

Minutes of a Meeting of the Bishop Burton Parochial Church Council held on Monday 27th January 2014 at All Saints Church, Bishop Burton.

Present: Rev R Newton – Chairperson
Rev A Bailey
Mr D Oxtoby
Miss H Swann
Mr D Beynon
Mr T Thomas
Mrs S Thomas
Mrs A Cherry
Mrs A McDonald
Mr L Byass
Mrs A Danforth – Secretary

In Attendance: Mrs S Pickering
Prof S Ersser

The meeting began at 7.35pm with a Reading and a Prayer. Apologies for absence were received from Mrs M Wray.

Mr David Oxtoby proposed that Mrs Sue Pickering be co-opted onto the PCC Committee. This proposal was seconded by Mr David Beynon and was unanimously agreed to by all present. Mrs Pickering was welcomed to the Meeting.

1. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the meetings held on the 7th October 2013 and 3rd December 2013 were accepted as a true record, and Rev Newton agreed to sign them accordingly.

2. Matters Arising

Ceiling Up-Lighting

At the previous meeting, Mr Thomas undertook to chase the electrician for their quotation to do this work. Mr Thomas advised that he was still awaiting their response and asked for this matter to be carried forward to the next meeting.

Dampness to Interior Wall – Children’s Corner

At the previous meeting it was noted that some dampness was again coming through the wall in the area of the Children’s Corner. Although this will need to be re-decorated again, Mr Oxtoby was asked to request Mr Lythe to take a look at the guttering and roof above the location of the dampness, to see if the cause can be found and rectified. Mr Oxtoby confirmed that Mr Lythe had cleaned out

all of the guttering, which should alleviate the dampness problem. Mr Thomas was asked to contact the Decorator, Mr Pittaway to obtain a quotation to re-decorate the affected area, and present this at the next meeting.

Action: Mr Thomas

Church Website

At the last meeting, Rev Newton said that she would take some photographs of some of the events that were going to be held in Church, so that these could be included on the Village Website for the Church. She confirmed that some photographs of the Christmas Nativity had been sent to Mr Bryn Jones for inclusion, but the Website is currently down so she had not been able verify that these were available to view.

Christmas Events

Rev Newton advised that the events held over Christmas were well attended and positively received. The Christingle Service was wonderful, with approximately 100 parents and children in attendance, and our Christmas Carol Service was lovely with the special addition of the Village Choir. Rev Newton's thanks were extended to all those who made these events a success.

Mr Thomas raised a vote of thanks to Mrs Cherry and Mrs McDonald who organised the Christmas Tree Festival this year plus all those who gave their time to make this event such a success. Everyone commented on how nice the Church looked, and it is hoped that this can become a regular event at Christmas.

Fund Raising Event – Sponsored Walk

Mrs Cherry confirmed that over £700 had been raised with the Sponsored Walk that took place on the 19th October 2013. Mr Beynon said that everyone that he had spoken to had enjoyed taking part, and it was suggested that another sponsored walk later in the year might be well received.

Suspension of Patron's Rights of Presentation

Mrs Danforth explained that the Patron's Rights of Presentation had now been suspended for a further period of five years, but this suspension can be lifted at any time. The official Notice that this has occurred was affixed to the Church's door on Sunday 1st December 2013, where it remained for the whole day. It was signed by the officiating Minister of that Sunday Service, Mr David Jefferson. Rev Bailey explained that re-suspension was necessary in order for her to continue to be our Priest in Charge. During the upcoming Interregnum, it is the

Diocese's intention that our Benefice will be joined with Rowley, Skidby and Walkington. Once a new Vicar is found for this joint Benefice, the suspension will be lifted and Bishop Burton will, once again, have an Incumbent.

Prof Steve Ersser then joined the Meeting. Rev Newton asked if it was Prof Ersser's wish to join the PCC, and he confirmed that he was willing to serve. Mr Trevor Thomas proposed that Prof Steve Ersser be co-opted onto the PCC Committee. This proposal was seconded by Mrs Sue Thomas, and was unanimously agreed to by all present. Prof Ersser was welcomed to the Meeting.

3. Future Events / Planning

A variety of possible fund raising events was discussed, and it was agreed that an Open Gardens should be held in June, as this event was well received the last time that it held, back in 2006. Mrs Cherry and Mrs McDonald agreed to organise this event with the help of other members of the PCC.

Other possible events discussed were a Jumble/Nearly New Sale in the Village Hall and perhaps another sponsored walk in September.

Mr Oxtoby confirmed that he was happy to hold the Church Sunday Lunch at Burton Raikes Farm again in July, and grateful thanks were extended to him and his family for agreeing to host this event.

Bishop Richard Frith will be taking a Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion Service at All Saints with Rev Newton on Sunday 9th March 2014.

4. Finance

Mr Thomas passed a copy of the Church's Balance Sheet for the year ended 31st December 2013 to all present.

The Funds that our money is with are well run, with total Investments (both General and Fabric funds) standing at £73,883.00 as of 31/12/13.

Current Assets in the Bank were £3,968 in the General Fund, and £775.65 in the Fabric Fund, making a total of £4,743.65 as of 31/12/13. This gives a total of £78,626 available (with Restrictions).

Mr Thomas advised that we had paid our Parish Share in full to date, and he was working on a schedule of receipts from Fund Raising events. The rebate from HMRC is due to be collected shortly, and the Buildings Insurance is due to be paid for the Church soon.

