

Highlights of the meeting of the Parochial Church Council held in the Church Hall on Wednesday 27th February 2008 at 8.00pm.

- 1) The Chairman welcomed all members and opened the meeting with prayers.
- 2) Apologies were received
- 3) Minutes of the meeting held on the 12th December 2007 were signed off with no amendments.

4) Chairman's notices and announcements:

- **Date for your diary.** The non-business PCC meeting on the 11th June will take the form of a BBQ in the Vicarage garden starting at 8pm. Thank you Nick. The issue of whether to bring partners was raised - no decision made, if you have a view please make it known.
- **The late Janet Goodbody:** A letter was read stating that St. Peter's is a specific beneficiary.
- **Donations:** The Chairman asked for the donations schedule to be made available to the PCC so we can have an update of what donations are still to spend, have been spent etc
An explanation was given regarding the "Terrier": a record of everything bought new by the Church for the Church. The issue was raised that if people have made donations for specific things in the past they might like to pay for any repair that might be needed. . The Chairman will be happy to discuss these individual items with those concerned should the need arise. The chairman also pointed out the wider issue, which is that the church authorities discourage anything (plaques etc.) that could hold future generations hostage. There are inevitable sensitivities that need to be borne in mind.
- Last year we agreed to underwrite The Leatherhead Theatre Project £400 for the sale of tickets to encourage Christian type activities. We will not be doing this in future as the organisation is not going to continue. The net cost to us was approximately £280.
- The Chairman has been provided by the Department for Social Responsibility a document called "Understanding Mental Health: A guide for parishes. The document will be passed to the Pastoral Care Team for their guidance. The Chairman stated that we don't have a Cathedral Link person and it would be useful for us as a parish and the cathedral if we did.
- The Chairman asked the PCC to let him know if they had anyone that would represent the congregation as a communion assistant

5) Property Stewardship / Thoughts from Awayday

Comments: lovely hall at Long Ditton - not a good place for a Parish Office, the toilets were not practical nor was the front door over gravestones, white emulsion to floor level could not be kept clean, the speaker was brilliant - they weren't new

questions but we were able to look at it from a different angle. What do people actually want? Let's think what's needed then decide what is possible - not the other way round. The example was given of a Church in Woking that was a real centre for the community. Struggling with how we take all these ideas and now map out a process? It would be good to create a centre that's multi-use and can build on the pastoral work of the Parish Office, with people in the hall that then enable the Church to stay open, with perhaps a coffee shop. What's the next step, what's the process for going forward? We could do some of the things we would like to now. We are in danger of "planning blight" - what could we do now? After this the Chairman raised the issue of Human Resources: Where will we find the equivalent of a Stewardship Team to work on this? [Post meeting thought - the team may change over time - we could have different people working on different elements at different times: i.e. Survey community; financial implications; planning; design; etc.]

6) Risk Review Items

Health and Safety Report Update . / attachment in Parish Office

- Our reserves for buildings are not differentiated following a PCC decision several years ago.
- **Item 1.3** re rusting nails. Julian Henderson Archdeacon agrees with the view that no immediate attention is required on large sections of Church (and Hall). South Transept = roof above where music group sit, North Transept = roof above Lady Chapel; the report appears to have these around the wrong way.
- **Item 1.7.** Question raised: how do they test the electrics, is it with a ladder? The reason for asking is the lights at the lectern need some attention; when reading there you stand in your own shadow and it's difficult to see the words.
- **Item 1.8.** Obtain quotations for the redecoration of the Hall and its Kitchen. Yes please
- **Item 1.9** Organ sound box behind pipes in south aisle needs to be repainted to match the terracotta in the rest of the church. Obtain an updated quotation for this work.

Annual Approval by PCC of Insurance Policies: No update as yet

Key holders list is minuted: [finalise outstanding names next meeting](#)

7) Financial Matters

It was agreed that the Stewardship Report to the PCC should happen twice yearly and be added to the PCC agenda plan.

We had a brief overview of our cash deposit situation stating that it's as safe as we can make it but it's never risk free. We have approx £100,000 on deposit but it's in low risk funds. The Chairman stated that he thought the vast majority of Churches and charities hold their money with COIF.

8) Social Events 2008/09

Circulated by email for comments and additions. Please give your views on whether you like what's planned, or if you want to see other events included.

10) Team report from the Ministry Team. Copy in Parish Office. The team is defined more by function than interest and the role is tactical. It was set up to provide pastoral care to the congregation with individual cases and concerns discussed. Supporting each other as a group they share pastoral issues in their ministry. Comments: It's a good idea to do Team reports as it saves people having to come to the PCC to report [post meeting - I thought we'd ask the team leaders to attend to table their reports?] but also gives a good record of what each team is doing and shows the PCC is interested. Do the individual people discussed by the Ministry Team get referred from the Pastoral Care Team (PCT)? The Chairman stated that each of us in the Ministry Team has a loose portfolio of people, only some of which might be referred from PCT. The Chairman asked us to be their eyes and ears and to let them know if people are slipping through the net. If people are looking a bit tender and in need of a visit or a cup of tea, the team are very discreet. A discussion followed regarding collaborative working and we at St. Peter's did very well with this and the Chairman was thanked for helping us achieve this. There are a large number of parishes who do not work effectively. We discussed whether we ought to provide people in Church with a way of identifying those who might be best placed to offer pastoral care. (E.g. Labels). Are we actually missing anybody? People have asked Church Wardens in the past for an introduction to a minister - but what if the person wants someone else? It's not always clear who is in the PCT. Are we missing issues because people don't attend regularly so that we lose sight of their needs? Sit in the back row if you can because that's the rows wedding couples and strangers tend to sit, that way you can befriend them. On the positive side we do "talent spot", finding people who may not want to be in a group or team but are happy to help with little bits and pieces; let's look to widen the net. Thanks very given for a very interesting report.

11) Members' notices and questions

- The Church Wardens have the Archdeacons Articles of Enquiry questionnaire to complete. The Chairman advised the process has been revised since the Archdeacons don't have time to visit parishes regularly.
- Picture in the newspaper of the Women's World day of Prayer. Hooray coverage for us! Photo is up in Church.
- Permission requested from the PCC to take TAG to the climbing wall in May. This was agreed in principle on the basis that the relevant documentation was checked and signed by the vicar or curate.
- On Sundays when there is no music group if we are having unfamiliar hymns please can it be mentioned at the Music Group meeting that it would be far more useful to play the first two lines of music as an intro rather than the last two.
- The question was asked: Are being supportive enough of Fairtrade? All tea and coffee on Sundays is Fairtrade, as is the wine for Shadowlands and

Mission Support Team lunch. We will include Fairtrade in the Annual Report and offer Fairtrade slot on PCC agenda for coming year.

- Message read out: "As PCC Deanery Representative I'd like the PCC to know that though St. Peter's might have lost Nick for a few things last year the Deanery Synod has benefited hugely for having Nick as Rural Dean. He's brilliant and really makes you think. He's obviously had to give up other things in the Parish to do it, but he's doing it do well. (Blushes from Chairman Etc. etc.)
- Applications for Enrolment on the Church Electoral Roll were approved for James Fredrick Horsnell and Catherine Jane Allen. 2008 wedding couples.
- Thanks were given to those people who had returned their reports for the Annual Report although some are still outstanding; it is hoped to be all together by the end of next week.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 2nd April. (Approval of Annual Report and last meeting of 2007/08 PCC)

We finished at 9.50pm with prayers.