

St. Peter's Church, Shorwell
Minutes of PCC Meeting held on 18th November 2015

Present: Archdeacon Peter Sutton, Victoria James (Diocesan Stewardship Advisor), Revd Helen O'Sullivan, Steve Sutcliffe (lay minister), Yvonne Willoughby, Mary Tester and Yvonne Hide.

Apologies for absence were received from: Janet White, Brenda Rowe, Jill Downer and Roy Carter Jones.

Helen signed as correct the minutes of the last two PCC meetings held on 21st October 2015 and 8th November 2015.

Helen reminded the meeting that it had been agreed that the money remaining in the Shorwell Charity was to help finance Steve's work in the parish. A request to the bank to transfer the funds was signed by the Archdeacon, Helen, Yvonne Willoughby and Yvonne Hide. Steve was asked to present it to the bank together with a signed copy of the minutes of 15.10.14.

Helen thanked Archdeacon Peter and Victoria James for coming to speak at the meeting.

Victoria, who is a member of the diocesan Mission, Discipleship and Ministry team, spoke about an innovative plan to link a parish with the University of Portsmouth. The Business Management School at the university would identify a suitable student, studying for independent exams., who would support a PCC treasurer with book keeping and reports. The arrangement would depend on finding the right student and switching to on-line banking. A senior lecturer is seeking a possible student to link with Shorwell. If one is found Shorwell could be in the vanguard of a new collaborative scheme.

Charities Aid Foundation. Victoria discussed CAF banking. This is an independent on-line bank run by a charity for charities, using the facilities of HSBC. Victoria offered to explore its possibilities for Helen on behalf of the PCC.

Stewardship Programme. Archdeacon Peter described a stewardship programme planned across the Island for January 2016 when collated information will be sent to all parishes.

Meetings in "clusters" will follow from February to May and include the Archdeacon's Visitation on 25th May 2016.

In September 2016, three Sundays will be devoted to focusing on different aspects of stewardship.

Parish Giving Scheme. Victoria listed its advantages: no treasurer involved, work load reduced, inflation proof, anonymous and cash flow improved. It is financed to a small extent by the Church Commissioners and by each diocese using the scheme, e.g. Portsmouth pays £1000 per month. It can be tailor-made to suit a parish and raise funds. If a suitable occasion is chosen to launch it, then the community can be involved as well as the church.

In conclusion, Victoria recommended two on-line shopping sites: "Give as You Live" and "Easy Giving". Both are supported by well known stores and supermarkets who pay a percentage of the money spent on-line to a charity of your choice.

The meeting ended shortly after 8pm.