

PARISH OF ST ANDREW ENFIELD

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 16 January 2017 at 7.30 p.m. in the Church Vestry

Present: Rev. Dr. Steve Griffiths, Rev. Lizzie Baughen, Emma Byrne, Frances Cansfield, Fliss Cox (from 7.55pm), Claudia De Rienzo, Barrie Lane, Diana Lane, Stephanie Lane, Claire Reilly, Mark Thebridge, Patience Wilson, John Tanner (Secretary)

1. Opening Prayer

1.1. The Rev. Dr. Steve Griffiths opened the meeting with a prayer.

2. Apologies for Absence

2.1. Apologies were received from: Richard Berndes, Diane Cater, Andrea Edwards, Dinos Kousoulou, Kara McCrory, Robert Paing, Imogen Seward-Evans, Claire Whetstone and Victoria Wiggins.

3. Minutes of the Last Meeting

4. The minutes of the meeting of 15 November 2016 were approved.

5. Actions and Decisions and Matters Arising –

- Para 4.3 – the Council have not been able to progress the issue internally and it is believed the project has not been taken forward.
- Para 5.1 – there is significant interest in forming a music group and detailed proposals are being finalised.
- Para 6.1, third bullet – refers to Diocesan roles.
- Para 6.1, fourth bullet – the grants and charities accessed through the book referred to will not cover the parish centre, as they tend to be directed towards historic buildings, and nothing is planned at present beyond meeting essential maintenance requirements. The core budget is so tight that a capital campaign for the fabric of the church, would risk diverting funds from that. Specific funding bids for eg the parapets might, however, be appropriate. There is a need to think and plan strategically, although over £250,000 had been raised over the last two years.
- Para 8.4 – an electrician has identified £500 of work requiring to be done as a minimum. The chancel repairs have been completed.
- Para 8.6 – estimates of the costs of moving the lightning conductor are being obtained.

6. Vicar's Report

6.1. Steve Griffiths introduced his report. The main points to highlight were:

- the car park barrier is up and has been successful with no real complaints. Now legitimate usage is clear there is the potential to double sell a number of spaces to increase revenue;
- the CCTV camera is in place but the view needs to be cleared when the tree surgeons are on site later in the year. There is scope to install further cameras should this be necessary;
- the curtilage wall repairs are being paid for by the Diocese;

PARISH OF ST ANDREW ENFIELD

- commissioned ministry is going well and the new Bible study group begins on 17 January.

6.2. In discussion it was noted that Mark 4 group was not as active as others and that more efforts should be put into communicating good news. This reflected the fact that Mission Action Plan is not a directive document and it will grow organically, dependent on the direction that those involved take it .

7. Finance Advisory Group

7.1. 2017 Budget –Steve Griffiths introduced the draft budget for 2017. He noted that it was a relatively conservative draft.

7.2. In discussion the following points were raised:

- the conservative nature of the draft was driven by a number of factors. These include: the budgeted decrease in donations reflecting the demographic profile of the congregation, with a knock on effect on Gift Aid; and reductions in PCC fee income as a result of the growth in secular ministers providing alternative wedding and funeral services. We need to grow the church in ways which enable people to recognise that giving is part of their spirituality.
- the budget includes a small contingency of £3,000 for works but any exceptional works will require additional fund raising.
- salaries have increased as a result of employing the cleaner and modest salary increase for staff;
- the costs of the refurbishment of the flat would be recovered in two years;
- although it is expected the car park receipts and lettings may increase it is prudent to budget on a worst case scenario;
- gas, electricity and water charges are down as a result of the works already carried out on the boiler and a mild winter;
- refurbishment of the chancel organ.

7.3. **Decision: The PCC agreed unanimously to the budget for 2017, proposed by Fliss Cox and seconded by Emma Byrne.**

7.4. Steve Griffiths reported on the current financial position:

- the accounts are moving onto SAGE, with considerable efficiencies;
- the end of year accounts are now in preparation; and
- cash flow is critical at present, although this does not reflect issues with general income.

8. Buildings Advisory Group

8.1. There were no points raised in addition to those covered in the Vicar's report.

9. MABS Report.

9.1. Steve Griffiths highlighted:

- the work of David Andrews in the Single Parents Group;

PARISH OF ST ANDREW ENFIELD

- the continuing development of the Minster project and the approach being adopted in pursuing this. If successful, MABS would become a Diocesan resource for churches;
- the potential for MABS to be approved as a London Campus to deliver a CertHE in 'Theology, Mission and Ministry'. A training cohort of 5-10 students would enable the costs to be met. It would also provide a strong organisational profile, supporting the Minster bid.

9.2. There was a discussion of the implications of this for funding and the current work of MABS. There was a further opportunity for good news stories from MABS to be drawn out and shared across the Church, albeit suitably anonymised. Some of the 2017 budget is for publicity and leaflets which could meet this need. More use could also be made of the videos available on YouTube.

9.3. The PCC noted the forthcoming departure of Barry Easton and that it is not intended to make a like for like replacement given the various developments discussed elsewhere under the report. Future requirements need to be addressed in the light of this. There was a discussion of the reasons for his departure. It was noted that there will be volunteer cover in the short-term.

10. Deanery Synod

10.1. Steve Griffiths introduced the Area Dean's letter regarding the appointment of the next Diocesan Bishop. The PCC was under no obligation to comment. In discussion the PCC suggested that the ideal candidate would be broad in their churchmanship, with a focus on the whole of London.

10.2. ACTION: The Deanery Synod representatives to feed views back.

11. Mark of Mission 5 - Treasure God's Creation

12. Steve Griffiths introduced the paper, endorsed by the Mark 5 Reference Group as a way of focussing their activities over the coming year. The PCC discussed the approach and agreed in principle to the Reference Group's proposal.

13. AOB

13.1 There was no other business.

Date of Next Meeting – 14 March 2017