

# PARISH OF ST. ANDREW, ENFIELD

## PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held  
on 10 September 2015  
at 7.30 p.m. in Room 1, Parish Centre

**Present:** Rev. Dr. Steve Griffiths, Rev. Olive Cope, Richard Berndes, Rex Bourne, Emma Byrne, Frances Cansfield, Diane Cater, Claudia De Rienzo, Andrea Edwards, Diana Lane, Stephanie Lane, Claire Reilly, Mark Thebridge, Victoria Wiggins, Claire Whetstone, 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 Fliss Cox, Dinos Kousoulou, Barrie Lane, Jacky Parnell, Robert Paing and Imogen Seward-Evans.

### 3. Minutes of the Last Meeting

4. The minutes of the meeting of 15 July 2015 were approved, subject to one typographical error.

### 5. Matters Arising

15 July 2015

5.1. There were no matters arising.

5.2. The action and decisions log was updated.

### 6. Vicar's Report

6.1. Steve Griffiths introduced his report and updated the PCC on progress under each heading.

### 7. Progression Paper: Quinquennial, Fabric, Legal Compliance and Health & Safety

7.1. Steve Griffiths introduced the paper, highlighting the work which had been taken forward over the summer. He emphasised the work done to make a number of graves safe by Enfield Council and the need for further work to be done to repair the paths.

### 8. PCC Rep for the Old Enfield Charitable Trust

8.1. Sue Woollard's term on the OECT was coming to an end and the PCC needed to consider whether it should be renewed.

8.2. **DECISION: The PCC agreed, proposed by Diana Lane, seconded by Rex Bourne, that Sue Woollard's term should be extended.**

### 9. Finance Advisory Group

9.1. Financial Report - Claire Whetstone summarised the current financial position. Income was up in the year to August, with expenditure also up. However, there was

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an overall surplus forecast for some £3,000. This was largely due to the work of Tracey Baines in increasing Centre income up and this making up for a decrease in donations.

9.2. In discussion the following points were raised:

- Tracey Baines had now taken on management of the car park. She would be working additional hours to accommodate this. Day to day supervision of the car park would need to be considered as this would not be part of her duties;
- Fund raising events would be needed from the Autumn, with completion of the organ restoration.

9.3. Steve Griffiths expressed his thanks to Claire for her work and that of the Finance Advisory Group, which had turned around the financial position.

9.4. Charging Protocol for Use of the Parish Centre – Steve Griffiths said that the Finance Advisory Committee had considered this and was recommending that no discounting should be applied. The complexity of applying a protocol in respect of church members, family and friends would present a real challenge. Any judgements would be subjective and the Advisory Committee had concluded it would be unreasonable and impracticable to apply differential rates.

9.5. In discussion the following points were raised:

- There would be discretion to charge more depending on the circumstances eg film companies and other commercial organisations;
- While there was an argument for charities to receive a subsidised rate, this would similarly require subjective judgement;
- Church groups would not be charged, as part of our internal mission;
- In the future, subsidising a particular organisation as part of our mission might be an option.

9.6. **DECISION: The PCC resolved, with three against, proposed by John Tanner, seconded by Emma Byrne, that there should be no protocol for Parish Centre hirings, with fees applied across the board.**

### 10. Buildings Advisory Group

10.1. Buildings Advisory Group Report – Steve Griffiths introduced the report. He highlighted the recommendations that the bell-tower should be fumigated, treated and the position reviewed in a year. The treatment would last 30 years and would give the opportunity to assess whether structural work is needed. Current costs were in the order of £6,000, which would need to be raised.

10.2. In discussion the following points were raised:

- Rex Bourne reported on the discussions which had taken place with the Enfield Council representative regarding the car park trees, within the local conservation area. The Council had indicated they would place preservation orders on all the trees in the car park, in the event of proposals to fell, excepting the leaning Scots Pine. The intention was to get estimates for that work and then come back to the PCC in November.

