

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

Held on 06/08/2014 at 8:00 p.m. at Kundsan, Westfield Lane.

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1. Opening prayers

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

2. Attendance, apologies and welcome

Present

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

3. Minutes from PCC of 28/05/2014

The PCC minutes were agreed as an accurate record.

4. Matters arising

28/05/14 6a (St. Peter's share of car park expenses)- Cheque for £320 sent, not yet cashed.

28/05/14 6b ii (joint PCCs)- SR had run it past other PCCs- OK in principle, need a 'hot topic'

28/05/14 7a (Mission Statement)- Not printed in last magazine due to space – will be in next.

28/05/14 8a (Car Park safety)- Richard Oliver was not convinced that the mirror was the best solution- if it does not work properly we may be liable. Signage may be better?

FURTHER ACTION: CG to write to Highways Authority asking their advice. Copy this to the school so that they can voice their opinion.

28/05/14 9b (Curate profile)- not circulated to PCC, just to church wardens (who commented).

28/05/14 9d (Events calendar)- printed, up in church- not yet sent to CG for website (SR to do)

5. Any other business

(Item 9b added)

6. Items for Decision

6a. Parish Share

Our rating has been questioned by the Wells Archdeaconry Parish Share Scrutiny Group. They use a measure of wealth that comprises the proportion of 'gift aid' contributing members among the regular givers- ours is very high, outnumbering out congregation. This was discussed and is a statistical error- we have over-declared the number of gift aiders by misunderstanding the rules.

ACTION: SR to explain the situation to the Archdeaconry.

6b. Use of car park.

Increasing numbers of people are using the car park regularly, for purposes other than school or church. What can we do about it, given that we don't own the land (and neither does the school)? We decided that an unofficial sign would be in order emphasising that it was a private car park.

ACTION: CG to get a quote for a sign and get back to the PCC.

6c. Risk assessment.

This is a requirement of our insurers- DC has the details. DC suggested a subcommittee to view the video and do the walk-through. Who would help?

ACTION: DC, TH, CJ would form this group and arrange to meet.

6d. Food bank.

Sue Albone has e-mailed us in response, agreeing to the visit to the food bank- not before September, and to give her some dates. She was keen that SR was in on this visit. SR gave some dates- 2nd, 4th, 9th and 24th. Other PCC members would come if they could.

ACTION- CG to liaise with Sue Albone and report back to the PCC.

We had previously pledged £100 for the food bank- this was sent and we have a letter of thanks.

NB. The PCC restated our continuing support for the Community of the Sisters of the Church. They are closed over the summer but will re-open in September- CG will make another drop before harvest as donations continue to come in, albeit in small amounts.

7. Items for Discussion

7b. Worship

- i. Joint service in August. This has been changed for August, in view of the Gymkhana at Rodney Stoke. It will now take place at Cheddar on 24th August. We will continue to announce this in the churches.

- ii. Chris Butler. As we have now all heard, CB has been accepted for the post at Pilton, Croscombe, North Wootton and Dinder. We rejoice with her that her applications have met with success- and particularly that the post is so local. CB wants to celebrate her final Eucharist with us at Draycott, on 28th September. *ACTION*: We will reschedule the service to 10:30 so that we can arrange a lunch party afterwards. Can Ian play the organ?
- iii. Ordination of women in the C of E- 20th anniversary. There will be a special service to mark this in the cathedral on Sat. 27th Sept.
- iv. Harvest festival. Since the ever-popular SoSP curry night has been arranged for 17th October we should make this our Harvest Supper too. The Sunday service will be the 19th.

Christmas

- v. Carols. The 9:30 a.m. carol service at Draycott was a success last year- propose to repeat this, inviting Cheddar to join us once more. This will be 21/12/14.
- vi. Carols in the Strawberry Special- this is very popular, and would be at 6 p.m. on the 14th. We would propose to sing in The Laurels in the afternoon of the same day, as usual. Perhaps we should think about doing an event in the Cider Barn? TO will ask.
- vii. Midnight service. SR does not currently have anyone to cover this. We considered times other than 11:30 (which might allow her to do it). However we preferred the usual time if it were at all possible.
ACTION: SR will see who can do this from the ministry team- or elsewhere.
- viii. Christmas morning service. Can TO do this? She would like to if an organist could manage it. Someone will, not yet decided who!

7b. Fabric

- i. Stonework has now been repaired. To replace the stone cross we would need to apply for a faculty- and very likely would be obliged to repair the current one, rather than replace it with a replica. This seems academic as neither option would be within our means.
ACTION- we agreed not to do anything further.
- ii. Lych gate. DC has taken advice from Ray Kendall and is trying to spruce it up before doing anything further. It has already had a coating of linseed oil- next step will be replacement of hinges. Then we will decide if anything further needs to be done.

7c. Finance

DC reported £9,351 in general funds (including the deposit). It is going down, though we are not yet in crisis. We expect to get £2,400 back in gift aid. There is £2,903 in the Fabric Fund- NB. the car park contribution (£330) has not yet come from this. Other items are waiting in the wings, but not yet necessities- boiler, organ...

7d. School

The diocese is offering to take over responsibility for school house- this was the church wardens. We will maintain our 'interest'. This seems like a good deal for us!

The new head teacher is starting in September- SR is keen to commission him officially. It is an opportunity for a high-profile event with different people from the local communities. It will be done at Cheddar on Friday 3rd October- the Harvest service.

7e. Deanery Synod

There was reporting back from the General Synod, also some discussion of church re-arrangements.

7f. SoSP

Forthcoming events (TO/TL):

- Bat Talk 19/09/14 – at 6:30.
- Curry night- 17/10/14 (now also to be our Harvest Supper- see 7a, above)
- 70s night – 22/11/14

First Saturday coffee and cake- this is going very well. There were 40 last Sunday.

7g. Church Magazine

SR had asked Rodney Stoke PCC whether they wanted to share in the profits (and losses!) They think it should stay the same for the moment, but we will look at it next year.

7h. Local Ministry Group, Cheddar Valley Churches

(nothing to report)

8. Items of new business

8a. Lych Gate

(dealt with under Fabric above, 7b).

9. Items for Information

9a. Church monuments article on Font

A church historian, David Wilson, approached us asking if he could use a photo of our font that appears on our website for an article he is writing, commissioned by the Church Monuments Journal. He also wanted to know whom to acknowledge. The picture was taken by Stanley Price, and the request was duly passed to him. He agreed.

9b. Clé Boyd

RD read out a letter he had received from Clé saying it was unlikely that she would be back in church for the time being. NB. She is receiving communion at The Laurels. *ACTION*: TO will organise a good wishes card in church.

9c. Prayer pilgrimage (RS)

Rodney Stoke is organising a 'prayer pilgrimage' at the cathedral, to be followed by supper.

10. Dates

PCC meetings: 08/10/14, 26/11/14, all at 8 pm, at Kundsan.

11. Closing Prayer

The meeting closed with the Grace.