

Minutes of Meeting of St. Matthew's PCC Held on Tuesday 1st June 2015

The meeting was preceded by a celebration of the Holy Eucharist.

Present: Pip Leese (PL), (Chair), The Reverend David Shepherd, Debbie Lim (DL), Raymond Boskey (RB), Roger Tabor (RT), Alex Paul (AP) , Hamish Leese (HL), Sally Best (SB), Bob Best (BB), Maxine Raphael (MR), Penny Kay (PK), Sandra Byrne (SB).

1. Apologies: Daphne Boskey (DB) and Adrian Gray (AG).

1a. Election of Hon Secretary. PL said she was moving the Election of Secretary from Item 6 forward as we needed someone to take the Minutes for this Meeting. Raymond Boskey said that if they were happy with voting for just a Minute Secretary he would be happy to take that job. Proposed by Sally Best and seconded by Hamish Leese, Agreed unanimously. All other Elections for Committee Members will take place under Item 6.

2. Declaration of Interest. The Chairman stated that if anybody had any personal interest in any part of the Agenda they should declare it. None was declared.

3. Minutes of meetings held on 24th March and 26th April 2015.

The minutes of the meeting held on 24th March and 26th April were agreed unanimously as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

4. Matters Arising

a) Hall: RB said that he was slowly working through the Programme of Work attached to the previous Minutes. He was hoping to have the Conditions of Hire completed but due to recent problems this has had to be re-worded. Daphne Boskey has updated information to resolve late or non-payment for hire. A kitchen cupboard door had to be replaced following damage by an intruder. The security to the hall has been upgraded to prevent people entering the main hall and kitchen when the front doors are unlocked during Church use. There was a discussion regarding installing a dummy camera or a small cctv system but it was agreed that being more vigilant would suffice once the hall is upgraded. Raymond is also replacing the incandescent light bulbs with modern LED's which are 80% cheaper to run.

b) Driveway and Car Park Surfaces: Fr David said that, following discussions regarding the re-surfacing the driveway and car park, Sandy Belloni has said that they can fill the holes as a short term measure. Fr David will process this.

c) Grounds: It was agreed that Sandy Belloni of Community Connection Projects CIC, the Friends of Oxhey Park & workers who are long term unemployed have done an excellent job of clearing the grounds of all the overgrown bushes etc. They have also cleared the brambles and overgrown saplings to the left of the entrance driveway; this can now be left to re-grow into a wilderness and nature area with minimal maintenance and it was suggested that a sign be installed at the front to tell people about the area. The cleared area in front of the Church has been planted with a mixture of grass and wild flowers.

There was a general discussion as to where we go next, bearing in mind that the area needs to be low maintenance. AP suggested that certain parts be marked out for flower beds around the Church to give colour and interest. There was some suggestion about planting trees and shrubs but, as this is the wrong time of year, it will be discussed at a later date. To ensure that people get involved with the planting it was suggested that we

hold a working party on a Saturday where people can help followed by a barbecue to round off the day - AP and SB to organise this. MR suggested that we contact B&Q and the Garden Centres in the area regarding getting their plants at a cheap rate; it was agreed that this be done by letter and AP said she would do this. It was also suggested that we have some posters printed to give to the Garden Centres for posting in their premises.

We have written to the Management Company for the Flats authorising them to remove the offending parts of the tree at their own cost.

d) MAP Review: Hamish Leese will now be approaching people regarding the MAP group. At the moment it consists of HL, PL, DL, RT and AP and they will be happy to take additional volunteers from the Church.

e) Clock Chimes The Clock Chimes are now working but Bob Best said that he was concerned about the amount of electricity it was using. RB said he would check on this and report back on the additional cost.

5. Reports

a) Deanery Synod 20/03/2015: Visit to Soul Survivors. RT explained that Soul Survivors is an organisation within the Church of England based in Greycaines. It has been running for 20 years and was started by a group of young people meeting regularly; other people then joined in and now there are three groups of different ages. After a general discussion it was agreed to consider inviting a representative to visit, to be discussed by the MAP Group.

b) Anglican Methodist (already circulated).

c) Electoral Roll BB said that there was one extra on the Electoral Roll and the details have been circulated. This makes the number now 94.

6. Election of Hon Secretary & Committees

The PCC accepted the resignation of Simon Edwards and wished him well for the future and looked forward to seeing him return to Church.

Although a Minute Secretary had been appointed at the beginning of the meeting, we are still looking for a Secretary. Other committees were agreed as follows:

- **Finance and Standing Committee.** The following were put forward for this year: Bob Best, Alex Paul, Roger Tabor, Hamish Leese and Chris Gear (to be co-opted) It was agreed to invite Adrian Gray, who has agreed to shadow the Wardens with a view to standing next year, to attend the Committee
- **Pastoral and Worship Committee.** Sally Best and Roger Tabor are ex-officio and the following 2 members were put forward: Maxine Raphael and Penny Kay
- **Social Committee.** Liaison person Raymond Boskey plus Sandy Byrne.
- **Anglican/Methodist Committee.** Sally Best, Daphne Boskey.

AP proposed that the Committee Members be voted on block, seconded by BB. Agreed unanimously.

7. Appointment of Quinquennial Architect: Pip Leese sent information with the agenda regarding the appointment of the Quinquennial Architect. Fr David, PL and DL have interviewed all three candidates and propose that the PCC appoint James Ford as Inspecting Architect. Proposed RT, seconded AP, agreed unanimously.

8. Church Safe: Fr David said that one safe has failed and cannot be used so all the records and silver were crammed into the other safe. This is now also causing problems as the key is starting to wear. The Church is legally required to keep all records securely locked in a safe to prevent theft and damage by fire. It was agreed that Fr David look into and get quotations for replacing both safes.

9) Charitable Giving: PL explained the charity money is split between a number of charities according to our Policy. HL said he felt that we should give to local charities rather than national as people will give to the national ones themselves while local charities miss out. Our agreed charity giving policy is as follows:-

“Charity Giving Policy as Recorded

- **50%**. split between Missions for Seamen; Church Army; Peace Hospice; Watford New Hope and Watford Schools Trust.
- **20%** to a long term overseas project (eg Tradecraft).
- **15%** to a Medical Charity chosen by the whole congregation.
- **15%** as a floating fund to respond to disasters etc.

This would be reviewed at the next PCC.

10) Future Dates: To ensure that we get the maximum number of people to attend the PCC all members were asked to email Fr David with the dates and times they would prefer.

7. AOB

Young Matters. DL said that in future Sunday School will be split into 2 halves; SB will take the younger ones and DL the older ones. James Gray has suggested a name for the older group: St Matthews Amazing Youth Team (SMAYT)

Copyright Licence: The copyright licence for the hymns published in the newsletter has been renewed. RT said they have changed their system for recording hymns used from annually to monthly.

Facilities Management and Maintenance: RB said that he and DB went to the Christian Resources Exhibition on 22nd May. They both found it very interesting and useful and will be putting the ideas they found into practice. RB also said that he was going to the Facilities Show 16th June where there are 4 Exhibitions on Facilities, Fire Prevention, Security and Health and Safety.

The meeting closed at 9:40pm with The Grace

Next Meeting: To be advised.

Signed Dated.....

Position