

# Minutes of the Parochial Church Council, St. Peter's Draycott

*Held on 06/11/2012 at 8:00 p.m. at Kundsan, Westfield Lane.*

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## **1. Opening prayers**

Rev. Chris opened the meeting with a prayer. Tricia Heckbert took the chair.

## **2. Attendance, apologies and welcome**

<i>Present</i>		Tricia Lumley	TL
Christine Butler	CB	Barry Rose	BR
David Cheetham	DC		
Richard Dingley	RD	<i>Apologies</i>	
Chris Green	CG	Colette Jeff	CJ
Tricia Heckbert	TH	Thea Oliver	TO
Janet Jeffries	JJ	Sue Rose	SR

## **3. Minutes from PCC of 29/08/2012**

The PCC minutes were agreed as an accurate record.

## **4. Matters arising**

29/08/12- 6f. (slippery step). DC had taken a look and this had seemed OK. We had better monitor it.

29/08/12- 7b. (shed padlock). The old one has been removed- thanks to Richard Oliver. A new one is in place, members were notified where the key is kept.

29/08/12- 7d. (Reimbursement of school for music lesson). Done.

29/08/12- 7h. (mailing of readings and service details for Website and rotas). Ann Wait was told and both CG and CJ are now getting this by e-mail in good time.

(other matters arising were dealt with under agenda items already tabled)

## **5. Any other business**

Items received- 6g, 8i.

## **6. Special Item- meeting Jacky Smith, Village Agent**

Jacky Smith had been invited by CB. She was introduced to each of the PCC members present. She explained the 'village agent' scheme, and her own activities in our villages.

- Addresses the needs of villages that are losing services and amenities, creating isolation.
- The body responsible is the 'Community Council for Somerset'; the Village Agent Project is funded entirely by sponsors, the largest one being the Big Lottery Fund.
- Similar to a scheme that has been running in Gloucestershire for 5-6 years where there are 38 village agents. NB. The Somerset scheme aims to reach all age groups, compared with the Gloucestershire one which focuses mainly on the needs of the elderly.
- Started in Somerset at the end of June 2012, with 9 village agents so far, to be increased to 15 by May 2012.
- Village Agents act as 'signposters' to services. They neither set up nor recommend services, but they inform potential users of availability of existing ones.
- Village Agents are not able to 'cold call' but must be invited to discuss specific issues.
- Jackie currently works 8 hours per week.
- The scheme has been given two years to prove to potential sponsors that it is useful.

Jackie left us cards and an e-mail contact. NB. An article from Jackie has already been published in our November church newsletter introducing the scheme.

*ACTION:* The PCC were very supportive of these ideas. We would pass literature to other groups we were in contact with, and would also include links in our church website.

## **7. Items for Decision**

### **7a. Christmas Services**

As previously decided, no changes.

NB. Our carol service will be Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> December at 6 pm. DC had been in contact with Nikki and CG over the readings, which would be finalised over this week.

DC has arranged with the Jeffs to start off choir practices on the 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> November (i.e. the next two Tuesdays) at 9 Barnett's Well.

### **7b. Draycott 2013 festival**

We had all read the proposals circulated previously, arising from the working party meeting of the 16<sup>th</sup> October. These proposals were varied and imaginative and met with our full approval. We thanked CB, CJ, BR and Gordon.

BR raised the issue of parking, and insurance. NB. TO took out insurance for an event last month for which the Glebe field was used as a car park.

*ACTION:* BR to contact TO for details.

It was suggested that it would be a most fitting end to the festival week if Draycott could host the joint benefice service on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June, although it is not our 'turn' (NB. St. Peter's Tide is on the 29<sup>th</sup>). We would offer to 'swap' with Rodney Stoke on 30<sup>th</sup> December.

*ACTION:* CB to put the proposal to Rodney Stoke PCC.

### **7c. Faculty request re. grave space**

CB had received a request for the re-allocation of a grave in the (closed) churchyard of St. Peter's. St. Peter's PCC would need to give their assent for this request to go forward to the diocese for a change to the existing faculty (granted on 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan 1973, ref PP1).

The holder of the current permission is Marie Wride of 6 Cross Farm Road, Draycott. The beneficiaries of the change would be Mr. & Mrs. Robert Downing of 4 Quarry Stables, Springhaven, Draycott.

RD proposed that we should recommend that the change requested by Mr. Downing should be allowed. JJ seconded. All were in agreement so the motion was passed.

*ACTION:* CB to communicate the decision of the PCC to the Diocese.

