

# **The United Benefice of St. Mary's, Goudhurst With Christ Church, Kildown.**

**MINUTES** of St. Mary's P.C.C. meeting held on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2014, 7.30.p.m. in the Children's Chapel, St. Mary's.

Present:	Rev. H. Nelson	Mrs R Southon (after bell-ringing rehearsal)	Mr B Mayhew
	Mr S Taurins		
	Mrs A. Pakenham-Walsh	Mrs J Dunstall	
	Mrs P Springett	Mr A Farnfield	
	Mr R Vinton	Mrs E Sibree	
	Mr D Sargeant	Mrs B Addis	

## **1. Prayers**

Rev. Hugh Nelson opened the meeting with prayer.

Hugh commented that the layout of the agenda had been changed, to reflect that the P.C.C. are responsible for the whole mission of the church.

## **2. Welcome and Apologies for absence**

Hugh welcomed new members Becky Addis and Don Sargeant and asked P.C.C. members to introduce themselves with a few words, to Becky and Don.

Apologies were received from James Wickham, Tim Wormington and Sue Donkin.

## **3. Election of P.C.C. Officers**

Chairman – James Wickham, proposed by Richard Vinton and seconded by Emma Sibree.

Vice-Chairman – Rev. Hugh Nelson, proposed by Jill Dunstall and seconded by Angela P.W.

Treasurer – Anthony Farnfield, proposed by Richard Vinton and seconded by Angela P.W. (Anthony expressed the wish to stand down at the end of the financial year in March 2015)

Secretary – Jill Dunstall, proposed by Angela P.W. and seconded by Emma Sibree.

These proposals were unanimously agreed by members of the P.C.C.

## **4. Minutes of Meeting held on 27.3.14. and A.P.C.M. 6.4.14.**

These Minutes were approved and signed.

## **5. Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising not covered by the Agenda.

## **6. Mission and Outreach**

### **i. Brief feedback from Alpha.**

An item on Alpha is contained in Hugh's report, previously circulated to the P.C.C. The next Alpha course is to be held in January 2015 in Goudhurst Parish Hall. Barney suggested that the whole church be asked to pray for this course and also encourage every church member to attend an Alpha course. Ali Williams has agreed to take on the role of Alpha Coordinator for the church.

## **7. Service to the Community**

### **i. School report.**

A report from Andrea was circulated to members, in which it was stated that the result of the OFSTED report was outstanding.

ii. Village Fete

Richard circulated a list of church stalls and manpower needed,

**8. Teaching and Worship**

i. Prayer through the year

As mentioned in Hugh's report, a different style of prayer will be introduced each month between June and March. A retreat day will be held in October led by Brian Draper.

Barney suggested the children be involved, with maybe, a different group of children leading the Family Service prayers each month.

Richard Vinton is in touch with someone who leads children's pilgrimages, if this was thought to be agreeable.

ii. Choir membership and music.

A simple plan was attached to Hugh's report, but unfortunately, due to traffic problems, Jeffrey was unable to join us to go through this plan. This will be discussed at a future meeting.

iii. Review of Lent, Holy Week and Easter.

Adding to Hugh's report on this subject, it was agreed that the Easter Day service had been fantastic.

**9. The Church Community**

i. Small Groups

Although take up of small groups has been slow so far, the PCC acknowledged that this will take time and that publicizing the groups should continue.

A baby-sitting service was suggested, to enable couples to attend a group together. This will be investigated.

Our church welcomers are doing a good job, but it was suggested that as well as newcomers being welcomed into church, they should also be made contact with on exiting the church.

It was suggested that there could be a tear-off slip on the Weekly Sheet for newcomers to print their email contact address, and then this slip be added to the collection plate.

These ideas will be discussed and Anthony volunteered to be a member of this group.

ii. Communion for children

Hugh and Kev will be setting up a group for children aged 8-10 to explore their faith, and specifically to give teaching on communion. There was a discussion about the church's policy, agreed while Rev Bill Hornsby was Vicar, that children can receive communion before Confirmation. Although 1 or 2 members have reservations about this policy, the majority of members felt that it was right.

Hugh was asked to reiterate this policy to the church, for those who have begun attending more recently.

iii. Report from Flower Festival

Angela reported that approximately 120 people were involved with making the flower festival happen, and the resulting profit was £5,484.75.

**10. Fabric and Finance**

Finance Report – Anthony distributed a Statement of Expenditure against Budget sheet, which he explained to us. The P.C.C. thanked him for a clear picture of our financial position.

Our balance with the bank at present is £78,000 and Anthony suggested that £50,000 of this money be put on deposit.

The Church heating system remains our priority and Simon and Tim will get together to further this. The Parish Magazine will be delivered free to every house in the parish for one more month. The cost of the extra printing is £1,100, which the Parish Council has paid for. So far, only 5 extra subscriptions have resulted from this exercise.

Church Room - The Pre-school are doing well and an agreement has been reached with them regarding rent for the Church Room

The floor of the Church Room has been renewed and paid for and is looking good.

Brian Ferdinando has arranged for Tate to make new gates for the entrance to the Church Room at a cost of £888. Including VAT.

**11. Communication**

This item was adjourned due to lack of time.

**12. Deanery**

Hugh reported that Mike Warr was attending the next Deanery Synod meeting, with a view to becoming our deanery rep.

**13. Any Other Business**

Becky and Simon agreed to meet to discuss a potential Marriage Course.

**14. Future Dates 2014**

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE NEXT MEETING DATE HAS CHANGED FROM 26<sup>TH</sup> JUNE TO WEDNESDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> JUNE.**

P.C.C. Meetings Thursdays commencing at 7.30.p.m.

18<sup>th</sup> June (strategy) **NOTE CHANGE OF DAY AND DATE**

24<sup>th</sup> July

25<sup>th</sup> September

23<sup>rd</sup> October (strategy)

27<sup>th</sup> November

14<sup>th</sup> June – Village Fete

20<sup>th</sup> September – Quiz

4<sup>th</sup> Oct. – Barn Dance