

Minutes of a Meeting of the Parochial Church Council held in the Church on Wednesday the 8th July 2015

The meeting opened with a reading and a prayer

Present:

Reverend Richard Reade (chairman); Bob Ball; Pat Brewster; Geoff Crapper; Kath Cummings; Mary Eatherden; June Greatorex; Russel Lane; Hazel Slack; Jean Turner; Chris Windle; Alan Wilson and Richard Parkin (secretary).

In Attendance:

Audrey Strange (representing the Methodist Church)

15/4.1 To approve the appointment of Mr R. Parkin as secretary vice Mrs P. Gould

The appointment of Richard Parkin as secretary was approved.

15/4.2 Apologies for Absence

John and Val Rigarslford

15/4.3 To Approve the Minutes of the Previous Meeting Held on the 6th May 2015

The minutes of the meeting held on the 6th May 2015 were accepted as a true record of that meeting and were duly signed by the chairman.

15/4.4 Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes

15/4.4.1 Progress regarding the chancel spotlight (14/5.4)

The matter was in hand; the electrician having been consulted.

Action: Bob Ball

15/4.4.2 Progress regarding the kneelers for the altar (15/2.4)

≡ The supplier had been requested to give urgent attention to the matter. An early solution was expected but it would continue to be monitored. **Action:** Mary Eatherden and Geoff Crapper
It was noted that a new piece of carpet had been fitted across the altar frontage.

15/4.4.3 Representative positions of Missions (Us) and Health and Safety

≡ Russel Lane had accepted the former position and Chris Lane the latter; their names would be advised accordingly. **Action:** Chairman

15/4.4.4 Confirmation of names as Faculty applicants

≡ Both the Rector and Bob Ball had been confirmed as applicants by virtue of their being included in the Annual Diocesan Directory.

15/4.5 Correspondence

15/4.5.1 The June editions of PAWS for Thought and Derby Diocese E-news had been circulated to all PCC members; no particular item of interest arose from their content.

The chairman invited members to arrange for their own copies to be received direct or to notify him if they no longer wished to be included in the circulation. This would save administrative work.

15/4.5.2 The following further correspondence had been received:

15/4.5.3 DAC

≡ The DAC had advised that the Annual Directory was no longer being printed but kept in electronic form, addressees had been advised accordingly. The chairman, John Paulson; Bob Ball; Russel Lane; Geoff Crapper and Richard Parkin had completed registering. There were no further additions.

15/4.5.4 Letter from Mr Denys Gaskell

≡ A letter had been received from Mr Denys Gaskell, a parishioner, which was read to the meeting. It drew the council's attention to the need to care for the elderly, lonely and poorly members within the church and wider community. He recognised that some visiting did take place already but suggested a formal strategy be put in place, possibly along the lines of the Methodist Church. Following discussion the council recognised the need and that a co-ordinated Pastoral Group might be set up as a way ahead. It was suggested that Sukie Harrison might be approached to act as co-ordinator.

Resolved:

1. That Sukie Harrison was to be asked if she would be willing to form a register of visitors and co-ordinate participation. **Action:** Mary Eatherden

2. That the resolution to formulate a visiting plan be incorporated in the Mission Action Plan.

Action: Chairman

3. That a letter was to be sent to Denys Gaskell thanking him for expressing concern over an important matter and for suggesting how it might be addressed. **Action:** Secretary

There was no further correspondence

15/4.6 Health and Safety

Reports on the latest situation regarding the surfacing of the path; the installation of a parallel hand rail and the timing sequence of the front lights

15/4.6.1 All the above matters had and were being addressed; they were expected to be completed by late summer in order for a Faculty to be prepared for submission. The Statement of Significance had been revised.

Resolved:

1. That the question of the second hand rail was not to be pursued on practical and aesthetic grounds.
2. That the square meterage of the path was to be measured and a builder approached for an estimate on its being resurfaced with an all-weather non-slip material. **Action:** Chris Windle

3. That various designs for the front entrance hand rails were to be obtained for consideration before a decision was taken. **Action:** Bob Ball

4. That the timing sequence of the front lights need not be altered.

15/4.6.2 The question for the need for a fire-detection system to cover times when the church was not occupied was raised. While the requirement had not been mentioned by the insurers, possibly on the grounds that the church was a stone building and only the woodwork within it would burn, there was a consensus that some form of alarm was advisable.

