

Minutes of Little Gransden PCC held Tuesday 12 July 2016: 7:30pm
at 2 Main Road, Little Gransden

The Meeting began with Prayer led by Rev. Catharine Furlong

Present: Rev. Catharine Furlong, Betty Bates, Janice Brown, Sheila George, Ian Ramsay (Treasurer), Stephen Sullivan (Secretary), Nick Wareham.

Apologies: Received from Suzanne Lawrence, Donald Lester

Minutes of Previous Meetings

The Minutes of the meeting held on 8 March 2016 and of the short meeting held at the end of the Joint APCM on 19 April 2016 were read, accepted and signed.

Matters Arising

The First Aid Box is probably not compliant with the modern British Standard. It is desirable (although not compulsory) that it should be so. **Action Nick Wareham and Stephen Sullivan**, who would consult on the best way to achieve this.

It was noted that the Fete had taken place successfully (see below). Alison Wareham, Betty Bates and the stallholders were particularly thanked for their efforts in bringing this about.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Ian Ramsay presented his Report for January-July 2016 (appended). The following points were noted in particular:

The Tower Account and the two Insurance Accounts have now been closed. The shortfall in the Tower Account of £10,799 is reflected in the July 2016 total for the Restricted Fund.

The final payment from Miss Pickard's bequest (£74,000) has been received.

The funds in the Barclays Community Current Account should be reallocated so that £10,000 remains in the current account, £50,000 goes into the CCLA short-term deposit account, and the remaining sum (£90,000+) into long-term investment. Proposed by Ian Ramsay, Seconded by Sheila George and unanimously agreed.

The insurance arrangements have been changed. We have switched to Parish Plus DD, which involves a reduction in costs.

As agreed, Ian Ramsay has to complete the mandate change of signatories for the Barclays and CCLA accounts. Sheila George is to be replaced by Betty Bates on both accounts. **Action Ian Ramsay.**

Ian Ramsay and Donald Lester have still to complete the handover of Income Tax and VAT reclaim forms, of documentation of assets owned by Little Gransden Church, and of the reclaim of the 3½% War Loan stock. The meeting passed the following resolution, Proposed by Nick Wareham and Seconded by Catharine Furlong:

Given the present circumstances, all the remaining financial items should be passed over to Ian Ramsay for his attention.

Action Donald Lester and Ian Ramsay.

FABRIC REPORT

East Chancel Gable

Nick Wareham confirmed that he had filed the on-line Annual Report that was required by the Cambridge Community Fund and Amey Cespa.

Nave Roof & Gutters

The next major piece of work under the current Quinquennial Report was the repair of the Nave roof. The architect will draw up a proposal, undertake the technical design, and manage the tendering. The meeting agreed that Nick Wareham should apply for the Faculty as soon as the paperwork is completed and arrangements have been made with English Heritage. The architects have proposed that a principal designer should be appointed and Philip Waller Consulting have been recommended. There may be a need for another bat survey and Nick Wareham has contacted Natural England.

We have successfully applied for a grant through the Listed Places of Worship Roof Repair Fund. We will receive a direct grant of just under £50,000 and the LPW will also fund the VAT element of £16,000. We will use £30,000 from the Pickard Fund to pay the remainder of the costs.

The plans for the work must be submitted to LPW by the end of this year and we would plan to undertake the work in the Spring of 2017.

Options Appraisal

This is now under way. Nick Wareham has a meeting with the architect on July 23.

Internal Decoration

The Meeting agreed that this should wait until the roof work is finished. The architects have noted that the existing paintwork is very poor and they would like a conservator to analyse the underlying structures, at an estimated fee of £1,800. The Meeting agreed to this.

The meeting expressed unanimous thanks to Nick Wareham for his input to the various Fabric projects. We also observed, in connection with the Nave Roof project, how £30,000 from the Pickard Fund could be used to release another £65,000 in grant funding. The LPW scheme has an agreed text for a press release and Nick Wareham would write an appropriate notice for *Roundabout* which might help villagers understand how we were using the Pickard Fund.

Churchyard

Andrew Lawrence has cut the hedge between the churchyard and Ian Ramsay's house.

HEALTH & SAFETY

Lightning Conductors.

The lightning conductor has been inspected by Messrs. JW Gray (jointly with that on Great Gransden Church). The contractors did after all require interior access, and we are grateful to Sheila George for making herself available to open the church at very short notice.

Heaters Inspection

The Heaters were inspected by Amicus Services, who report that all the injection probes will need to be changed at the next service. Thanks to Betty Bates for opening the church for the Amicus inspection.

EVENTS

The Summer Fete had again been successful. Thanks are given to Alison Wareham for the organisation and to Joe and Emma Ward, who hosted the event. A breakdown of the figures was provided by the Treasurer and is appended to these Minutes.

The Autumn Bazaar will be in the Village Hall on 12 November, organised by Betty Bates. Rev. Catharine Furlong has agreed to Open the event.

John Gillet has offered to run a plant stall for Church Funds at an earlier time in the year than the one that he runs for the Summer Fete.

Car Parking

It was noted that visitors to the Church, especially for weddings and funerals, sometimes reported difficulties with car parking. This was a particular problem for disabled visitors in particular. We considered that, with some management of the hedgerows and boundaries, it might be possible to arrange for another three spaces at the East end of the churchyard, accessed from Church Walk, and perhaps up to six spaces at the bottom end of the new churchyard extension, accessed from Church Road. It would probably be necessary to obtain a Faculty to make these alterations.

The Village Hall is happy for those attending services to make use of its car park when there is space, but it is appreciated that there is still a walk to the church and there is not always time to notify this, to funeral parties in particular.

Deanery Synod Report

Betty Bates reported that the Food Link was now receiving rather more food than it could comfortably cope with, and that cash payments would be welcomed.

Working Together Initiative

We considered the possibility of combining Fabric and Finance meetings with Great Gransden, and/or of reducing the number of such meetings from three per year to two, but we decided that neither would be practical, at least for the time being, with the size and nature of our Fabric programme.

Abbotsley would be interested in joining our Joint Mission and Ministry meetings.

Correspondence

Details of this year's Ride and Stride initiative have been received and were passed to Sheila George.

The War Memorial is now Grade II listed. Material explaining this has been sent to Catharine Furlong and is held by the Secretary.

Dates of Next Meetings.

Mission & Ministry (joint with Great Gransden): to be announced.

Fabric & Finance: November 15th at 15 Church Walk, Little Gransden, courtesy of Ian and Christine Ramsay. *Note that we have agreed to set the Budget for 2017 at this meeting.*

There being no further business, the meeting closed with the Grace at 8.45pm/

Signed.....

Date.....