

**St Mary the Virgin - Henley  
Parochial Church Council  
PCC Meeting Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2017  
8.00 pm, Chantry House (7.30 Eucharist)**

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT:**

Fr Martyn Griffiths (Rector and Chairman), Sheila Croton (Secretary & Dean Rep), Sue Hockley (Churchwarden), Carol Brook-Partridge (Churchwarden & Dean Rep), Richard Fletcher, Martin Whittaker, Julian Elkington, George Constantinidi, Sally Batty, Mary Wood, Stuart Crippen (Dean Rep), Sarah Bell, Stephen Nichols and Kathryn Turner (Treasurer).

**APOLOGIES:**

Gary Sieling (DoM)

**MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

The Minutes of the PCC meetings for May were accepted as a true record proposed by Carol Brook Partridge and seconded by Sue Hockley.

**MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising not covered by the agenda.

**TREASURE'S REPORT**

**Recent Income**

We received nearly £2000 from the Regatta service and wall boxes and we have also received a payment of £500 for granting the right for a communications disk to be mounted on the church tower during the Rewind Festival. We received £35,000 from Henley Charities at the end of June. The Chantry House has also received a generous donation from Henry Villet's funeral.

**Parish share**

The parish share for this year is £82,820. I am aiming to make ten instalments of approximately £8,280. Up to June we had paid two instalments but the £35,000 from Henley Charities has enabled me to pay another four instalments bringing us up to six instalments now paid.

**Pensions for our Employees.**

Our Pension scheme with NEST is now up and running and I have made a report to the Pensions Regulator to that effect. So, I believe we are compliant. We have one employee who has been automatically enrolled. The remaining three were offered the opportunity to join and we also expressed willingness to contribute on their behalf. However, no one has expressed a desire to join. If our new choir master/mistress is an employee we will need to consider enrolling them.

**Building Works**

We have now spent £108,879 on these of which £6,558 was spent last year with our architect John Radice and £102,321 this year. I have allocated these costs between the Fabric Fund and the LPW Roof Repair Fund Grant on the basis of Martin Whittaker's figures in his right-hand column which were made available before this meeting. We will look to recoup £32,944 in respect of the VAT. Last year accounts show a figure in the Fabric Fund as transferred from the Ellen Buckland Bequest of

£45,206. Since then with the permission of the Church wardens I have drawn down £55,500 from the Fabric Fund. The Fund sits within the Ellen Buckland Bequest Account and the Barclays Bank account so it can be overdrawn. The standing committee will discuss how this is to be dealt with. We may have to withdraw amounts beyond this up to £75,000 from The Ellen Buckland Account depending on how quickly we get the VAT grant and the remainder of the Roof Repair Grant. I have prepared a claim for £18,054 to be sent out this week for the VAT. We still hold £133,450 in the Ellen Buckland Fund so we have enough headroom to cover.

### **General Resources**

The balance in Barclays Bank on 14 July was £27,344 which includes about £7,000 of the LPW Roof Repair Grant. We still have £33,128 of the parish share to pay although we have about five months to pay it. We still need to maximise income and keep down costs as much as we can. Our yield from standing orders is down £1500 at the half year compared to last year reflecting deaths or incapacity. The takings from the Chantry House Teas are well down this year because of the building works but hopefully we may recoup some of this in August and we are considering extending the season into September. However this is dependent on volunteers and there is a particular need for younger men to help with putting up and putting down the tables. Despite this people continue to be generous as and when they can.

### **DEANERY REPORT**

The meeting was held on 28th June at St Thomas of Canterbury, Goring. This was the first meeting of the new synod representatives and was also an open meeting for all in the Deanery. Robert Thewsey was elected to join the committee which was one clergy member short. Details for Bishop's visit to Henley deanery was given which would finish at Shiplake College and all in the deanery were encouraged to go along to meet him. Dr Collicutt gave a most helpful and interesting talk, outlining what dementia is and what it is not. She differentiated between memory lapses in older people and having dementia, which can occur at a much younger age. She gave helpful ideas as to how we can make people suffering from dementia feel part of our church communities and how we can care for them. The lecture was followed by a time of questions and answers, with helpful insights from contributors. Dr Collicutt has published a book on the subject, *Thinking of You*, price £10, which includes the material in her talk. The next meeting will be on 16<sup>th</sup> November at North Stoke

### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Bible study to begin on Friday October 20<sup>th</sup> the book of Philippians. (For 6 weeks)

Father Martyn mentioned forthcoming events.

20<sup>th</sup> July - Bishop Steven's Visit to the Deanery

8<sup>th</sup> October - Harvest

15<sup>th</sup> October - Bishop Colin's visit to Evensong

20<sup>th</sup> October - Bible Study (Philippians)

### **BUILDINGS REPORT**

The work is going well and the contractors are expected to complete around the end of July / early August. The total cost of the work will be £198k against the £182k which was anticipated in February. This does not impact on PCC funds

because we have been successful in obtaining an additional grant from the roof fund of £12,700 and there will also be an increase in the amount of the vat reclaim.

SN asked if any work was found and not addresses. MW replied “not as far as he is aware.”

**CHURCHYARD**

Handrail from Hart Street outside Red Lion needs repairing. Railings are Grade II listed and the conservation people are involved. Faculty required. SODC are they familiar with the online faculty system are they going to put like for like as a replacement. SPDC said it will be remade and reset. Did not think the church architect needs to be involved. SH also asked for the grass to be cut now scaffolding on that side is down.

FM said the footpath by the Alms Houses is to be dug up to lay new gas pipes.

**CHANTRY HOUSE REPORT**

There has been no further progress. Mr Gill has not given us the information we wanted. There seems to be confusion over whether or not the Red Lion is up for sale although Mr Gill denies this. Our solicitor is also very difficult to keep in touch with.

**HEALTH AND SAFETY**

Carpet in Lady Chapel to be looked at by MW s one corner is dangerous also MW to check loose tiles.

GC to check on cost of tile cleaning

**AOB**

**Carpet Cleaning**

Carpets in the church need a deep clean M Wood. Quotes needed MW to get and pass to Standing Committee.

**Archdeacon Inspection**

We passed with flying colours. Congratulate the PCC.

Signed by the Chairman .....

Dated .....

**Dates of future PCC Meeting dates**

Wednesday 20<sup>h</sup> September 2017

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2017