

PARISH OF ST MICHAEL'S, TILEHURST
Parochial Church Council
Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 6th September 2011

Those present:

John Rogers (Chairman)	Mike Goom	Rosa Bardwell
Joan Crossman	Martin Harvey	Rosemary Cooper
Giles Winter	Wendy Johnson	Peter Politzer
Wendy Bertin	Linda Toms	Glenis Kerr Elliott
Pat MacDonald	Trevor Greaves	

Apologies:

Pauline Willis	Jackie Chappell	Janet Fagg
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The meeting opened with prayers

Substantive item- Phase 3 Restoration Update

An update on the Restoration Appeal had been received from Oliver which was read to the meeting. (This is attached to these minutes). At present there is £105000 held in the Restoration Fund. The PCC has agreed a budget of £150000 to include £15000 contingency. The funding appeal has now re-opened and Oliver wants to put this update in the next Parish magazine.

The Rector has also been informed by Kidd Rapinett (Solicitors) that the church will receive a bequest of £24000 from the Estate of Chas Green. This is subject to a house sale.

The architect has been in touch with the Victorian Society who will not visit the church but will comment on the drawings. He has also written to the DAC asking for a meeting to put the drawings to them for their October meeting.

Pat MacDonald had prepared a lighting document copy of which is attached to these minutes.

Various other meetings have been organised. Once the meetings have been held with the DAC, the plans will go up at the back of the church for the congregation to look at and add their comments. It was noted that lots of comments have already been received as to various changes around the church. After discussion the Rector agreed to clarify these changes to the congregation to stop any negativity.

The Bishop has given permission to hold services in the Morlais Room and the Church Hall whilst the church is closed.

The Architect has organised a specialist to give an opinion on the possible problem with bats in church. Concern was shown that if bats were present, this could cause a delay. This is being done as a precautionary measure so a problem does not come to light at a later stage in the work.

Once the restoration is complete, an annual amount should be put aside for future restoration projects.

The Rector also read an extract from the Quinquennial report which says that the overall maintenance of the church is good and this has been kept up by a dedicated team of people. There are small items to be done.

Finance

The Rector had received a financial report from the treasurer showing varying figures and changes she has made to varying accounts to ensure that the best possible interest rates are being received. The 2010 accounts are now signed off and with the accountants.

Planned Giving – GW will give a presentation in church to all services next Sunday based on the Rector's article in the September magazine.

Other Tabled Reports

Several points were raised for clarification in the Fabric committee minutes:

1. Clarification on the item on the Church clock
2. The Core Group re the Restoration work consists of Mike Goom, John Stephenson and the Architect who report to the Fabric committee and then the PCC
3. Inspection of valuables/valuable items – this has been completed and is adequately covered by the current insurance. A list of all items is currently being prepared and photographs being taken. Sue Handsomb's book, St Michael's Tilehurst, the first 800 years lists all monuments etc. Copy given to all members at the meeting.

Updates from previous meetings

Votive Candle Stand – MG has phoned and left messages but no response. He will keep pressing.

Planned Giving – already covered

Sidespeoples' List – The response has not been very successful. RB will continue to get this updated. JC suggested the list was circulated with the APCM paperwork in future.

Breadline Africa

WJ is continuing to press for confirmation of the amount needed for the container with St Michael's name. She has received a lovely letter of thanks and a photo relating to the knitting project. This is displayed at the back of the church.

Tree in Churchyard

Pat MacD is still trying to source this – she will keep the PCC updated. Time for this year is running out. If she doesn't reach a satisfactory conclusion, the Rector will take it up with Brian Shenton.

Coffee Rota

Janet Fagg has offered to take this over. All in agreement. The Rector will thank Doug and Carole Aspinall for their involvement in the past and explain the need for the change.

Parish Secretary's Job Description

This is making good progress. Barbara has listed her jobs and the Rector and churchwardens have looked at this. They will meet with Barbara and agree the list and then bring it to the PCC for approval.

Harvest/Patronal Festival

The Rector has sent a copy of the Harvest festival Service book to Bishop Andrew for his approval, awaiting reply. The Harvest banners will go back up

A very lively and interesting meeting has been held concerning the banners for Christmas. Once these are made, they will be used every year. The Christmas tree will then be placed in the North Aisle.

Correspondence

1. JC had received a letter of thanks from St George's for the donation to their Flower festival, also an invitation for two people to their preview evening. She has passed this to Ann Durling.
2. Tin Sunday (AOB from the last meeting) MH suggested that tins be bought in bulk to get better value. The PCC were not in favour of this idea.
3. Sermons (AOB from the last meeting) MH suggested that the Rector's prepared sermons be put on the website. The Rector advised the meeting that he would be reluctant to do this as a sermon is the spoken word of God. It would also put more demand on Wendy and Chris Johnson. The PCC were not in favour of this idea.

AOB

JF – She had sent an email on behalf of the 3Ts club

1. Could they have use of the table tennis table which was in the Church Hall – this has now been given to another club so no longer available.
2. Could they have a notice board in the Morlais Room to say what is going on. A particular wall space was agreed and TG asked to liaise with JF and Doreen Farmer
3. More help would be appreciated from all age groups.

Minutes of the meeting held on 25th July 2011

The minutes of the above meeting were agreed as a true and accurate record. Proposed by PP, seconded by MH, all agreed.

Matters arising not covered on the Agenda

Weddings whilst church is closed – Brian Shenton is talking to John Rees. The couple who had a booking for a Blessing during this time have been referred to the Priest at Pangbourne for Sulham Parish Church

Funerals – The Rector passed on his personal appreciation and the appreciation of two particular families for the dedication of the ladies providing refreshments for these funerals. This was huge effort and extremely long days.

Licensing of Chalice Assistants – The two names involved have been submitted, awaiting approval.

Dishwasher – The Rector has prepared the Operating Instructions. In the meantime they are still in the process of looking for a new dishwasher, then the current one will go to the Church Hall

The meeting closed at 9.05 with Grace