

ST. LEONARD'S CHURCH GLAPTHORN
Minutes of Parochial Church Council Meeting held in the Church
Monday 15th June 2015

Present:	
Lynn Buckley	Brigitte Hilton
Sid Charlton	Tracey Kerr
Ian Davidson	Penny Reading
Pauline Davidson	Stephen Webster (chair)

1.	Stephen led opening Prayers.	
2.	Apologies: Lynda Davies, Charles Wide, Ursula Wide, Sonya Moss, Patricia Newton	
3.	Minutes of the PCC Meeting dated 12th March 2015 were signed as approved by Stephen, having previously been approved by email.	
4.	<p>Matters Arising:</p> <p>Church fabric and improvements update. Pauline reported:</p> <p>a. Architect: Bruce Deacon has decided to retire sooner rather than later so will not be preparing specifications for the south aisle roof and the interior lighting. Pauline has contacted architects on the Diocesan approved list and Jeremy Lander of Freeland Reece Roberts Architects, Cambridge (http://www.frarchitects.co.uk/), has expressed an interest in taking on Glapthorn Church. He is the architect for Aldwinckle and Wadenhoe, and Jim Mynors recommends him most highly.</p> <p>Resolution: Pauline will take this forward with a view to appointing Jeremy as our retained architect. All agreed.</p> <p>b. Minor work on the south aisle roof and on the tower water run-off: Ian is in touch with contractors about this work.</p> <p>c. Lightning conductor: It was inspected on 30th March at a cost of £225 + vat (agreed this should be paid). Their report, received on 11th June, identified that work is required on the earthing (at a cost of £464.00 + vat). Agreed Ian will talk to Roy Kerr about this.</p> <p>d. Maintenance: Mike Willmore has kindly undertaken maintenance including: sanding the floor near the font; easing the north door to make it easier to open; varnishing the lectern footstand. He is also going to repair the calor gas bottles cage and paint the electric cable round the pillar near the servery.</p> <p>Improvements Opening Event, Thursday 25th June 3.30 – 4.30 pm. Pauline gave a brief update. Invitations have been sent out and to date around 30 people have accepted. Stephen suggested we contact the new Communications officer at the Diocese (Shelly Stevenson) to inform her about the event.</p>	<p>PD</p> <p>ID</p> <p>ID</p> <p>PD</p>
5.	<p>Vicar's Report and Services:</p> <p>Vision Day: Stephen apologised that not much progress had been made on this front. He has tried to contact Marcus Purnell (vicar of villages in Rutland) without success, and may ask Miles Baker to suggest another contact. Agreed it would be good to have Jema at the day. The following points/questions were discussed: a long half-day rather than a whole day may be preferable; should just the PCC attend or should it be opened to others in the Parish; we need to think how we can grow, how we can connect with people who don't come to church, and where we want to be in 2/3 years' time.</p> <p>Services: Stephen explained the new format which will start in September (see St</p>	

Treasurer's report for 15th June 2015 PCC meeting

I have now taken over as treasurer from Malcolm Moss and am having ongoing discussions with Mike Newton on the joint management of the accounts.

At 31 May 2015, the balance on account no 1 was £11,209.13 and on account no 2 was £5199.12 giving total funds available to the PCC at Natwest Bank of £16,408.25.

There is a third account with Natwest Bank which holds funds dedicated for particular areas of expenditure as well as four accounts held with the CCLA Church of England Funds for the same purpose. I am waiting for up to date statements from the CCLA but can inform the PCC that the combined balances on these accounts come to over £7,000.

In my note circulated on 10 June (see below) I outlined my proposals for simplifying this situation for discussion at this evening's meeting.

I have closed the standing order for £15.00 per month payable to Richard Ormston as a contribution to his costs and set up an equivalent order in favour of Stephen Webster.

I have recovered the missing £207.00 due from Northants Historic Churches trust for our share of the 2014 Ride and Stride event.

10th June note from the Treasurer re. CCLA account

The PCC has four separate accounts with CCLA Church of England Funds holding deposits that are restricted to specific areas of expenditure – namely the Church Fabric, the Churchyard, the Organ and the Floodlighting. These accounts were set up when interest rates were higher and gave a good return on the funds deposited. With the severe reductions in rates this no longer applies, so there is now no financial reason why we should continue with what is a time consuming and complicated procedure.

I therefore intend to ask those present at the Committee meeting on Monday to pass a resolution that:

'the Treasurer is instructed to close all PCC accounts at the CCLA and to transfer the funds held in them to an existing underused PCC account (no. 24005819) at the Natwest Bank'.

This account will in future be reserved solely for restricted funds and kept separate from the two Natwest current accounts. The Treasurer will be responsible for ensuring that the monies deposited in this account are clearly designated and restricted for use in accordance with the specific wishes of the donors'.

This would not only simplify the book keeping, but also make the accounts easier to understand.

Ian Davidson

Deanery Synod 10.06.15

There was a presentation from Stephen “Chad” Chadwick, the Youth Missioner for the Oakham Archdeaconry, who worked for many years with young people at Whitefriars Church in Rushden, In his presentation, Chad made the following points.

1. The Church can play an important role in “anchoring” the lives of young people.
2. Churches are more likely to grow where they offer programmes for children and teenagers, but have to adapt the ministry and culture for those who have no Christian background; however youth work should not be separate from “normal” church life.
3. Small signs of welcome and interest are important to young people, and much more significant than we might imagine.
4. Although drawing in young people can seem much more difficult in small parishes, the “pathway” can actually be shorter and less complicated.
5. Youth work is not just for relatively young people – older people can often engage very successfully with children and teenagers in the Church context.
6. Chad is there to support, make connections and provide resources and training; he thinks it is most effective for him to work over a period of weeks with a group of parishes.
7. There is a week of prayer: 4th – 11th November.

In the subsequent discussion the following points were made:

- the importance of drawing in families for activities in the church and of suitably short services;
- the problem of what to do after “Sunday school age” and the difficulty many adults had in articulating their faith for inquisitive teenagers;
- safeguarding considerations could generally be handled in a simple way;
- The “Chatterbox Holiday Camp, with 60-70 teenagers, takes place in Oundle each summer.

The other issue discussed was the Parish (or Benefice) Share. Although the Deanery had generally met (or nearly met) the full share over the years, there had been some slight falling off in the last couple of years, and the Treasurer was concerned that the money seemed to be coming in rather slowly this year. It was noted that Glapthorn (and St Peter’s) had helped other parishes, who had specific problems, though increased contributions.