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10.3. Steve Griffiths recorded his thanks to the Advisory Group.

### 11. MABS Advisory Group

11.1. Steve Griffiths noted that the project is now up and running and will formally report in November.

### 12. Mark of Mission 1 - Telling the Gospel

12.1. Proposals for Remembrance Sunday – Steve Griffiths said that this had been considered and the recommendation was for a 10.30 service running through to 11.30, with the uniformed organisations participating. The PCC ratified the recommendation.

12.2. 6.30pm Sunday Service – Steve Griffiths introduced the paper. In discussion the following points were made:

- There were a small number of regular attendees, although people welcomed the opportunity to worship in this way. The argument that few people come sent out a message capable of misinterpretation, if this was seen as the justification for not continuing with the current pattern;
- There is a place for a 6.30pm service but the practicalities are a real challenge at present with no assistant clergy. There might be an option for a monthly service in the future were the staffing position to improve. However, future patterns of worship is a separate question from whether it is practical to maintain the current service pattern;
- Choral evensong, perhaps on a quarterly or monthly basis, should also remain an option in the future;
- It was not possible to have a perpetual pattern of worship, with no licensed minister, in the church or elsewhere. It would be possible to meet and worship elsewhere but not without a licensed minister as part of the pattern of worship;
- The Visitation Report had raised the issue of the Vicar's workload, which should be taken into account and highlighted wider questions or resourcing. Steve Griffiths would be meeting the new Archdeacon soon and would also raise this with the Bishop.

12.3. **DECISION: The PCC resolved by 11 in favour, with 5 abstentions, with three against, proposed by Claire Reilly, seconded by Andrea Edwards, that the 6.30pm service should be suspended from 30 November 2015, subject to future review.**

12.4. Midweek Communion – Steve Griffiths introduced the paper and the differences which existed between this and the 6.30pm Sunday Service. It was rare that a Church did not offer a mid-week communion. In discussion the following points were raised:

- Most of those attending the current Wednesday service would not be inconvenienced;
- If the Vicar were not available, this service would not take place.

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**12.5. DECISION: The PCC resolved proposed by Patience Wilson, seconded by Vicki Wiggins, that a midweek Said Service of Holy Communion should be introduced on Thursdays at 12.45pm.**

### 13. Mark of Mission 2 – Teaching and Nurturing Disciples

13.1. Feedback and Future Plans – Steve Griffiths noted that the group had not yet met. The introduction to the Bible courses had been well received. There was also some interest in home groups. He would begin three new courses, including covering the 39 Articles, in the autumn. There would also be a confirmation class in the near future. Table Talk would continue and MABS work is developing.

### 14. Mark of Mission 3 - Tending to those in need

14.1. Report and Feedback – Steve Griffiths introduced the report. He highlighted the volume of pastoral care to be undertaken. In discussion the following points were made:

- There would be an opportunity to follow up on those who received parcels from the harvest festival;
- An app which allowed access to podcasts might provide access to groups which would be otherwise marginalised.

### 15. Mark of Mission 4 – Transform the Unjust Structures in Society

15.1. Report and Feedback – Steve Griffiths introduced the paper. In discussion it was noted that:

- . Christians Against Poverty (CAP) would be visiting on 3 November;
- There was a need for greater communication from the Foodbank in terms of what they needed, and to remind the congregation of the need for donations.

### 16. Mark of Mission 5 – Treasure God's Creation

16.1. Report and Feedback – Steve Griffiths introduced the paper and noted that a meeting had been postponed with the Diocesan advisor on the environment.

### 17. AOB

17.1. Safeguarding Policy - John Tanner introduced the revised Diocesan Policy.

17.2. **DECISION: The PCC unanimously adopted the revised Safeguarding Policy (February 2015) proposed by Claire Reilly, seconded by Frances Cansfield.**

18. Date of Next Meeting – 10 November 2015