



THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND

## St. Andrew's Church, Cromhall Parochial Church Council



### MINUTES OF MEETING, 14<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2008, AT TOWNWELL HOUSE

**Present:** Kate Bryant; Doug Collett; Ann Greenhalgh; Revd. Canon Pat Lyes-Wilsdon (chair); Jennifer Oldershaw; Zena Whitefield; Stephen Youngs (Secretary)

**Apologies:** Mandy Bird; John Bird.

<b>Item</b>	<b>Action</b>
1. Pat opened the meeting with a prayer.	
2. Apologies for absence were received from Mandy & John.	
3. The minutes of the last meeting on 19 <sup>th</sup> August were approved and signed without amendment.	
4. Quinquennial report & other building matters.	
a. Church alterations.	
i. Grant applications.	
• Ann has been to see Geoff, who was happy to hand over responsibility for grant applications and gave her the paperwork.	
• Records relating to previous grant applications, for example relating to the Church roof, have been retained by Geoff.	
ii. Kate, Doug & Stephen to meet to define scope of 'Phase I' and agree how to proceed with revised costings and subsequently the grant application(s) & faculty.	Kate, Doug, Stephen.
b. Window Perspex replacement.	
i. No progress since the last meeting, task remains outstanding with a target completion of before Christmas.	Doug
ii. Doug said it will be easier to fit in after the end of the month.	
c. Stone cross fallen from Church roof.	
i. No progress since last meeting, carried forward.	Doug
d. Pointing inside Tower.	
i. The Bell ringers are suffering from falling debris inside the Tower, and would like the pointing to be repaired.	
ii. The Bell ringers are willing to fund the repairs, Doug to give them an idea of cost.	Doug
iii. As repairs & maintenance, not necessary to seek approval from Ruth Nichols (Church Architect).	
e. Shrub pruning.	
i. Possibly not the best time to do it now, as so many berries on the shrubs, however Doug to get a quote both for the pruning and the removal of two trees.	Doug

- f. Molly's tree.
- i. Tree is now planted, so item closed.
  - ii. Pat to pass on thanks to Hilary who donated the plaque. Pat
- g. Boiler service.
- i. Kate has spoken to the engineers who are taking over John Lord's business and they have provided a cost estimate to service the boiler:
    - £93.50 + VAT for the service
    - £50 + VAT for a new anti-fire device if current unit irreparable
    - £30 + VAT other parts (jet etc)
  - ii. The meeting thought that the estimate seemed very reasonable, and Ann proposed with Doug seconding that Kate should instruct the engineers to proceed as soon as possible, though it is understood that it may not be possible to carry out the service until January. Agreed unanimously. Kate
- h. Insurance certificate.
- i. Now located and pinned up on the porch notice board, although already expired!
  - ii. A new certificate for the current year has been received, and will replace the expired one which will be retained for safekeeping. Ann
- i. Removal of soil by yew tree.
- i. Still no progress, in fact the pile has grown. The grave digger says that some needs to be retained for topping-up, but the present heap clearly exceeds that reasonably required.
  - ii. Doug and Steve Ashley will sort out at some stage. Doug
  - iii. Pat will nonetheless mention it again to the grave digger, to try and prevent a recurrence. Pat
- j. Enlargement of Churchyard.
- i. No developments. Pat to enquire of Robert whether the matter has been discussed yet by the Tortworth Estate board, as he had promised it would. Pat
- k. Key holders.
- i. Ann has produced a first draft list of key holders, based on what she has been able to ascertain so far.
  - ii. Pat suggested Doreen may have a key to the wall safe, and that Ann should check with Hilary to see what she has. Ann
  - iii. A key to the Vestry is kept in the Shop for flower arrangers to use.

## 5. JSC/LMT reports.

- a. Pat has spoken to Paul Ferguson; apparently the Prison is not willing to give access to inmates and would only let us perhaps provide visitor transport. In the light of this, there seems little point in pursuing the matter. Item closed.
- b. Enlargement of LMT.
  - i. Joint PCC meeting was held last week at Falfield, where comments were collected on the seven names put forward for the Benefice.
  - ii. Pat was pleased to report that whilst there were several 'don't knows', as might be expected with a benefice-wide enquiry, there were no

reservations noted by anyone present.

