried paragraph 4 of the report concerning the display of safeguarding information in the churches. Annette will amend this to include Our Lady & St Nicholas church and Wanlip hall as well as St James' church.

f) Hospitality

Lesley Walton reported that she and Sandra Robinson are planning to undertake food safety training.

g) Fete group

Tony Bloxam presented a report on the discussions to date of the Fete 2016 committee. Suggestions including changing the name of the event and changing the start time have been put forward. Concerns as to whether the stall holders would approve of the earlier start time and whether the added costs would reduce the profitability of the fete were discussed. The sum of £400 would be needed to cover the costs associated with the fete, should all the ideas be taken up. It was resolved that the ideas go in the news sheet to produce some feedback before the next fete meeting on 24th May. Debbie Shephard pointed out that the event itself was more important than the end profit and proposed that the PCC should approve the amount of £400; seconded by Rose Parrott and unanimously agreed.

6) Buildings

a) Birstall

• **Aerials in old and new church**

Tony Bloxam reported that, after a bit of rearrangement, the two aerials in the new church seem to have resolved the drop out problems. He intends to ask for a quote from the contractors for modifications and proposed that the PCC agree to accept a quote for this providing that it was no more than £1015 (including VAT); seconded by Debbie Shephard and unanimously agreed.

• **Carpets for choir vestry**

Debbie Shephard has had a quote for good quality carpet tiles at a favourable price. She agreed to confirm the quote and seek a price for fitting the tiles and present the figure at the next PCC meeting.

• **Decorating**

Tony Bloxam confirmed that that the passageway by the toilets is to be painted.

b) Wanlip

Apart from the problem with the electricity in the hall, there was nothing to report.

7) Health and Safety Docs

Revd Jupp presented the Health & Safety master document for acceptance. As it will take time to complete all the paperwork associated with proper adherence to the policy, John Ward has produced a checklist of items which require work. Revd Jupp thanked John Ward for his hard work in putting together the document and also thanked the churchwardens for their input. Acceptance of the document was proposed by Lesley Walton, seconded by Andy Proud and unanimously agreed. Revd Jupp emphasised that acceptance was on the understanding that it will take some months to complete the paperwork and then to become familiar with it.

8) Rector's items

None

9) Deanery

- Bert Tegg reported on the Deanery chapter meeting he attended, at which discussions had been held on the Bishop's visit to the Deanery in late October.
- Also discussed at the meeting was the publication of a book by the Bible Society about Her Majesty the Queen on the occasion of her 90th birthday. As it contains testimonies to the Queen's Christian faith, it was suggested that the parish of Birstall & Wanlip buy some copies. After some debate, it was decided that spreading the message of faith would be more effective by continuing to go out and talk to people, and therefore, no books would be purchased.
- It was noted that Revd Richard Hopkins, rector of Sileby, Cossington and Seagrave would be leaving the diocese to become minister at an Evangelical church in Nottinghamshire in July 2016.

10) Churches Together

Nothing to report. The next meeting will be in June.

11) Correspondence

None

12) A.O.B. (previously notified to the chairman)

Rose Parrott reported that the St James' Day Centre has had its funding withdrawn by the local CCG for the services it provides on Mondays and Wednesdays. Her concern is that these specific cuts in funding may impact on other services offered by the Day Centre, which is an important local facility and has been supported by the church over many years. After some discussion, it was agreed that more information was needed in order to organise a response from the parish. Debbie Shephard agreed to coordinate a fact-finding exercise.

13) Date of next meeting: 28th June (Birstall)

14) The Grace was said and the meeting closed at 9:15pm

Meetings to April 2017 are all at 7:30pm as follows:

F and S meetings: 14th June, 6th September, 8th November, 24th January 2017

PCC meetings: 20th September (W), 22nd November (B), 7th February 2017 (W)

APCM 2017: 14th March