



TOTNES with BRIDGETOWN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

REV'D JULIAN OULD
CHAIRMAN

MARTIN HARVEY
VICE CHAIRMAN

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 14 JANUARY 2015 IN ST JOHN'S CHURCH AT 7.30 PM

1. Opening prayer
2. Apologies as per sheet attached to file copy of these minutes.
3. Katie Roscorla: Presentation to the PCC on the Parish Giving Scheme, a new stewardship initiative with many advantages including linking donors' giving to inflation and enabling parishes to receive Gift Aid monthly rather than annually. Full details attached to file copy of these minutes.

It was agreed by the PCC members that the next step for Totnes with Bridgetown is to invite Katie Roscorla to Sunday services at St Mary's and St John's to explain the scheme to members of the congregation. The Rector to organise.

4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING
Minutes of the last meeting proposed for approval by P Rogers.
Seconded: Z Hillier. Agreed unanimously.

5. MATTERS ARISING
The Rector reported that the St Cecilia Evensong was very successful.

The new hymn books are now in use. The Rector thanked the Friends for funding their purchase. The dedication scheme is slow and needs to be promoted through the newsletter/newssheet.

St John's loop – John Derbyshire dealing.

Parish magazine – J Hall – 100 copies printed on the last run and were all gone by 18 December. A suggestion to charge for the magazines may be considered in future but involves a great deal of administration.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT
The annual accounts are being prepared for approval by the PCC. The Treasurer therefore presented provisional accounts, summarised as follows:

Income this year: £103,170 Income last year: £104,320
Income slightly down, mainly due to a drop in donations to St Mary's in the past year. In 2013 £5,388 was received in donations and last year the amount was £1,801.

Regular giving amounts to £21,000. Standing orders for giving are mainly

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monthly. An end of year Gift Aid account goes to the Inland Revenue and at the end of January a cheque is received from the Revenue, usually in the region of £9,000. The new Parish Giving Scheme would result in the parish receiving regular Gift Aid which, in terms of cash flow, would be an advantage.

Expenses this year: £100,553 Expenses last year: £110,416
Expenses down by £10,600, mainly due to the maintenance works for St John's in 2013. Maintenance increase at St Mary's this year from £2,153 in 2013 to £11,459 in 2014.

The Common Fund required approximately £45,000 of which the parish achieved £35,000. The Rector explained that over the last three years the parish has progressively increased its share which the Diocese acknowledges positively.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from the Bishop:

- He wishes to encourage clergy to pioneer growing in prayer and to this end the clergy Quiet Days are helpful.
- Nick McKinnel, Bishop of Crediton, has agreed to move across to be Bishop of Plymouth in succession to Bishop John Ford. His Welcome Service will be held in St Andrew's, Plymouth on Sunday 19 April at 4.00 pm.
- New Archdeacon of Totnes – Prebendary Douglas Dettmer – Installation at St Mary's, Totnes on Tuesday 24 March at 7.30 pm. The Rector said he felt this is very positive appointment.
- Archdeacon of Barnstaple – The Reverend Dr Mark Butchers. Installation at St Peter's Church, Barnstaple on Monday 23 March 2015 at 7.30 pm.
- Anna Norman Walker now installed as Canon Chancellor. There is a vacancy for a Diocesan Missioner.

Request received from the Diocese of Exeter Cyprus and the Gulf Liaison Group for the parish to purchase palm crosses from our linked diocese. Agreed.

Jan Dietz, Director of Music, proposes to start a junior choir with a practice on Fridays from 5.00 to 5.45 pm. She would like to arrange for refreshments to be laid on for the parents who will be present at the practices. On the fourth Sunday in the month the junior choir would sing in St Mary's Church at 11.15. The initiative was welcomed by the PCC.

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Week of Prayer for Christian Unity – “The Well is Deep”. Leaflets available.

The topic for the Lent Pilgrim Course will be the Creed.

Safeguarding newsletter – Legislation is to be tightened further. The parish policies will be revised and must be read by all PCC members. There will be a full time safeguarding officer at the diocese. The safeguarding applies to vulnerable adults as well as minors.

8. FABRIC REPORT

The two fabric committees have now merged. The new joint committee for St Mary's and St John's consists of the three churchwardens, the Rector, Jane Ould and Peter Rogers. The members would welcome two more people to join them. The committee meets four or five times a year.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM ARCHITECT INTERVIEW PANEL FOR RESTORATION AND REORDERING

Three architects were interviewed by the churchwardens and two are recommended for further consideration:

Le Page of Plymouth
John Scott.

Gordon Clarke of Dartington has been eliminated. He is a small, one man practice and has only recently moved to the area.

The three projects (replacement of windows at St John's, reordering at St Mary's and works to the external face of St Mary's) will require substantial funding for which applications for grants will have to be made. In order to make applications specifications, designs, costings, Diocese approval and planning permission will need to be obtained. A fee estimate for this work is required from the two architects remaining. If funding is successful, the architect would then continue with the projects.

The interview group put forward the following recommendation to the PCC for approval:

The nominated group consisting of the Rector, Martin Harvey, Julian Hall and John Birch be requested to carry out further investigations and interviews with Le Page of Plymouth and John Scott, including site visits to those projects where they have carried out reordering works, and thereafter they have delegated authority to make an appointment of the architect in respect of the three major projects.

Recommendation proposed by P Rogers, seconded by Zaida Hillier and passed unanimously.

10. MISSION ACTION PLAN

To emphasise the importance of regular prayer, prayer cards are being prepared by the clergy to be sent out to all the parishes in the team at the beginning of Lent, one for each member of the congregations.

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11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Health and Safety – policies on both church notice boards. Risk assessments to be carried out at a later date. Julian Hall proposed and Martin Harvey seconded that the present Health and Safety statement remain. Agreed unanimously.

Charity Sunday – The next Charity Sunday is on Sunday 15 February which is a joint service at St Mary's at 11.15. The charity is CHICKS which arranged week long holidays for underprivileged children from across the UK.

The meeting closed at 8.50 pm.

Dates of future meetings (Eucharist 7.00 pm – meetings commence 7.30 pm)

Wednesday 11 March St Mary's Parish Hall

Annual Meeting:

Wednesday 15 April St John's Church

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REGISTERED CHARITY NO 1128123