- iii. The next stage is for Pat to discuss with Melanie Griffiths, our Local Ministry Link Officer, but should be a short meeting following the straightforward outcome of the joint PCC. Pat
- iv. Pat explained how it is understood by all involved that being called-out in this way places no obligation on those called, and that there are usually many names who do not proceed due to other commitments without this being in any way a problem.

## 6. Deanery Synod.

- a. Jennifer reported the significant items from the meeting on September 24th.
- b. South Gloucestershire Faith Audit
  - i. This is an initiative of the South Gloucestershire Faith Forum, which seeks to document the activities, contribution and impact of all faith groups and to ensure that this is then recognised and taken into account by organisations such as local authorities, primary care trusts, funding bodies and the regional development agency.
  - ii. A questionnaire has been sent out asking for information, the output of which will be a database of faith groups and their work. The report should be ready by January. Pat
- c. Proposed amalgamation of Dursley and Hawkesbury Deaneries
  - i. Timetable – the statutory consultation usually takes about 6 months, but it is anticipated that the merger will be complete by Easter or Pentecost.
  - ii. Identity – this discussion has been parked for now. Options include using the combined name (Hawkesbury-Dursley) or choosing a new name, such as Tyndale.
  - iii. Clustering – there will be about 50 parishes in total. Groups will no doubt emerge, based on a range of criteria, such as towns and surrounding villages, conurbations, or rural groups. It has been agreed that this will not be decided until after the merger.
  - iv. Synod reps – the 2009 elections will take place under the current regime. It was agreed that a list of all the parishes should be produced and circulated.
  - v. MAP review – Hawkesbury and Dursley had slightly different approaches to the MAP process. A new combined MAP will be needed after the merger. A group comprising Bob Copeland, Keith Stanley, David Russell and one other clergy member (Pat Lyes-Wilsdon) will start working on this with four counterparts from Dursley.
  - vi. Clergy numbers, resources and parish share – this will flow from the MAP review. The 2009 parish share will be decided by Hawkesbury and Dursley as now. For 2010 the figures will be looked at across the combined deanery.
  - vii. Role of Area Dean – this will be an opportunity for someone to represent 50 parishes and be part of a small, productive group for the Bishop to work closely with.

d. 2009 – Year of the Child

- i. This project celebrates the 30th anniversary of the UN Declaration of the Rights of the Child. The diocese has prepared a year-long programme, to be launched in early February at Tewkesbury Abbey. Each benefice/parish will be provided with a prayer and a candle. They will be encouraged to take the candle to as many places as possible (eg schools) and take pictures. There will be prizes for the most pictures and also for the most unusual.
  - ii. A pack is available for churches to use with schools. Fliers and posters will be available in October and there will also be web pages available at the same time. Other activities during the year, such as Experience Easter, will also reflect the theme.
  - iii. The highlight will be a special day in the environs of the Cathedral on 4 July 2009. This will be called Children for a Change and will involve a wide range of activities for families. The target age group is 0-11, although any age may attend. Children will not attend individually, but with church groups or families.
- e. As Pat is on the merger working party, she would like us to keep in touch with her regarding our thoughts on the MAP review. All
- f. Pat reported that in order to meet its budget the Diocese needed to reduce clergy numbers by ten.
- g. Pat reported that Hilary has volunteered to show the Dean from our twinned diocese in Sweden around the Benefice, as she is unavailable that day.
- h. There is a 'Resourcing Christmas' meeting next Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> October, at St. Paul's near Thornbury. Pat is unable to attend, Doug volunteered in her absence. Doug

7. Treasurer's report.

- a. The meeting considered a financial forecast report prepared by Simon, copy attached to these minutes.
- b. The meeting discussed the requested increase in parish share, and it was agreed unanimously that we could only accept an increase to £10,500.
  - i. In the light of the above, it was also agreed to increase our monthly standing order from £700 to £750. Ann to inform Simon. Ann, Simon
- c. Simon has requested that we consider what charity giving we propose for this year.
  - i. Jennifer suggested the Medical Foundation for the Victims of Torture.
  - ii. Ann suggested Livingstone Anglican Children's Project.
  - iii. It was agreed that we should limit the number of charities we donate too, to avoid donations being trivial.
    - Suggestion was four charities, two Christian and two others, with one of each being UK based and foreign.
  - iv. To be considered in detail at the next meeting. All
- d. Our small deposit in a Parish Trust Fund was considered, at Simon's request, and

it was agreed that we should close this down and absorb the money into general funds. Simon

e. In relation to the control of our costs, and reducing our carbon footprint, the use of the Tower floodlights was discussed. These were donated to the Church by Alan Vockins in memory of his wife, and are maintained by him at his own expense. The Parish meets the cost of the electricity.

