

St Mary's Church, Brighstone, Isle of Wight

Meeting of the Parochial Church Council

21st July 2016 at the Exchange, Brighstone

Minutes

Attendees: Alan Edwards (Chair), June Horsfall, Gill Bradbury, Pat Spittles, Chris Goodman, Miriam Crewe, Norma Bradley, Andy Dorning, Alison Mascarenhas (Secretary)

Apologies: Pete Fryer, Keith Plater, Stephen Sutcliffe, Peter Johnson

1. Prayer

The meeting was opened with prayer by Alan Edwards.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from the above individuals.

3. Minutes of the last meeting

Minutes of the last meeting held on 9th June 2016 were agreed and signed.

4. Youth Work Update

Andrew Evans, a 19 year old YTP from Worthing has been appointed to help with the youth work. He would attend Moorlands College 2-3 days a week and would be based in Brighstone. Host accommodation is being sought for him in the Brighstone/Shorwell area to start in September. The PCC would not be involved in any costs.

In addition, Andy asked if he could use the Exchange as an office as he is not finding it appropriate to use his home. He said that if the PCC agreed for him to use it as his base for Youth Work, the present youth group could re-decorate it. Alan asked Andy to put together a proposal with costs for the PCC to consider at the next meeting in September.

Andy reported that the SWAY grant with the council was due to end March 2017. SWAY had now officially taken over Wightheat Ltd and profits generated would fund the work of SWAY.

The use of the Exchange would also be put on the agenda for the next JPCC meeting.

There was a pause for prayer for the Youth Work.

5. Fabric Update

Miriam explained that the grant sought for the roof repairs had not been approved. This was disappointing but the Fabric Committee were going to ask for feedback as to why the application had been unsuccessful as this may help further grant applications.

Miriam said that grant applications such as the National Churches Trust needed churches to already have half of the required amount for projects and in St Mary's case half of the amount required for the roof repair was £40,000 which seemed an unrealistic sum. Alan said he would check in the accounts how much money was already in the Roof Fund.

Miriam was going to contact Jeremy Poll, the Architect for advice regarding further grant applications.

The information boards at the back of the church that Jo had put together raised awareness of the roof problems and the PCC approved that awareness could be increased by putting an article in the Village Newsletter.

Chris Goodman suggested another fundraising option may be for individuals to contribute a sum eg £500 towards the roof fund and have a memorial plaque with their name on it in the form of a fish displayed somewhere in the church. Discussion followed and further thought was required.

6. Finance Update

Alan said he would email PCC members with current figures in the various church accounts but in the main Santander account there was only £16,000 and the financial situation was precarious.

One quarter of the Parish Share had been paid so far and another quarter was due but this would leave little in the current account for general use. Alan said he had written to Victoria James, outlining the financial situation and problems paying the Parish Share but was still awaiting a reply. The PCC agreed to wait for a reply before considering paying the next instalment of the Parish Share.

Alan said he had invited Victoria James to come to a PCC meeting to discuss the situation.

Alan Rodway was able to give advice on the accounts but did not wish to take on the role of Treasurer. It was agreed that the role could be advertised in the Newsletter.

There was a pause for prayer.

7. Vacancy and Service Update

Gill said she had emailed Peter Sutton for an update on the Vacancy. He said he was still waiting on input from Totland and Yarmouth for the Vacancy Profile. There were some legal matters that needed to be completed in relation to the formation of a Team Ministry but Peter hoped that the Team Rector position would be advertised in September/October. Each parish will receive a letter asking them to agree to the creation of a Team Ministry.

Peter also said that there was a general lack of clergy available for posts. Another avenue may be to have a conversation with clergy in post on the

mainland to see if they may consider a move to the island or whether a curate finishing training may be considered.

The Job Specification is completed for the Administrator role except for one detail about pension provision and will be advertised soon.

Gill said that it would be more difficult to find clergy and others to take services when Steve left. A joint service with the Methodists may be an idea. Norma raised concerns about the Moot and Communion taking place on the same Sunday as people would like to go to both. After discussion, it was agreed that at the present time with difficulties with service provision, things would remain as they are.

8. Exchange Update

June explained that the query about possible asbestos in the Exchange is still being investigated by Jo. If there are no problems the planned building work can go ahead.

June said that the Exchange was not used to its full potential and June said it costs £105/month to run. Regular users were to be asked to donate towards running costs. If Andy Dorning's proposal to use the Exchange as the SWAY office, SWAY would contribute towards the costs.

Insurers have valued the Exchange following inspection, at £60,000 (previously £50,000) and the premium increased from £218.41 pa to £232.38, or if the excess is increased from £500 to £1,000 a decrease to £216.90. After discussion, the PCC agreed that the church could continue to afford the Exchange and would pay the increased insurance premium.

9. Any Other Business

Gill said that Steve's last service was on 11th September at St Peter's, Shorwell. Gill said she would ask him what sort of leaving party he may like and potentially this would be held on the 10th September.

The PCC agreed to take up the Open Plate for the Offering during services. Some visitors and others would like to give but were not aware of the plate at the back of the church.

Chris Goodman said that he would look further into cost of provision of TV screens. Funds could be sought from the Dorothy Brooke fund.

The meeting was closed with prayer.

The next Brighstone PCC meeting is on 20th October 2016.