

Minutes of the Parochial Church Council Meeting
Held in the Church on Wednesday the 13th January 2016

The meeting opened with a reading and prayers

Present:

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

In Attendance: Reverend Adrian Smith(Methodist Representative).

16.1.1 Apologies for Absence

John Rigarsford; Jean Turner; Alan Wilson

16.1.2 The minutes of the meeting held on the 11th November 2015 having been previously circulated were accepted as a true record of that meeting subject to correcting the spelling of John Paulson for John Poulson and April Saunders for Sally Saunder. They were then duly signed by the charman.

16.1.3 Matters arising from the previous meeting:

- [Progress on chancel and side path lighting: Ian Atkin, electrician, had been consulted on both matters, including improvements to the lighting in the vestry and organ loft. A central chancel light had been proposed to replace the present one which was directed more to the pulpit; this would give a more overall light. It was agreed all the work was to be put in hand subject to a reasonable quote approved by the Standing Committee.
- [It was noted: An order for the outside notice board had been placed and delivery was expected in mid- February. A replacement inside board had been ordered and had been fitted. Because of the inability to secure a local contractor the tarmacking of the entrance path would be delayed until the Spring, when it would be combined with similar work being undertaken by Tansley Parish Council but charged individually.

16.1.4 Correspondence

It was noted : letters of thanks and appreciation had been sent to Tansley Garden Centre for donating a Christmas tree . Other letters included: to DDDC requesting the removal of the fir tree to the left of the main entrance; to Denys Gaskell replying to his letter regarding Health and Safety; to April Saunders confirming the availability of the Village Hall for the proposed Easter vintage afternoon tea party on the 19th March and to the Parish Council requesting a grant toward the Christmas lighting. Acknowledgements had been sent to Ecclesiastical Insurance and Dr Askey of DDDC regarding respective advice on faculty matters.

16.1.5 Health and Safety

- [Resulting from a meeting of the Standing Committee hand holds had been installed on the stairs to the organ loft and to the inside of the porch door.
- [Alan Wilson had submitted a detailed drawing for the proposed left-side hand rail copying that already in place on the right-hand side. After discussion it was decided that a simple grab rail would be a preferable option and one more in line with the advice received from the DDDC conservation officer. The chairman would explain the decision

to Alan, discuss a design and fitment with Robert Hall (contractor) and complete all Faculty matters. The drawing was to be kept on file for future reference should the grab rail prove to be insufficient in time.

16.1.6 Financial Report

- [The end-of year financial report was presented subject to audit; it is attached to these minutes. The income from collections was higher than last year but was attributable to more weddings and baptisms having been held. Overall the total assets stood at £47,534 compared with £47,062 in the previous. This was commendable but it was noted that the Parish Share would now be £13872; an increase of £1020.
- [The chairman proposed and it was unanimously agreed that a donation of £50 should be sent to the Padley Centre. The treasurer would arrange.

16.1.7 Churchwarden's Report

- [A new Hoover and oil- stock had been purchased.
- [It was noted that minor problems with the church clock's timing had been corrected by the fitting of a new magnet, with the help of Richard White (manufacturer) and Andrew Baker (Bygone Times (maintenance)

16.1.8 Deanery Synod Matters

The chairman reported it had been decided that the Ashbourne Deanery would join with Wirksworth. Some administrative details remained to be resolved but meanwhile the clergy were preparing by making personal acquaintance on an opportunity basis. The next and possibly last meeting of the Wirksworth Deanery was scheduled for the 17th February when Sue Jones of Schools for Formation in Parishes would be speaking about Journey on Faith.

16.1.9 Mission Action Plan

- [Pastoral Group: it was reported that a list of volunteers for visiting had been prepared and that agencies such as social security, the local postman and Tansley House were further possible sources of finding out those who may be in need and benefit from visits. Stella Collishaw was available to give guidance.
- ['Friends of the Church': The situation in this regard remained static and needed greater involvement to promote it.
- [The chairman reported that Sunday Services had been held without interruption throughout the year: 50 in Holy Trinity and 2 in the Methodist Chapel. The average attendance had been 21 adults and 1 child; this represented a growth; The Easter attendance was 31 and over Christmas 149 with 24 communicants. There had been 9 baptisms; 8 funerals (5 In Holy Trinity, one in Ashover and 2 in the crematorium). Three weddings had been held and 5 were planned for this year with 2 for next year.

16.1.10 Ecumenical Matters

- [The next Churches Together was to be held in Holy Trinity on the 21st January at 7.30pm. The theme would be Salt of the Earth and it was hoped Fthr Bernard would be available to preach.

- [Messy Church. The current total attendance was 20 parents and children. This was encouraging but the aim was to increase this to 50 by holding it monthly, if possible. The next Church was scheduled for the 10th February.
- [Lent courses would be held on Wednesdays at 2.30pm and the Mothering Sunday Service in the Methodist Chapel.
- [Thursday Meeting. Attendance was wavering, dictated perhaps by the speaker's subject and perhaps loyalty. There was agreement that should the latter be the main reason for its continuance then there may be merit in its closure and to channel activities into other areas. Ideas suggested were: bible study groups; joint banner-making; book studies and Taiz'e services. There were plenty of options for starting a new period and opening new horizons. At the moment two meetings were scheduled for this year but thereafter consultation would take place as to the way ahead.

16.1.11 Any Other Business

- [The question of adequate church-heating was raised. It was thought this might not be as efficient as it might be, to the deterrence of visitors. The timing would be investigated and altered if necessary. Blocked radiators were also thought to be a possible cause. Consequently, it was agreed that the chairman should contact the contractor, who had successfully cleared those in the Rectory, to determine his availability and estimate for clearing all the church radiators, including the one in the vestry.
- [A replacement notice board was needed in the vestry; an additional frame and parchment interior was needed for the Baptismal Roll. Mary Ethearden and Bob Ball undertook to investigate and provide.
- [The new design and presentation on the school board was inspirational and drew the eye on entering the church. The secretary was to write to the headmistress congratulating the school on its innovation and bold design.
- [It was noted that 2 buckets of salt-sand had been left by the Parish Council
- [Additional prints of Communion, Easter and Christmas leaflets were required. The chairman would arrange.
- [Decorations and other items needed to be stowed in boxes in the organ loft, which was becoming cluttered. Bob Ball undertook to arrange for this to be done.
- [Help would be needed for this year's Pancake and Coffee morning; this was pledged.
- [An exhibition of Love in Action was to be held in the Cathedral by the United Society followed by Choral Evensong on the 14th February; the sermon would be given by the chairman.
- [The secretary was to write a letter congratulating Joe Neville on his recent award of an MBE.

There was no further an business and the meeting closed at 9.00pm with the saying of the Grace.

16.1.12 The date of the next meeting was to be the 9th March 2016 at 7.30pm. The AGPCC meeting would be held on the 13th April 2016.