i. Pat pointed out that the lights are a meaningful statement to the community, that the 'Church is here' and at work in it.

ii. Doug commented that the lights were good from a security perspective, and others mentioned that they made accessing the Church easier and safer in the dark.

iii. It was agreed that Doug would have a word with Alan about reducing the time the lights were on for, perhaps by an hour each evening, as a cost/carbon saving measure in much the same way a turning down heating by a degree. Doug

f. On a similar vein to the previous item, the use of the boiler was discussed.

i. Whilst it already only switched on when needed and set to a modest temperature, it was agreed that more attention could be paid to turning it off in good time, before the end of a service. All

g. Sue Wray, the Treasurer for the Bell Ringers, has requested an increase in their fees and has provided new forms for booking them for weddings, funerals etc.

i. We normally put up local fees in January each year, by the same percentage as national increases. Ann to remind Sue of this. Ann

h. We have received a donation from Betty Llewellyn of £100, and the suggestion is that this be used to spruce-up the notice board by the path.

i. Kate to ask Roger to look at doing this. Kate

- To take the board down and remove it for repair and redecoration if possible.

- Remove Richard's name and the Wednesday service.

## 8. Fund raising.

a. Safari supper. Still not heard anything from Ros, have to assume this will not be going ahead this year.

b. 100 Club.

i. Kate has sold 11 tickets and Ann 43, so over half way to our target.

ii. Stephen took some tickets to try to sell to neighbours in Bibstone. Stephen

iii. First draw to be at the end of November.

c. Curry night in the Village Hall.

i. Stephen has spoken to Karem Applegate, who prepares the food, and she has confirmed she is willing to cook for us.

ii. Karem would need about two weeks notice of numbers, but from

experience there is usually enough to cater for a few late comers.

iii. Dates for this were discussed, and a popular suggestion was the day before our Patronal Festival, 22<sup>nd</sup> November, at 7.30. Stephen to see if Karem is available for this. Stephen

iv. When date confirmed and Hall booked, tickets to go on sale in the Village Shop.

d. Glos. Historic Churches Trust sponsored walk.

i. Five walkers started from our parish, and two completed the route, raising £203.

e. Kate would like to produce some new stars for the Christmas tree, and sell them to raise money. The idea is that people make a donation for them and dedicate them to someone (written on the back of each star), then hang them on the tree themselves. All agreed this was a lovely idea. Kate

9. Chongwe & Livingstone links.

a. Ann has now received an e-mail from the Headmaster in Chongwe informing her that the school roof was finished on Sunday. This was the first direct contact from the new head, so was very welcome news. They are now raising funds for more desks.

b. Ann has thirty calendars for sale to raise money for the Livingstone Anglican Children's Project, and asked if the PCC would consider buying them for resale. This was agreed, proposed by Ann & seconded by Kate. Ann to see Simon. Ann, Simon

10. Correspondence & announcements.

a. Pat has received a letter from Bishop Michael's secretary, informing her that he is planning to spend a day in the Benefice on 19<sup>th</sup> July next year. Programme for the day to be discussed and agreed. Pat

11. Web site.

a. Stephen presented an initial web site for the Church, already live at [www.saintandrewscromhall.org.uk](http://www.saintandrewscromhall.org.uk).

b. Pat and Stephen to meet one morning to look at getting some content online. Stephen, Pat

12. Any other business.

a. None.

13. Dates of future meetings.

a. November 18<sup>th</sup> at Bibstone House.

i. Zena to chair.

ii. Ann to lead prayers and prepare the agenda.

b. February 16<sup>th</sup> 2009

14. There being no further business, Pat closed the meeting with a prayer.

