

Minutes of the Parochial Church Council Meeting
Held in the Church on Wednesday the 9th November 2016

Present:

Reverend Richard Reade(chairman); Bob Ball; Geoff Crapper; Pat Brewster; Kath Cummings; Mary Eatherden; June Greateorex;; Hazel Slack and Richard Parkin(secretary).

Opening reading and prayers

16/5/60. Apologies for absence: Alan Wilson; Chris Windle; Jean Turner and the Revd. Adrian Smith (Ecumenical representative)

16/5/61. Minutes of the Previous Meeting. The minutes of the meeting held on the 14th September 2016, having been circulated previously, were accepted as a true record of that meeting and were duly signed by the chairman.

16/5/62 Matters arising from the previous meeting:

1, Outstanding works: Alan Wilson had notified that the extended external handle for the entrance was being delivered and will be fitted soon, as will completion of the outstanding work in the vestry.

2, Bi-annual magazine: Mary Eatherden gave an overview of the layout and content of the forthcoming magazine. The response for inputs from outside sources had been encouraging and varied. Collation and printing had yet to be completed. Members congratulated Mary on her work so far and agreed she should liaise with the treasurer regarding costs

3. Matters relating to the handing over of records to the Records Office were in hand.

16/5/63. Correspondence:

1. Notification had been received of the Diocese of Derby Safeguarding Policy – Procedures and Practice Guidance from Autumn 2016. The policy stemmed from recent revelations of past misdemeanours; its purpose was to prevent their recurrence in the future. While some parishes had expressed concern over some of its implications and requirements the policy was to be mandatory nevertheless and its implementation would be scrutinised by the Diocese. The introduction would be gradual with training and guidance being made available. Proper procedures would be drawn up under the lead of the Safeguarding Officer, Russell Lane, and a subsequent draft policy was to be given to the council at the next meeting for approval. The policy was to be a regular item on future agendas.

2. Sozein: A letter had been received from the Chairman of the Trustees in which the work of the charity relating to the Churches' Ministry of Healing was outlined by its director, the Revd Neil Broadbent. The value and need for such an important institution which offers help, support and retreats in a quiet and hospitable environment to stressed laity, clergy and church workers alike, was recognized. Consequently, it was agreed unanimously that the treasurer be authorised to make a single payment of £60.00 to the Trust in January 2017. Such payment to be repeated annually, subject to review.

16/5/63 Faculty and Fabric.

It was noted that all documents relating to the Faculty submission had been completed and forwarded.

16/5/64 Health and Safety.

1. The chairman gave a resume of the recent quinquennial report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. No major observations had been raised apart from decorative maintenance and work needed in the vestry, which is already in hand. Observations were also made as to how a disabled access might be made and improvements to lavatory facilities might be incorporated. These were to be discussed at the next meeting in order to enable outline proposals to be submitted to the Diocese. In regard to the question of increased security the secretary was to investigate such matters with a view to securing possible assistance from the Church Security Grant Scheme.

2. The matter of church cleaning was raised. The roster had remained the same for a long time and was becoming increasingly onerous on those undertaking it, particularly the elderly. It was recognised the situation could not continue. After discussion, it was agreed unanimously that an outside cleaner should be employed for two hours every fortnight on a casual basis. June Greatorex was authorised to investigate a local employee following discussion of the work involved and negotiation of payment with the treasurer.

16/5/65. Finance and Stewardship.

1. The treasurer presented the financial report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. Total cash balance stood at £52,187, a sum helped by favourable returns on investments. The Friends of Tansley Church Account stood at £2,853.

2. The Messy Church account stood at £278. It was agreed unanimously that the treasurer be authorised to donate £100 to that account.

3. The decision of the Standing Committee to freeze payments to the Common Fund at the present level was noted.

16/5/66. Deanery Synod Matters.

1. The chairman gave a summary of the last meeting held in St Oswald's Church, Ashbourne, on the 16th March. Among other matters Church finances were considered in detail and the need for greater giving, where possible, in order that increased resources for mission, good works and outside needs might be released. This was a theme taken up and discussed at length at a later meeting of Synod. Various means of achieving this, possible through a system of payments by Direct Debit were put forward but not adopted.

2. It had been reported that the standard of Religious Education in schools was unsatisfactory. It was given piecemeal and lacked insight and a personal approach. Improvement was needed and specialist training courses were being implemented to correct the situation.

16/5/67 Mission Action Plan.

1. The chairman reported that the two courses 'Transforming Faith' – a new 'Christian Discipleship' were progressing well, both challenging and rewarding.

2. The training session led by Esther Elliot for the Pastoral Group had been well attended and resulted in two free packs of Talk Talk, the delivery of which was awaited. They were a series of playing-pack cards which prompted spontaneous discussion on a variety of topics which could prompt religious thought.

3. The Gift Day had had a good response, realising some £834. Some books had been taken from the organ loft and the remainder would be removed in due course so clearing a cluttered space.

16/5/68 Ecumenical Matters. Attendance at Messy Church continued to grow but help was needed in its organisation

16/5/69. Any Other Business. The chairman distributed a list of Services and events to be held in the run up to Christmas, a copy is attached to these minutes. It includes the Christingle Service on the 4th December; the Christmas Tree Festival 10th-13th coinciding with the Christmas Vintage Tea in the Village Hall on the 10th when Cromford Community Band would be playing; the Carol Service in All Saints on the 21st and Midnight Mass at All Saints on Christmas Eve.

16/5/70. The following dates were agreed for the forthcoming year: 11th January 2017; 8th March; 5th April (AGM); 10th May; 12th July; 13th September and the 8th November. All meetings were to start at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm with the saying of Grace.