Rev Newton said that Nigel Penton would offer advice regarding making Gift Aid reclaims.

Miss Swann raised a concern regarding the Offertory Box, as some money had gone missing from it which was put in there during a Christening. This money was not in the box when it was opened some time later. It was agreed that the lock to the box be changed, and a meeting between the Church Wardens and Treasurer will be held to discuss how often this box should be emptied.

Action: Church Wardens and Treasurer.

Rev Newton advised that she will be responsible for co-ordinating Weddings in the Parish and will collect fees for these. She will write a note to accompany any fees collected and will leave this in the Safe for the Treasurer.

Rev Bailey expressed her thanks to Mr Thomas for taking on the role of Treasurer for the Church, and to all for managing to pay our Parish Share in full. All fees for Weddings and Funerals etc are set by law, and belong to the DBF (Diocesan Board of Finance). If we are given the fees directly, we must make sure that the correct portion of them goes to the DBF. Rev Bailey also noted that our average Sunday Service attendance was 15. Whilst we are in an Interregnum, the Diocese will pay the expenses of visiting Clergy.

5. Any Other Business

Correspondence received from Mrs Dunning regarding Financial Accounts Publication:

Mrs Danforth read out a letter that had been received from Mrs Dunning requesting that details regarding the Church's finances be published in the Village Newsletter. Mrs Dunning felt that this information would encourage Parishioners to give to the Church and that they would be interested in where their donations were being spent. This matter has previously been discussed, and it was decided at that time that the Accounts were too long and complex for publication. It was however agreed that a copy of the Accounts would be put onto the Church's Notice board for people to view and would also be made available to Parishioners upon request. Rev Bailey confirmed that by presenting examined Accounts to the AGM after presentation and acceptance by the PCC, we were fulfilling our statutory obligations. After further discussion however, it was agreed that Mrs Dunning made some very valid points regarding letting Parishioners know how much financial support the Church was receiving, and where that money needed to be spent. It was felt that perhaps a more personal way to reach Parishioners was by letter, rather than an impersonal piece in the Village Newsletter. This would also give the PCC more scope to include additional information, that there may not be room for in the Newsletter.

It was therefore unanimously agreed that our Treasurer, Mr Trevor Thomas, would write to all Parishioners on our Electoral Roll providing details of our current financial standing and obligations, along with information regarding future plans, upcoming events and Covenant giving. Prof Ersser agreed to assist Mr Thomas with this letter.

Mrs Danforth was asked to write back to Mrs Dunning with the PCC's decision and our thanks for bring this matter to our attention.

Action: Mr Thomas, Prof Ersser and Mrs Danforth

WC Facilities

Mr Thomas was pleased to be able to confirm that Mr Rod Mill has been retained to produce drawings and plans for the WC to be installed within the Church's Tower. Mr Mill will manage the whole process including Faculty Application. As soon as these plans are available, Mr Thomas will arrange to have them displayed in Church for Parishioners to view. The agreed fee for Mr Mill is £800.

Key Rota

Mrs Cherry advised that two people had elected to come off the key rota (to lock and unlock the Church on a daily basis). One person has advised that they would be willing to go onto the rota, but this leaves one vacancy. Miss Swann said that she would be happy to go onto the rota during the Summer months. Anyone who no longer requires a key to the key safe must be asked to return their key so that it is available to re-use. We do however need to have a further two keys cut, and Mrs Cherry was given permission by the Church Wardens to have this done.

It was Rev Bailey's last Service at All Saints on Sunday 26th January 2014, and she extended her thanks for the gift and flowers received then. The Church Wardens were joined by all present in expressing our grateful thanks to her for everything that she had done for All Saints, and wishing her well in her future post. There is to be a bring-and-share lunch for all of her Parishes at Walkington School on Sunday 3rd February 2014.

PCC Meetings during the Interregnum

During the Interregnum, Rev Newton asked the Church Wardens to chair PCC Meetings.

The Church Wardens have already met with the Church Wardens of Walkington, Rowley and Skidby to discuss the Interregnum and the process by which a new Incumbent is to be chosen. The Archdeacon is holding a meeting of all four PCC's on Tuesday 28th January 2014 to discuss this process further.

At 8.40 pm, Rev Bailey and Rev Newton left the Meeting to enable the PCC to discuss the Parish Profile for our new Incumbent. At this point, Miss Swann took the Chair.

6. Parish Profile

A Parish Profile questionnaire was circulated to all present to give an idea as to the type of information that we should be including in our Parish Profile. As we are to become a united Benefice with three other Parishes, it is important that the finished document combines information from everyone in an cohesive manner as possible. Questions under the main headings below were discussed, with ideas being drawn from all present:

- As a Church, where have we come from?
- What are our commitments?
- What direction do we want to go in?
- Who do we want to help get there?

It was agreed that the Church Wardens and Secretary would meet up to collate these answers together, and have this ready for the next Church Wardens' combined Benefice meeting on the 13th February 2014.

7. Date of Next Meeting

The AGM for All Saints Church, Bishop Burton is being held on Monday 28th April 2014 commencing at 8.00 pm in Church.

As the Church Accounts will need to be presented to the Committee before this meeting takes place, a short meeting of the PCC will be required prior to this. This short PCC meeting will take place on Sunday 13th April 2014, after the 11.00 am Service.

There being no further business to discuss, the Meeting closed at 9.25 pm.