

**ST MARY RIVERHEAD WITH DUNTON GREEN  
MINUTES**

**Meeting of the Parochial Church Council  
Tuesday 27 November 2018  
7.30pm in the Church**

**PRESENT:** Vicar in the chair, Diane Williams, Alison Bull, Stuart Wigley, Ronnie Todd  
Susan Allender, Daphne Harrison, Margaret Nicholas, Charlotte Rakhit, Barry Sharp, Bennet Smith,  
Anne Straight, Dick Thomson, Rachel Wigley, Ali Wakefield

**1. Passage of Scripture & Prayers**

The Vicar opened the meeting with prayer and a bible passage.

**2. Apologies**

Andrew Swidzinski, Sarah Way

**3. Approval of Minutes 25 September 2018**

Agreed by the PCC and signed as a true copy by the Vicar.

**4. Matters Arising**

**Church Organ Scholarship** - Barry Sharp was asked to check with Janet on the agreed fee per service and to establish the fee for choir practice.

**Waste Bins** - Alison Bull has emailed Sevenoaks District Council to ask whether they would be prepared to include the two waste bins outside the church in their collections. It is a closed churchyard and a general thoroughfare. Alison was told they have a new Amenities Officer. The request has been passed on to the Dunbrik Depot and Alison is awaiting a reply.

**Dunton Green Initiative** - It was agreed the explanation note from Phil and Kathy James was very helpful but it was generally felt to be our responsibility to work through. Another option would be to work together with Faithworks. It was agreed to invite Phil and Kathy to our next PCC meeting in January at, say 7pm, to tell us their thoughts.

**5. Finance**

The Treasurer informed the PCC that £48,878 has been agreed with the Diocese as our contribution for 2018/19, which is a 2½% increase on our last contribution.

A presentation on giving will be made in church in the near future to encourage stewardship and giving.

Our finances are in good order at the moment.

A draft budget will be ready for the PCC meeting in January.

The Vicar thanked Stuart for all his work on the accounts during the year.

**6. Church Fabric**

Diane Williams gave the report.

Ray Ebdy and Robert McLintock are unhappy with the suggestion of using a low scaffold for the work in the Chancel as it would be too dangerous. We will therefore need to find an alternative method of replacing the lights in the chancel.

Work is ongoing to drain water away from the church outside the vestry door. Unfortunately the work has stopped due to the inclement weather.

The colour for the church door is still undecided!

## **7. Church Grounds**

The Churchwardens informed the PCC that we need to draw up a policy on the removal of trees from the church grounds. Once it has been written and agreed, it will be given to Sevenoaks District Council, the Diocese and the Archdeacon. In the meantime a notice will be put up stating: "Church Grounds Maintenance: Regulations to follow. Please note."

## **8. Events**

Christmas Tree Festival - 8-9 December

School Carol Concerts

New Year's Party - Date to be put in the Notice Sheet

Church Quiz - postponed to 2019 - Invite all three churches - (Events committee to coordinate)

## **9. Outreach and Mission**

Poverty & Hope - Mike Fawcett, Companion Diocese Link Coordinator, spoke to us about this year's Poverty & Hope Appeal.

Mercy Ships - A representative to come and speak to us in the new year.

Kondoa Diocese (Tanzania) - £200 sent as our donation

SKET - £313 collected and sent as our donation

## **10. Three Parish Initiative**

A further meeting is to be held where the comments of each PCC will be given.

After reading the document from the Archdeacon sent to PCCs, everyone present was asked to send their comments to the Secretary.

As Martin will be retiring in March 2019, the subject of an interregnum was discussed. The Vicar, Daphne Harrison and Churchwardens will work out a rota of Ministers to cover the interregnum period. The Archdeacon will allocate an Interim minister if the process of finding a replacement takes too long.

## **11. Deanery Synod Briefing**

Anne Straight reported there has been a meeting which covered the subject of Finance.

## **12. Church Services**

16/12 - 9.30am Sunday Club Nativity

23/12 - 7.00pm Nine Lessons and Carols

24/12 - 2.30pm Christingle (DH)

24/12 - 4.00pm Christingle (Vicar)

24/12 - 11.30pm Christmas Eve Eucharist Service

25/12 - 8.00am BCP

25/12 - 9.30am Christmas Day Eucharist Service

30/12 - 9.30am Said Eucharist Service

6/1 - Adie McColl to take services at 8.00am and 9.30am

## **13. Sunday Club/Teenagers**

Ali Wakefield confirmed that all is going well. Year 6 and older children will be taking a family service which is in the process of being arranged.

## **14. Any Other Business**

**Crib Trail** - Anne Straight advised the PCC that the crib trail will be on Saturday 29 December between 10.30am and 12.30pm and will not be over several days as was originally suggested.

**Traidcraft** - Ann Straight informed the PCC that Traidcraft will be closing as of January 2019. It may open under another guise later on. In the meantime it will still be trading up to the end of December. The Traidcraft charity, which helps local producers, is still ongoing.

The Vicar thanked Anne, Emma and Louise for all their hard work over the years they have been running Traidcraft.

**Confirmation** - Ali Wakefield told the Vicar there are seven or eight children wishing to be confirmed. Martin advised Ali there is a new diary of confirmation services which is in the process of being planned. Daphne Harrison will take on some of the training. Martin will be in touch with Ali with further information.

**Interregnum** - The Vicar suggested we set up three or four teams to support the Churchwardens with specific things such as house maintenance etc. The Churchwardens, Daphne Harrison and the Vicar will have a meeting to discuss. Ronnie Todd and Rachel Wigley will be happy to help in their current capacity as assistant Churchwardens.

**Holy Week** - The Vicar advised the meeting of the following arrangements:

Revd Lynette Leithead will be taking the service on Palm Sunday,

The Archdeacon on Easter Sunday,

Daphne Harrison for Compline and Maundy Thursday,

Sunday Club will take the 10.00am family service on Good Friday.

There is the option of Joining St Luke's and Kippington for the Walk of Witness on Good Friday instead.

Daphne Harrison will take the afternoon service on Good Friday.

There is the option to walk to Kippington to join St Mary's for their 6.30am Easter Dawn service and breakfast instead of holding our own walk and breakfast.

## **15. Date of Next Meeting**

Standing Committee Meeting: 15 January 2019

PCC Meeting: 29 January 2019