Resolved: That advice was to be sought from the Fire Service as to what might be the best means of achieving such a system. **Action:** Chris Windle

15/4.7 Financial Report

The financial report was presented; a copy is attached to these minutes. The Inland Revenue had reimbursed £2,473 helping to ensure the overall sound financial position was maintained. The insurance with Ecclesiastical had been renewed for the next 5 years to take advantage of favourable terms. There was awareness that there might be a difference between the basis on which the church assessed its parish share and that of the Diocese, consequently the Common Fund may need adding to as a contingency.

15/4.8 Churchwarden's Report

The churchwardens had nothing to report.

15/4.9 Deanery Synod

At the last meeting Mr A Harper, the Diocesan Training Officer, had given an enlightening talk on Spirituality, Prayer and Meditation. This was a theme to be carried forward at a day's meeting in St Oswald's Church, Ashbourne, on the 29th September. Those interested in attending were invited to register.

The question of expanding the Deanery was still under discussion.

15/4.9 Mission Action Plan

15/4.9.1 The question of 'Children and Communion before Confirmation'

- ≡ The question had been widely discussed. The Rite of Communion was a logical and natural progression from Baptism and church-going within the family; it was not necessarily dependant on Confirmation, which thereby becomes more instructive and meaningful when taken at a later adult age. On a vote it was agreed unanimously in favour that children could receive Communion before Confirmation provided that the set criteria of Baptism and proper preparation had been given according to an accepted Policy.

Resolved:

1. That the Bishop of Derby was to be requested to admit baptised children to Communion before Confirmation in accordance with the Regulations **Action:** Chairman

2. That a Parish Policy was to be made jointly with All Saints Church (providing that Church also agreed the admittance). That the policy was to be based on current subject literature and the examples of other churches. That such Policy was to be presented to the PCC at the next meeting.

Action: Chairman

15/4.9.2 Messy Church

- ≡ Sixteen children had attended the Messy Church held on the 24th June 2015. This was hugely encouraging. Children now considered Messy Church to be 'their' church and this served to break down any reservation they may have at entering other churches; an attitude that might possibly extend to accompanying parents and grandparents.

15/4.9.3 'Church in the Community'

- ≡ A discussion on the subject, scheduled to be held in the Gate on the 15th June 2015, could not be held owing to unforeseen commitments.

15/4.9.4 Plans for the Flower Festival and 175th Anniversary.

- ≡ Arrangements for the Flower Festival were well advanced.
- ≡ Ideas for celebrating the 175th Anniversary were discussed in general. They included the range of invitations; the possibility of a school choir; a small display of photographs, accompanied by references to outside social events, at the stages of the 50th, 100th and 150th celebrations and the presentation of the Covenant, together with symbols of church life and accessories, for rededication at the Service to be attended by Bishop Alistair on the 23rd September at 7.00pm. The availability of the Village Hall was to be ascertained for serving refreshments after the Service.

15/4.10 Ecumenical

15/4/10.1 Proposed Village Picnic (15/3.9).

- ≡ Unfortunately because of other pressing matters it had not been possible to arrange a Village Picnic. However, the idea of doing so remained attractive but perhaps on a reduced scale. The matter was left in abeyance.

15/4/11 Any Other Business

15/4/11.1 Harvest Festival.

- ≡ There was a clash of dates over that presently fixed for the Harvest festival. After considering the implications it was

Resolved: That the date for the Harvest Festival was to coincide with the Family Service set for 4pm on the 4th October. This would allow a more relaxed format. The Chapel was to be informed.

15/4/11.2 Outside Notice Board.

- ≡ There was agreement that the present outside notice board was in a poor state of repair and needed replacing.

Resolved: That various designs were to be sought and a decision made at the next meeting

15/4/12 Date and time of the next meeting.

The next meeting was to be held in the church on Wednesday the 9th September at 7.30pm