

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 15th November 2016 at 7.30 p.m. in the Church Vestry

Present: Rev. Dr. Steve Griffiths, Richard Berndes, Lizzie Baughen, Emma Byrne, Frances Cansfield, Diane Cater, Claudia De Rienzo, Andrea Edwards, Dinos Kousoulou, Diana Lane, Stephanie Lane, Mark Thebridge, Claire Whetstone, Victoria Wiggins, Patience Wilson

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, Claire Reilly, Barrie Lane, Imogen Seward-Evans, Robert Paing, Kara McCrory, John Tanner(Secretary)

3. Minutes of the Last Meeting

4. The minutes of the meeting of 19th September 2016 were approved

5. Actions and Decisions and Matters Arising –

19th September 2016.

4.3 The meeting noted that MABS would not be producing the second report for the Council.

5.1 Six people have expressed an interest in joining the Music group. Rev. Dr. Steve Griffiths will be meeting the Choir to explore how music can be progressed.

8.2 Messy Church. The first Messy Church service had been well supported and received. Approximately 35 children and 40 adults had attended.

11.2 Partnerships. Rev. Dr. Steve reported that the website had been updated to include local businesses that have supported St Andrew's

6. Vicar's Report

6.1. Rev. Dr. Steve Griffiths introduced his report. The main points to highlight are:

- The introduction of Aurora as the part time cleaner for the Parish Centre who will also be spending some time cleaning in Church.
- Training for Commissioned Ministry is progressing well.
- His increased responsibilities for Diocesan Project
- Plans for fundraising to meet the obligations for the Fabric of the Church and MABS. The meeting noted that approximately £3 million needed to be raised over the next 5 years. Funding for maintaining and improving the Parish Centre will need to be met through separate campaigns.
- Progress on the Mission Action Plan.

7. Finance Advisory Group

7.1. Financial Report –Claire Whetstone updated the meeting on the Church's finances. It was noted that the position at the end of September showed a deficit of £494 against a budgeted deficit of £3000. However, once unplanned expenditure such as the Parish centre flat renovation was added, the deficit would be in the region of £8000. We noted that rental income was now being generated through letting the extra room in the Flat.

7.2. Donations had been received towards the refurbishment of the toilets and the car park barrier. Claire informed the meeting that any deficit would be met through Reserves which would be replenished over time through rental income from the Parish centre flat.

7.3. Steve Griffiths expressed his thanks to Claire Whetstone and the finance team.

8. Buildings Advisory Group

8.1. Curtilage wall. The wall has been surveyed and this has highlighted issues that need to be addressed on the part of the wall on Silver Street. Discussions are ongoing with the Diocese regarding responsibility for repairs to this section of the wall.

8.2. Bell Tower. The inspection has been carried out which found that there was no immediate causes for concern.

8.3. Parish Centre toilets– The Ladies toilet refurbishment has been completed.

8.4. Heating in Church. Noted that new electrics needed to be installed to the blowers. These are currently being switched on manually.

8.5. Chancel repairs. A quote of £3408 has been received to repair the Victorian ceiling panels which have come loose. The Patrons, Trinity Collage Cambridge, have been approached to consider funding these repairs

8.6. Flagpole – Permission has been given by the Archdeacon to re-site the flag. The issue of the lightening conductor which is attached to the current flag post needs to be explored further.

8.7. The meeting thanked the Buildings Advisory Group and Rob Paing in particular for all their hard work.

8.8. Car Park Barrier. The papers circulated prior to the meeting were discussed extensively by the meeting. The general consensus was that there had been ongoing issues with controlling access to the car park. Customers who pay to park are increasing frustrated at not being able to find a space to park and there have been several incidents when unauthorised people have been asked to remove their vehicles from the car park. It was accepted that the replacement of the barrier with an electrical barrier may cause discontent with some parishioners. Vicki stated that as a Church Warden she felt able to undertake her duties without having access to the car park.

It was proposed by Claire Whetstone and seconded by Emma Byrne that the estimate from AAC Services for the erection of a new electrically controlled barrier with associated work be accepted and the work commissioned

This was put to the vote and was carried with one against.

8.9. CCTV system for the Car Park. The need to install a CCTV was debated as a way of controlling unsocial behaviour in the car park and to reduce the abuse of this area of the Parish Centre.

It was proposed by Claudia De Rienzo and seconded by Frances Cansfield That a CCTV system be installed in the Parish Centre to monitor activity in the Car Park.

The proposal was unanimously agreed.

9. MABS Report.

Rev Dr. Steve Griffiths asked that the content of the report be kept confidential as the discussions with the Diocese on a number of issues are ongoing.

The contents of the report were noted, in particular;

- The establishment of the Parenting Group and Single Parents Group.
- MABS finances - current position and future planning.

The meeting congratulated the MABS workers on the exceptional work that is being undertaken.

10. Deanery Synod Report.

Patience introduced the report. Bishop Rob wanted the following initiative highlighted.

- The focus on Vocation and the need to encourage people to consider ordination.
- Church presence across the Borough and the need to plant churches near communities that have poor access to churches.

11. Mark of Mission 1- Telling the Gospel

Feedback on Remembrance Week. The feedback from this event was very positive from the congregation, the schools and the community. The Service helped people to reflect and pay tribute to those who lost their lives.

The meeting extended their thanks to Claudia and Jo and everyone who helped put up the displays.

12. Mark 4 – Transform the Unjust Structures in Society

Lizzie confirmed that the MABS project had now received approval to be a distribution centre for food vouchers. There would be a formal launch once staff time permits.

13. AOB

13.1 Appointment of Secretary for 2017/18. Rev. Dr. Steve Griffiths asked the meeting to note that John Tanner will be standing down as Secretary and to give thought as to who might succeed him.

13.2 Chalice Assistant. Vicki had received a request from Imogen Seward-Evans to become a chalice assistant. Patience Wilson proposed and Mark Thebridge seconded a proposal that Imogen Seward-Evans should be appointed a Chalice Assistant.

This was carried unanimously.

Date of Next Meeting – 16th January 2017