

Minutes of Meeting of PCC of Mirfield Team Parish

30th March 09, 7:30 pm at St Paul's

Ref PCC/Minutes/Minutes of PCC 30 March 09

1. Present

Jim Law (Chair), Revd Gill Johnson, Revd Ann Pollard, Revd Helen Butler, Michael Hampshire, Christine Breare, Susan Pope, Ruth Edwards, Mark Pollard, Barry Hambling, Valerie Warner, David Brooke, Anne Heeley, Stephen Butler, Carol Wilkinson, Jacqueline Turner, Susan Auckland,.

2. Apologies

Revd Wendy Dalrymple, Carole Sykes, Susan Young, Jane Jaggar, Katharine Crossley, Dianne Watkinson, Chris Hargrave, Rachel Copley.

3. Minutes

Sue P proposed and Carol W seconded a motion to approve the minutes. This was carried with no votes against.

4. Matters Arising from Minutes

- Nothing yet to report on the Faculty for a gravespace for Mark and Lesley Goshawk –**action Wendy**
- An amended full Parish Profile has been sent to Archdeacon and we await instructions on the next move.
- The collective and individual responses to the Deanery Synod have been sent.
- An update on the provision of toilets at St John's was given. The St John's Team was reassured that money raised for the project will be treated as Restricted Income. It may be appropriate at some stage to establish a special bank account for the fund. The Church Architect for St John's, Stephen Parry, would consider the plans when he came to perform the Quinquennial Inspection on Tuesday 12th May.

5. Accounts for 2008

The Treasurer apologised that the Accounts were not ready yet for approval, but he agreed to circulate them to the PCC when they were ready and to take any questions by email.

6. Harvest Extravaganza – Sept 24th to 28th Inclusive

Ruth circulated a proposed schedule of events involving all three churches with the aim of bringing more people into church and to raise funds. The PCC approved the events and schedule. The PCC thanked Ruth for her initiative and called for volunteers to form a working Team to organise the event. It was agreed that the Bishop should be invited and Mark agreed to write a letter of invitation to be signed by all the Wardens. **Action Mark**
The Schedule in brief is:-

- Thurs 24th Sept – Opening 7pm at St Paul's – Musical Entertainment - £7.50
- Fri 25th Sept - 3 churches open 10am to 4pm – Ceilidh Parish Centre 7.30pm - £10
- Sat 25th Sept – Brass Band / Choir Concert at St Mary's - £5 tbc
- Sun 27th Sept – Services- churches open to 4pm – Songs of Praise at St John's –Ploughman's at 6pm £3
- Mon 28th Sept -3 churches open 10am to 4pm with refreshments
- Other activities under discussion – Scarecrow trail; Harvest Recipe Book; Home-made preserves.

The Chair agreed to seek sponsorship for the event. **Action Jim**

7. Fundraising and Increased Giving

Ann addressed the need to raise the level of giving at the combined Sunday Service on 29th March and prepared a draft Financial Awareness Leaflet, which was circulated. This comprised 5 elements as follows:-

Page 1- The cost of running the Parish and the shortfall of current giving

Page 2 - Giving and Christian Stewardship – a paper from the Diocese

Page 3 - A financial analysis of what we receive in Clergy support compared with our Parish Share

Page 4 – A Personal Pledge

Page 5 – A Standing Order Instruction

Following debate, some modifications were suggested. First the order might be rearranged as Pages 3, 4, 5, 1,2 to make more impact. The paperwork needs instruction for those who need help with completing a mandate for a Bank Standing Order and for those who need to request Envelopes. In both cases we need to have names and addresses for Gift Aiding the giving. Adding the name to the Pledge, page 4, was discussed. A redraft would be done before circulation. **Action Mark and Ann.**

Carol W pointed out that many people in the Parish had connections to the churches through marriages, funerals and baptisms but did not necessarily attend church regularly. Further the Post Office will circulate 20,000 homes in a district for a cost of £500. For this amount we could send an appeal letter to all our potential supporters. Carol with the help of her husband would be prepared to organise this if the PCC agreed. The PCC duly approved

the proposal to pursue this course of action and requested Carol to prepare a draft letter for circulation and to put this to the joint meeting of Wardens and Clergy for approval. **Action Carol W**

The PCC felt that the “Churches Together in Mirfield” should be made aware of this activity as such a wide mail shot would target members of their own churches. In addition, they should also be informed of the dates of the Harvest Extravaganza. Stephen undertook the task of informing the “Churches Together in Mirfield” of both activities. **Action Stephen**

It was pointed out that the current price of the Magazine of 30p did not cover the printing costs. Sue P proposed and Barry seconded a proposal **to raise the cost of the Magazine to £1**. This was carried with no votes against. A call was made for more contributors to produce suitable copy for the Magazine to boost its content.

8. Cost Cutting Measures

Whilst the Magazine was currently put together manually using the Risograph copier, it was noted that it could be run off on the new photocopier, which assembled and stapled the booklets. It was felt that we could no longer afford the luxury of two contracted copying systems and consequently it was agreed to terminate the Risograph contract. **Action Sue P (note on 31st March Sue terminated the contract)**

Grace Landscapes have held a contract over recent years to cut the extensive grounds of St Mary’s. Whilst they have done a good job and the PCC are grateful for the work they have done, the contract is expensive and cannot be afforded in the current economic climate. We would now need to rely on volunteers. Mark proposed and Carol W seconded a motion **to terminate the contract with Grace Landscapes**. This was carried with no votes against. A prior proposal, “to indicate that the current contract probably would not be renewed”, was withdrawn. **Action Mark/Sue P**

9. Other Business

Stephen gave a comprehensive update of the work and planned activity of the “Churches Together in Mirfield”. It was noted that we had not paid our subscription and Ann proposed and Gill seconded a resolution **“that the PCC pay £50 subscription to the Churches Together in Mirfield”** this was carried with no votes against. **Action Treasurer**

10. Dates of PCC Meetings for 2009

The scheduled meetings are as follows:-

APCM (Wed 22nd Apr) Jim tenders his apologies –We shall need to elect a Chair from the floor.

1st June (note change from 25th May (Spring Bank)); 6th Jul; 7th Sep; 5th Oct; 2nd Nov; 7th Dec.