

The Hospital of St Cross with the Parish of St Faith – Winchester

Parochial Church Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 11th March 2009 in the Brothers Library

Present

Murray Dixon, The Chaplain, Colin Showell, Anne Dolan, Jill Baker, Cheryl Irons, Michele Brannigan, John Fairbrother, Brother Clive McCleester.

Apologies

Graham Webster, Brian Lusted, Evelyn Pringle, Alison Carver, Tony Carver, Tim Stevens, James Hart

Approve Minutes of last meeting

Minutes approved.

Additions to agenda

- **Master's accommodation at St Cross Hospital.** The PCC noted a telephone conversation between the Clerk to the Trustees and John Fairbrother about the Master's accommodation at St Cross Hospital
- **Overgrowing ivy from Churchyard.** John Fairbrother had spoken to John Pringle about this and he will look into it. Michele will chase up council to ask about funds raised to replace the bench. **Michele**

Rewiring and Lighting Project Fundraising

a) St Cross in Bloom

The PCC noted the dates of the programme of events for St Cross in Bloom.

Thursday 4th June - Preview Evening of Flowers and Opening of Festival
Friday 5th June to Sunday 7th June - Flower Festival
Friday 5th June - Concert at St Cross Church
Saturday 6th June - Family Fun Day, Black Tie Dinner in the Brethrens Hall
Sunday 7th June - Cream Tea 4 pm, Songs of Praise 5:30 pm

Booking Forms available from Catherine Secker, Porters Lodge, Winchester 851375.

Brother Clive has added details of St Cross in Bloom to Information Britain website

PCC will coordinate distribution of Rewiring & Lighting appeal leaflets with Trish.

b) Appeal update

Initial appeal launch through announcement by Murray Dixon at Mothering Sunday service (will also mention St Cross in Bloom)

Anne Dolan has explored using a special showing at The Screen to raise funds. Needs circa 170 attendees to produce a profit. Proposal parked for the present. New PCC to reconsider post April.

c) Project update

John Fairbrother had recently met architects, St Cross Hospital staff and contractors. Considered location of lighting controls and auxiliary control panel. Two potential locations for auxiliary panel - contractor will cost both and then decision will be made.

Church will be clear on 21st and 23rd April for Master's installation and rehearsal. Project due to finish in May.

Master's Installation

John Fairbrother will liaise with flower arrangers to ensure that arrangements for flowers and the service are coordinated.

Two parishioners are needed to play roles in the installation. PCC agreed Murray and Church Wardens to seek volunteers and agree participation.

The Service includes an opportunity to invite members of the local community (in addition to the headmaster of St Faith's School) who will be introduced to the Master as representatives of the local laity. The following were agreed: representatives from the two homes (Meadway and the Grange) where the Master and Chaplain take communion and the landlord of the Bell Inn.

Finance

Draft copy of financial report (in draft PCC report) and draft accounts circulated by Colin. Key points explained by Colin:

- Final position is £530 worse than in the draft due to Auditor's request to write off some Parish Hall bad debts.
- We continue to make a steady loss year on year. Underlying deficit of around £11,000 reduced this year to around £4,000 by gas bill rebate.
- Investment value has dropped by £16,000 in last quarter of the year. This loss not crystallised so a paper loss only at present. Potential for uplift in longer term so recommendation not to sell investments at this point.
- A loss (Net Movement of Funds) during the year of £21,000 on opening assets of £98,000.
- Accounts include unrealised commitment to contribution to Hospital from 500 Thanks appeal.
- Church Running Expenses, Parish Hall Costs and Printing & Photocopying had all increased. About £3,000 of the Running Expenses increase is cost of flowers, which is due to clarification of the recording of flower costs. (NB. Weddings provide income through flowers estimated at £1,500). Also Printing and Photocopying was unusually low in 2008.

The PCC recommended there may be some areas for cost cutting that new PCC should look at. Colin agreed but reminded PCC that income is the main element we can control. PCC recommended that Stewardship be a key area for the new PCC.

Colin reported 3 major audit comments:

- A requirement to produce accounts in a particular format. He will work to achieve this.
- Parish Hall and debt chasing. Auditors asked whether procedures could be tightened up for pursuing debt.
- Auditor noted a recent increase in bank charges. We are querying the bank.

Audited accounts will be ready for the APCM. The PCC thanked Colin for preparing the accounts and the auditor (Stuart Woodward) for his work.

APCM

a) PCC Report booklet

PCC adopted the Report booklet, subject to any additional comments which should be provided to Tim Stevens by Sunday 15th March. The PCC thanked Tim for his work in preparing the Report.

b) PCC Stock take

Three PCC members are coming to the end of their three-year term: Alison Carver, Evelyn Pringle and Gavin Smart. This will create 3 formal vacancies for the PCC. David Ronaldson will also formally stand down as Church Warden at the APCM and so there is a vacancy for a new Church Warden.

Those wishing to stand for PCC/ Church Warden vacancies need to be proposed and seconded on the notice that will be displayed from 11th - 19th April in the Church Porch. Candidates must be on the current Parish Electoral Roll a copy of which is also displayed in the Church Porch. Nomination forms will be available in the Church Porch 11th to 19th April.

Evelyn Pringle has held the role of PCC representative to the Trustees, but is retiring from the PCC and not seeking re-election. Murray Dixon proposed that John Fairbrother take on the role of PCC representative to the Trustees with immediate effect. Seconded by Gavin Smart and approved by the PCC. John accepted and will contact the Trustees to confirm that he is the new PCC nominee.

John

The PCC noted its thanks to:

Evelyn Pringle for her work on the PCC and with the Trustees.

Tim Stevens who is retiring as Secretary.

Cheryl Irons and James Hart who had been co-opted for the year.

David Ronaldson, who will be formally standing down as Church Warden.

Murray Dixon for having chaired the PCC during the second part of this year.

Date for next meetings

APCM Sunday 26th April in St Cross Church after the 9:30 am service. Followed by **short PCC meeting** to elect / appoint Officers.