

St Bartholomew's Church Great Gransden

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PCC FABRIC AND FINANCE 14 November 2017

Present: The Reverend Catharine Furlong, Tony Bevens, Rachel Fogg, Andre Fogg, Donald Lester, Jane Middleton, Jennifer Wilkinson

Apologies: Rob Chignell, Mark Gostick, Iain Strath

The Reverend Catharine Furlong welcomed everybody and opened the meeting with prayers.

1 Minutes of the PCC Meeting held on 20 June 2017

The minutes of the meeting were approved and signed as a correct record.

2 Matters Arising

Commemorative collection plate - brass plaque had been affixed.

Assistant Churchwardens Revd Furlong pointed out that these posts had no legal status. She still hoped that a churchwarden would be elected at the next APCM.

Village Survey results – a summary had been published in the *Roundabout* magazine. The results were encouraging with 94% valuing having a priest in the village and 98% valuing the church building; 65% of respondents were willing to support the church financially.

Tony Bevens reported that two new sets of residents in Winchfield had taken out insurance against the possible risk of chancel liability on the advice of their solicitors.

Fabric – Rachel Fogg still needed to complete the updating of the church inventories.

Action: Rachel Fogg

Quotations had been sought for the north nave downpipe, but no action had been taken as the leak appeared to have been resolved. Rachel Fogg had approached the Churches Conservation Trust to request a grant for a condition survey of the churchwarden's chest. She had supplied a copy of the 2015 Tankerdale report on the chest with her request. The CCT had not offered a grant for a condition survey as they were of the opinion that the Tankerdale report was sufficient to allow a grant application for the actual work to go ahead. Tankerdale would need to be contacted to update their quotation before an application could be made for a grant.

3 Treasurer's Report

A written report was presented by the Treasurer, Andrew Fogg, a copy of which is on file. The current account balance was £7144.29 but the Treasurer reminded members that £5000 was still owed to CHCT and that about £25000 would need to be raised for the Quinquennial works.

The Treasurer confirmed that there were sufficient funds available to instruct the architect to prepare a specification for the Quinquennial works (the category A works) at a cost of £2970 and proposed that the PCC authorized Rob Chignell to put this in hand. This was seconded by Jennifer Wilkinson and all were in favour. The PCC did not wish to ask the architect to request quotations for the work at this stage.

Action: Treasurer to let Rob Chignell know

Revd Furlong asked for clarification of what the J and B Brown Fund monies could be used for. The Treasurer replied that it was for music in the church. The Treasurer was asked again to contact Mrs Jenny Capps, daughter of J and B Brown, to ask what the family's feeling would be about using the funds for other purposes.

Action: Treasurer

The Treasurer also confirmed that the 405 Squadron window fund monies were for the provision of flowers in the window and for maintenance of the window.

4 Fabric Report

Mr Chignell had circulated a fabric report a copy of which is on file. He had proposed asking the architect to proceed with a specification for the Quinquennial category A works – this had been agreed under item 3. He also asked for PCC approval to proceed with commissioning a church noticeboard similar to the one at Waresley. This was agreed.

Action: Rob Chignell to proceed with noticeboard

5 Deanery and Diocesan Synod

There had been good representation from the parishes in the benefice at the Deanery planning meeting to discuss the future shape of the deanery on 2 September at Little Paxton. A note of the discussion had been circulated. Rachel Fogg had circulated notes from the Diocesan Synod on 21 October soon after the meeting. Revd Furlong commented that the Development Action Plans would need to be discussed at the January joint Mission and Ministry meeting.

Rachel Fogg reported that the Deanery Treasurer had asked for extra donations towards a Ministry Share shortfall of £3600. After discussion the Treasurer was authorised to offer the Deanery £360. It was agreed that this would not set a precedent.

Action: Treasurer to forward £360 to Deanery

6 Church Events and Key Dates

Christingle – 6:30pm on Thursday November 30th in Church, organized by the School. The Salvation Army band would be in attendance.

Swimathon – Jennifer Wilkinson had been contacted by Biggleswade Rotary Club to see if we wished to enter a team in next year's event in February. Last year's event had raised over £200 for the church and the team had come second. It was agreed to go ahead and enter a team or teams again – sponsorship money would be shared 50/50 with Biggleswade Rotary Club.

Action: Jennifer Wilkinson

Church Fete – Rachel Fogg reported that she did not wish to be in charge of the running of the Fete in 2018. The PCC agreed to find new people to organise it.

Action: ALL

Advent Study Group – Jennifer Wilkinson reported that this would run on Tuesday evenings, dates/times to be notified.

7 Any Other Business

Choir vestry key Revd Furlong asked where this was kept in the church.

Jennifer Wilkinson undertook to check that the Vicar's vestry key would also open the choir vestry. Note: checked the next day and this is the case

Safeguarding Jennifer Wilkinson reported difficulty in accessing the online training. The Deanery course on 25 November was now full, with PCC members attending from all 4 parishes in the benefice.

PCC Revd Furlong repeated that she was hoping for a new churchwarden in April. Iain Strath was now very busy as governor of the School and might need to step down as Secretary. Rachel Fogg volunteered to take over as Secretary, though she would relinquish the post if someone else wanted to take it on. Revd Furlong also asked Andrew Fogg if he would continue as Treasurer – he replied that he would continue through the vacancy which would start next spring, but would look to hand over the role once a new priest was in post. Revd Furlong asked people to let her know of people who might be approached to join the PCC. She also wished to have any thoughts/comments on working together with the Gamlingay benefice.

Action: ALL

Revd Furlong clarified the position in Waresley where one or two people would volunteer to be the contacts with the Diocese during the vacancy. It was agreed that Great Gransden should also have two named contacts.

Revd Furlong asked for confirmation of the charities to receive the collection at the Living Nativity on Christmas Eve. It was agreed to share the collection between Centrepont and Age UK.

8 Date of the Next Meeting

PCC Mission & Ministry	16 January 2018	7.30pm	Barnabas Oley
PCC Fabric & Finance	21 March 2018	7.30pm	Barnabas Oley

The meeting closed at 8:30 pm with prayers.

Signed

Reverend Catharine Furlong