

St Bartholomew's Church Great Gransden

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PCC FABRIC AND FINANCE 8 JULY 2015

Present: The Reverend Catharine Furlong, Tony Bevens, Helen Catmur, Rob Chignell, Andrew Fogg, Rachel Fogg, Mark Gostick, Iain Strath, Jennifer Wilkinson

Apologies: Donald Lester and Andy Greaves

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

1 Minutes of the PCC Meeting held on 18 March 2015

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

Matters Arising

- (a) The donation of £50 to support the appeal to establish a training centre at Stretham near Ely was yet to be made.

Action: Andrew Fogg

- (b) Grateful thanks were extended to Jenny Wilkinson and Rachel Fogg for the splendid work they had done to make the Church Fete such an outstanding success, raising £3044 net.
- (c) The pews recently removed from church had been sold to purchasers in Bedale and Little Gransden.

2 Minutes of the PCC Meeting held following the APCM on 21 April 2015

The minutes of the meeting (copy on file) were signed as a correct record.

3 Treasurer's Report

- (a) A written report was presented by Andrew Fogg, a copy of which is on file.

The current account balance was £17358 reflecting the receipt of grants from the Poor Land Charity and the £10000 loan from CHCT for the Church works.

A sum of £2100 is expected from the Gift Aid Scheme against the anonymous cash offertory collections over the last two years.

On completion of the Church works a further VAT reclaim is to be made.

- (b) The PCC recorded their grateful thanks to Andrew Fogg for his report.

4 Fundraising and Donations

- (a) A donation of £1000 had been received into general church funds from Don Airey from the proceeds of Blues and Soul 2015. The treasurer had extended to him the grateful thanks of the PCC for this generous donation.
- (b) A Handel's Messiah concert with audience participation is to be held in church on 18 October 2015.
- (c) A date of 14 November was provisionally set for a concert that would be moved to 16 February 2016 if the premises were not available.

Action: Jenny Wilkinson

- (d) The Big Walk from Ely to Great Gransden made by Rachel Fogg and Phillip George had so far raised a magnificent £1858.

5 Fabric Report

- (a) A written report was presented by Rachel Fogg, a copy of which is on file.
- (b) *Building Works*

The building works are nearly complete and the architect is very pleased with the quality of the work. Extra costs have been incurred, mainly for the tiling of the area where the pews have been removed and for additional stones required in the East window. The PCC recorded their grateful thanks to Sheila George and Celia Chignell for the polishing of the new tiles and the cleaning of the church.

- (c) *Churchwarden's Chest*

A second estimate for the renovation of the chest has been sought and was now awaited.

Mrs Margaret Marr had agreed that the donation given in memory of her husband Alan could be put towards the cost of renovating the chest.

- (d) *Boiler Service*

This is to be put in hand before September 2015.

Action: Rachel Fogg

(e) *Quinquennial Inspection 2016*

With a view to appointing a different church architect, Rachel Fogg was to explore an appropriate process so that it might be achieved before the next Quinquennial inspection.

(f) *Newly Unearthed Bones*

Bones had been found near to the church porch and were to be removed.

Action: Catharine Furlong

(g) The PCC extended their grateful thanks to Rachel Fogg for her report and the work she had undertaken in overseeing the building works.

6 Church Events and Key Dates

2 August 11am Victor Hughes' Presentation

27 September 3pm Masai Troop of Dancers in GG Church

18 October Handel's Messiah

The PCC agreed a sum of £200 should be put toward a gift to mark their appreciation of Victor's remarkable contribution to church life in the Gransdens and its music.

7 Children's Play Area in Church

Following a long discussion on the way in which the area at the front of the church is used by the children during services, and in order to ensure that the church offered a welcoming environment for them, it was agreed that the beanbags would be removed; that suitable resources would be made available for the children to play quietly; and that Catharine would inform parents that children would join them so that they could go together as a family to the communion table.

8 AOB

(a) It was noted that the Rev Michael Wheeler would soon be returning to the UK.

(b) **The PCC approved** increases in the fees for bell ringing from £100 to £150 and for the choir at weddings from £80 to £100.

(c) PCC members were requested to assist in helping with the appointment of a new organist following Victor Hughes' retirement at the end of July.

- (d) Helen Catmur informed the meeting that the two members of the Mission and Outreach committee from Abbotsley and Waresley were to resign and that replacements were required.

8 Date of the Next Meeting

Joint PCC	29 September 2015	7.30pm	Barnabas Oley
PCC Fabric & Finance	16 March 2016	7.30pm	Barnabas Oley

The meeting closed at 8.45pm with prayers.

Signed

Reverend Catharine Furlong