

Parochial Church Council

**Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday, 10 September 2008
in the Brothers Library**

Present: David Ronaldson (Chairman), The Chaplain, Jill Baker, Michelle Brannigan, Alison Carver, Tony Carver, Murray Dixon, Anne Dolan, John Fairbrother, James Hart, Cheryl Irons, Brian Lusted, Clive McCleester, Evelyn Pringle, Colin Showell, Ron Stacey and Tim Stevens (Hon Secretary) & Graham Webster

Apologies: Cathy Secker & Gavin Smart

Minutes of last meeting, on 8 July 2008, were agreed and signed as an accurate record.

Matters arising Cathy to proceed with First Aid briefing of Sidesmen **Cathy**
John had reviewed the Rewiring Project plan and assured doubters that he had identified an International Standard which he was recommending be used in the acceptance procedure to ensure that there would be sufficient lighting for reading, particularly in the Choir.

Finance Colin summarised his written briefing: the budgeted small deficit should improve to break-even after an unforeseen refund on past gas bills; thus normal income, though increased, is still insufficient to cover costs. Colin issued a caveat that he needs more background knowledge to be fully sure of his forecasts.
Members confirmed unanimously that only donations specifically given for the Re-wiring Project should be reserved for that purpose. **Colin**
Graham reported that the Finance Think Tank had not met but he was focussing on marketing and information issues, noting a particular need to work with (and not in competition with) the income-generating activities of the Hospital Trustees. Murray undertook to draft a note to stimulate real and regular contact with the relevant Trustees. **Murray**

Mission Audit Murray confirmed the planned Parish Meeting with Steve Pittis is on Saturday, 8th November in, provisionally, the Parish Hall from 10.30am – 4.00pm. The format would be one of the published guides combined with the latest Parish Profile. Discussion included requests for a briefing paper (with a less forbidding title) to encourage those unable to attend to make representations; for the possibility to attend either before or after lunch if the full day is not possible; for a crèche or play area to allow families to bring children; and for use of the School as opposed to the Parish Hall. **Murray**

Interregnum David and John reported on a review meeting with Bishop Trevor which was positive but at which it had been made clear that the Master's Lodge would not be considered as accommodation for the next Master. Despite writing to the Diocesan Secretary asking for clarification, David had not been able to find out just how this final decision had been arrived at and he apologised for being unable to do so. However, Bishop Trevor did advise that further attempts would be made to identify suitable candidates for the combined post and he

had made it clear that the two Parish representatives, in conjunction with Bishop Michael, would retain final authority to accept or reject any proposed candidates. Bishop Trevor further advised that the Diocese and Trustees were alert to the considerable concerns which had been expressed regarding the future accommodation of the next master and that they would be actively seeking appropriate accommodation within the Parish.

Correspondence Syd Burt had asked to be relieved of mowing the grass at the Churchyard. Michelle undertook to see if the St Cross Court groundsman could take over. All members were asked to seek out volunteers personally, as well as by advertising in the magazine. **All**
The Secretary is to convey the Council's appreciation to Syd Burt. **Tim**
The Churchwardens shared a letter which they and the Chaplain had received from Trish Spiers, asking permission to arrange a fund-raising event in June for the Rewiring Project. It was well received but the effect on the St Cross Fête and the peace of the Hospital would need considerations
John, Murray & Chaplain

AOB John announced that six Cathedral passes are available at the Porter's Lodge for use by parishioners.
David confirmed that his forthcoming appointment in Glasgow would prevent him from maintaining the necessarily active role within the Church and PCC and that, while he was happy to remain as Churchwarden (with Bishop Trevor's knowledge and full agreement) until the next APCM and although he hoped to be able to attend two church services each month, it would be both fitting and appropriate to appoint a Deputy Churchwarden and that both he and John felt that Graham would be an ideal choice. In a similar vein, he proposed that Murray should take over as Vice-Chairman of the PCC. This proposal was seconded by Brian Lusted agreed unanimously.
Vice-Chairman's Valedictory Remarks David concluded by stating that he believed St Cross had come a long way over the last 18 months and that much of this revival was down to the ongoing efforts of many and that he had been very grateful for the support of the PCC during what had been a difficult and testing period. He added that he believed that St Cross was now at a crossroads and that the growth and support that was now in evidence must continue. In essence, he felt that if St Cross – as a community – was to grow and thrive then that was dependent on the Church growing and thriving. He reiterated the theme chosen to mark the 500th Anniversary in 2007, that of moving forward together. In order for this to happen for the good and benefit of the Hospital, Parish and Church, the PCC would have to be more proactive and business-like in its dealings with the Trustees and Diocesan staff to ensure that the needs of all parts of the very special community that is St Cross are correctly articulated, addressed and met.

Calendar Mission Audit on Saturday, 8 November, 10.30am – 4.00pm, Parish Hall

Dates for next meetings: (on the second Wednesday in the month at 7.45pm, Brothers Library)

Wednesday, October 8 2008
Wednesday November 12 2008
Wednesday January 14 2009
Wednesday February 11 2009
Wednesday March 11 2009