

Minutes of PCC Meeting held on 23/9/10 at 8pm in St Michael's Church Galleywood

Present : Andy Griffiths, Jackie Sigournay, Sue Kitson, Steve Mack, Roy Bishop, Stephanie Gillingham, John Fowler, Sally Bevan, Anne Gardener, Veryan Wilson

Also present for first part of meeting : Travers Harpur, Catherine Beales

1. Apologies

Roger Gillingham, Rosemary Lister

Minutes of last PCC meeting already accepted

There were no matters arising

Andy prayed

2. Building matters

Sue Kitson said that as we are hoping to take out the remaining pews we need to buy 50 more chairs, if we buy half with arms and half without this will cost £3000. We have been appealing for people to buy chairs so that they can dedicate them, we have received enough so far for 5 or 6 chairs. Some people have asked for pews and given donations.

Steve proposed that we give Sue the authority to go ahead with the purchase, he will work out with Sue the exact proportion to buy with arms and without. All were in favour.

3. Anne said that Roger has contacted Lindsay heating and other companies. She has shown Peter Gregory around, he will work with Stephen Claydon the architect. He has lots of ideas on how to improve the heating, the current boiler is adequate, he will look at the water pressure at a later stage, we must not let the temperature go below 12-13 degrees centigrade as this will adversely affect the fabric of the building. We can boost the heating with propane heaters or electric heaters. Essex Electric is cheaper than Lindsay heating for electric heaters. The cost of electric heaters is £100, Anne will get a quote for running costs, she has already checked that the heaters will not overload the electrical current.

Anne asked Sue to find out from the company we have bought the chairs from, the cost of 2 trolleys for moving the chairs.

Anne would like us to do some diy painting and tidying up in the toilets. She will ask for a quote for electric heaters from Essex Electric. Sally will put a sign on the wall in the toilet saying that there is a baby changing mat in the vestry.

4. Graffiti wall

Stephanie reported on the comments so far on the graffiti wall

Everyone seems glad that we are together, most want to stay at the church although some would prefer to return to the school. Some of the regulars are finding half an hour is not enough for teaching or worship. Some love hearing the children, we need a good audio visual infrastructure, we could use the space at the back of the church like we are at the front. Ideas for fundraising include family barbecue, champagne dinner and challenging Andy to do a parachute jump.

5. The massive plan

We looked at the massive plan. In February we are going to be looking at the gifts of the Spirit. Jackie asked that we have time for members to ask for gifts from the Spirit.

On Remembrance Day the service will run 10.30 – 11.30 to allow for silence at 11 am. We need to encourage people to sit at the front if they want to hear the roll of honour. There will be children's groups on that day.

6. 8 am service

Andy proposed to change from 2nd, 3rd and 5th Sundays to 3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays. 8am communion will move from 2nd to 4th so that there is an opportunity for people to take communion every week. All were in favour. This will therefore be the pattern for 8am services from January 2011.

7. Review of Rolling Worship

We discussed the positives and negatives of rolling worship. Points that arose were

Change from calling slices to sections

Need section leader to ensure all people taking part are aware of what is required and to ensure section runs smoothly

Need to look at service sheets, song books to make it easier for people to find their way around, also for wardens to ensure people have the right leaflets for the section they have come to.

John Fowler proposed that we stay at the church provided an effective and not too expensive solution is found for the heating. Sally seconded, there were 2 abstentions, all others were in favour.

8. Prayer

This was the end of the leadership meeting, the remainder of the meeting being just PCC. Catherine Beales left at this point. Travers Harpur stayed for item 9 as he is on Missions Committee but did not vote and left after item 9.

9. Report from Missions Committee

The PCC asked the Missions Committee if we should include a charity that does physical work like the leprosy mission. The Missions Committee felt that the work of the charities we support has been misrepresented as all the charities offer both physical and spiritual support. The Missions Committee have suggested that we adopt the leprosy mission in place of prison fellowship as we have a representative for the leprosy mission. All were in favour of this. Steve needs an instruction of who to pay.

The Missions Committee have asked PCC if we should give 10% of fees, bequests and large one off donations to charities. Steve proposed that from January 2011 until the PCC decides to review we will give 10% of fees, general gifts and legacies that are not designated or restricted for other areas to good causes of the PCC's choice. John seconded, there were 7 in favour, 1 against and 2 abstentions.

10. Poland Trip

Stephanie reported that a group are going to Poland in October and asked if we normally send gifts out there. Over the next few weeks we are going to be giving people the opportunity to give money for EPIC after Chris Fox's visit for the harvest service. After that we will give people the opportunity to give money to be taken to Poland for those in need at Christmas. We must be careful to facilitate people to give but not to ask them to give.

11. Finance Report

Steve gave out PCC Update 23/9/10

Parish share has been paid up to the end of August and charitable payments have been made up to the end of September.

The church currently controls three bank accounts:

Account 50433136 – standard current account

Account 50433128 – premium bank account

Account 00669938 – originally created to accept money for Poland, and now dormant

Jackie proposed that we use Account 00669938 to collect money for the Big Project. Andy seconded and all were in favour.

Steve proposed that this church should, where possible, retain a reserve equivalent to 3 month's regular committed giving. Sue seconded and all were in favour.

In view of the employment of Caroline Speed as Youth/Community worker it is necessary to restate our payment intentions. Sally proposed that in the event of a shortfall in resource expenditure should be made in the following order

1. Payment of employee's wages
2. Payment of contractual obligations (eg utilities, insurance, urgent repairs) to maintain the function of both church and parish
3. Payment of parish share
4. Payment of Charitable Donations
5. Funding of outreach and other projects

Sue Kitson seconded and all were in favour.

Andy proposed that we pay half our parish share each month by standing order, then pay the other half as soon as we are able. Steve seconded and all were in favour.

12. Baptism Update

Stephanie described the updated process for Baptism, she circulated a flow chart.

13. Website and press officer

We now have an up to date church website www.stmichaelsgalleywood.org.uk , this will include links to the vicar's blog

Mike Arnold is our press officer.

14. Looking ahead to Christmas

Sunday before Christmas, morning church service at church with nativity,
evening carol service without nativity

Christmas Eve – Messy church

Christmas Day – 10.30 45 minute all age worship