### **7d. Pulley for chandelier**

This is in hand, no further decision required.

### **7e. Completion of vestry/ WC**

A dividing wall in the vestry has now been removed, greatly increasing the space for the WC. We have received a donation to cover the costs of a new washbasin (the donor would also have paid for a new WC bowl as well, but since this would have delayed the works it was regretfully refused). A plasterer will make good the walls sometime next week, and painting would follow.

We discussed the requirements for disabled access. Taps would need to be of the paddle type.

*ACTIONS:*

- i. CG to warn Nikki about the redecorating that may be taking place next Wednesday, while school assembly is going on.
- ii. The shelves should be covered or emptied; only contents that would not be badly affected by a little damp would go to the shed. CG offered to do some work on this next Sunday.

### **7f. Bullying and harrassment- statement of intent**

CG had previously circulated a letter from the Diocese (undersigned by the bishops) with a proposed policy on bullying and harrassment for us to consider, and if possible to adopt.

All agreed that these were sensible proposals, whilst hoping that they were already obvious. TH proposed that we ratify the statement of intent, TL seconded. All were in favour so the motion was passed.

*ACTION:* the statement should be displayed on the church noticeboard, and attention drawn to it at the next suitable moment. CG will organise.

### **7g. Church Newsletter**

SR was doing most of December's issue, and would require any copy in the next week. Thereafter Rob Walker (Owl's Nest, Rodney Stoke) will take over the editorship from January. SR will talk with him about it. The PCC were very happy with this new development and were very grateful to Rob Walker. We are sure he will do a good job.

We agreed that we should present Alison Jeffries with a voucher to express our gratitude for all the work she has put in. The most appropriate time for a presentation would be 23<sup>rd</sup> December, after the carol service.

### **8. Items for Discussion**

#### **8a. Worship**

- i. Guided Prayer. RD reported that this was not well attended from outside the parish (RD being the only one from Draycott). This was a pity as it had been very rewarding. Could we offer Draycott as the venue on another occasion? We will look out for the opportunity next year.
- ii. Remembrance. CB said that they had had difficulty getting a trumpeter. DC might be able to help find one.

#### **8b. Fabric**

(DC) Nothing extra to suggest for the moment. Crypt is under water- but this should not contribute to dampness in the church. This is more likely to come from blocked drains- DC suggested that we should investigate a contract with Corbel. The meeting agreed.

*ACTION:* DC to ask Corbel about drain cleaning contract.

#### **8c. Finance**

DC reported that the church had received a bequest of £3,000. This was now in the General fund, leaving our balances as follows: General: £13,372; Fabric: £3,916.

#### **8d. School**

It had not been possible to arrange the meeting with school governors previously mentioned due to availability of individuals and the pressure of other meetings at school.

*ACTION:* CB trying to rearrange.

#### **8e. Deanery Synod**

A meeting took place on 20<sup>th</sup> September in Cheddar. The Deanery Plan was discussed, after a presentation from a sub-group. The approach is one of joint responsibility between laity and clergy. The group will consider further and report back.

The next Synod meeting is on Thursday this week.

#### **8f. SoSP**

The curry evening harvest supper (at the Strawberry Special) was very successful, and made £450. Half was given to the Community of the Sisters of the Church in Bristol as a contribution to their Loaves and Fishes project. We had received a letter of thanks, which was read out.

Next event- Barry's concert- will need tickets and posters.

*ACTION:* TL will confer with TO.

### **8g. LMG**

Next event- skittles on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November.

### **8h. Web site**

BR also produced a fine 'before and after' pair of photographs of the interior of the church over the period of its refurbishment. CG would use this in the website if it could be forwarded electronically. CG would also put the village agent details on the website.

### **8i. Parish Fees**

New rules have been drawn up, but they are rather complicated. NB. We will get money from crematorium services for the first time.

*ACTION:* CB to look into putting on a teaching event for the benefice, for interested parties.

## **9. Items of new business**

(none tabled)

## **10. Items for Information**

### **10a. Advent time with God**

Announcing a new event- after evening prayer. 'Advent Time with God'- prayer and meditations, weekly on Wednesdays during Advent.

### **10b. Bishop Peter Price**

It has been announced that the bishop is retiring on 30th June 2013. Our prayers were requested.

## **11. Dates**

- Sue back on the 24<sup>th</sup> November.
- Joint PCC- 4<sup>th</sup> December at the Vicarage in Cheddar.

## **12. Closing Prayer**

The meeting closed with the Grace.