

# St. John the Evangelist Church, Hazelwood

## Minutes of the meeting of the Parochial Church Council held on Thursday 21 February 2008

Present: In the Chair: Revd. Robert Harris.  
Steve Bacon, David Bentley, June Bowley, John Chadwick, Graham Craft, James Hinnells,  
Sally Kitchener, John Morley, Robert Walker, Sheila Wood, John Wright.

Apologies: Norrie Allan, Beryl Bentley, Brian Cantrill, Ean Harris, Roy Hicklin, Jean Slater, Frank Smith.

### **The meeting opened with prayer.**

It was noted that Frank Smith had received eye surgery but was recovering well and that Norrie Allan had had a heart episode but was also recovering at home. The PCC sent their good wishes to both.

### **Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 17 January 2008 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

### **Matters arising**

It was noted that the issue of a request to plant a rhododendron in the churchyard had been resolved satisfactorily.

A suitable and humane mouse deterring device had been installed in the church.

### **Financial Report**

The most recent Bank statement dated 24th January 2008 showed that this year the net expenditure amounted to £818 (includes £584 unpaid cheques from 2007) and the net receipts amounted to £1,331 (includes £367 from magazine subscriptions).

The balance in the current account stood at £2,147 at the end of January 2008 with estimated liabilities of £3,142 in February.

During the three months period ending December 2007, £1,146 was donated using the yellow gift aid envelopes allowing a sum of £322.93 to be reclaimed from the Inland Revenue. Similarly in the twelve month period January to December 2007 £4,497 was donated by regular standing orders and £1,268.44 had been reclaimed.

An invoice for £1,316.80 had been received from Bakewell and Partners for an interim payment for their professional services rendered regarding the West End Project.

A generous donation of £200 had been made in memory of the late Joan Tiplady towards the West End Project fund.

A review of advertising in the Parish Magazine was ongoing and advertisers for 2008 were currently being invoiced.

The annual review of charitable giving is to be deferred to the next PCC meeting.

The Church accounts had been audited and returned ready for the annual general meeting. It was agreed to award a small honorarium to the accountant and David Bentley agreed to send a Gift Voucher of £20.

**Action: DB**

## **Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

It was noted that this would take place on Thursday 17 April 2008. Two Deanery Synod Representatives would need to be elected this year and Jean Bowley and John Wright were thanked for their willingness to fill this role for the last three years even though not many meetings had been held.

PCC Members who normally contributed reports for the Annual Meeting were asked to let the Secretary have them at their earliest convenience.

Following Jean Slater's illness, it was agreed that a new Assistant Churchwarden for Hazelwood should be elected at the Annual Meeting and that a proposal should be put to the meeting that Jean be created Assistant Churchwarden Emeritus. David Bentley agreed to send Jean a card wishing her well as recovers from a recent fall.

## **West End Project**

It was reported that the contract for the work with Milward Construction Ltd. Had been signed on 18 February. The contract value was £20,376 excluding VAT. The architect's fee would be £2,241 plus VAT.

It was reported that work to remove the pews at the West End and to lower the floor would commence on Monday 25 February. New carpeting had yet to be decided but discussions were ongoing with Meadowvale Carpets and the Diocesan soft furnishings adviser.

A verbal approval for the work to start had been given by the insurers and written confirmation was awaited.

Application for reduced (5%) or zero VAT on the work had been submitted.

Mike Bowler had kindly agreed to assist with the transport of the pews to Firs Farm pending their sale which would be managed by John Chadwick.

## **Belper MMA**

There was nothing to report other than to note that the Professor from Melbourne had agreed to come to talk to a larger MMA group about inter-faith issues as some future date.

## **Magazine distribution**

It was agreed that a letter to distributors would be drafted to thank them for their work and seek their advice on distributing to every home in the parish. There was some discussion as to whether this wider distribution should be every month or just on an occasional basis. There had been an attempt to compile a register of every home in the parish, and to map the Magazine distribution list to it, to gauge the scale of the issue, although this was proving difficult.

*(Subsequent to the meeting, a reasonably accurate list had been produced, so this matter is deferred to the next PCC meeting.)*

## **Parish Welcome Letter**

It was noted that this was in need of revision. It was agreed to revisit the use of this letter at the next meeting in conjunction with decisions of the Parish Magazine.

## **EcoCongregations**

Information had been received on how churches and congregations could be more eco-friendly. Revd. Robert Harris said that it was difficult to see what more he could do in his role as Vicar to be more eco-friendly. He asked whether the church could do more, perhaps in the area of heating and lighting. It was suggested that some churches dimmed the lights during the sermon, but there was mixed feelings about this. It was noted that the church floodlighting was very low energy and was also a security aid. Any further ideas on saving energy or being greener would be gladly received.

## **Premises and Churchyard**

It was noted that a light was needed at the bottom of the tower steps. John Chadwick agreed to discuss with the architect as part of the West End Project.

**Action: JC**

It was suggested that the church would, in due course, need to be redecorated.

It was noted that the churchyard was being kept very tidy by volunteers who were thanked for their efforts.

An application had been received for a new memorial in the churchyard although the proposed design was not in keeping with existing memorials. After seeking the views of the PCC, Revd. Robert Harris agreed to go back to the applicant and seek a mutually agreeable solution.

It was noted that items in the church were now security tagged with SmartWater. Labels advertising this fact would be placed in the vestry and on the notice board.

### **Harvest Festival 2008**

This had been discussed at the Church Fete meeting. As an alternative to the traditional Harvest Supper, it was suggested that the church might be open on the Saturday afternoon so that people could see the harvest decorations and that Cream Teas could be available at the West End. The proposed date for Harvest 2008 was 27/28 September and members were asked to give the idea some thought.

### **Church Fete 2008**

A very good meeting had been held to discuss the arrangements for the Fete. Nigel Vardy had agreed to open the Fete and it was agreed that signed copies of his book could be available for sale. Dancers had been booked, and Robert Walker kindly agreed to organise a Classic Car display. Graham Craft and Valerie Thorpe had agreed to co-ordinate the Fete and thanks were expressed to them for this. It was noted that the photographer Ashley Franklin might come to the Fete with a stand and would be prepared to judge a photography competition. Someone would need to organise this.

### **Correspondence**

Beryl Bentley had written to the Secretary indicating that she would not be standing for re-election to the PCC at the Annual Meeting. It was noted that Norrie Allan and Frank Smith would also be retiring from the PCC. Thanks for their collective long service were expressed and it was agreed to mark their retirement with light refreshments at the Annual Meeting. Sally Kitchener agreed to make some cakes and Robert Walker agreed to organise a glass of wine.

Beryl Bentley had organised a 90<sup>th</sup> birthday card for James Norton and it was noted that Lady Bemrose would be 100 in May.

An upbeat and cheerful letter had been received from Glennie Spall.

It was noted that the Derby Police Choir would perform in Hazelwood to fund-raise for the church.

### **Any other business**

It was noted that Shottle Church would soon be redecorated and that a flower festival would be held on 21 June.

It was reported that Jean Walker had examined the church linen and had found it to be very worn. Sally Kitchener kindly volunteered to make some new linen and had suggested that Irish Linen should be obtained. She generously agreed to fund this work herself although the PCC were anxious to assure her that costs would be met by the church.

### **Date of next meeting**

**The next meeting of the PCC will take place on Thursday 15 May 2008; there will be no meeting in March. The Annual Church Meeting will take place on Thursday 17 April 2008.**

There being no other business the meeting closed with prayer at 9.25pm