

Minutes of the Meeting of St. James P.C.C.

Monday 3rd December 2012

Present: Joan Botterill (Chair), Rev Johan Allen, Rev David Britton, Carol Burt, Nick Burt, Catalina Contreras, John Farebrother, Liz Gibbons, Anthony Herbert, Dave Ingram, Laura Knight, Steve Linton, Dan Obene, Pauline Pepperell, Richard Reddie, Paula Thomas, Glynis Wilkinson.

Apologies: Sabeena Coulson, Judy Douglas, Chris Hart, Alan Hollamby, Emma Simmonds, Stephanie Sulaiman, Julie White

1. **Welcome:** Joan welcomed everyone to the meeting, read verses from Jude, and opened with prayer.

2. **Minutes of the Previous Meetings:**

The Minutes of the meeting on 8th October 2012 were considered and accepted unanimously.

3. **Matters Arising from the Minutes:**

1. **Minibus.** It was reported that Streatham Baptist Church (Lewin Road) had expressed interest in purchasing the minibus; Beechcroft had also indicated their interest in the vehicle.
2. **Foodbank.** It was reported that further training was being received with regards to the operating of a local foodbank. Further updates were expected from Rev Dr Sue Clark in due course.

4. **Interregnum.**

1. **Appointment of Team Rector.** It was reported that no appointment had been made following the recent interviews. The interview panel had been pleased with the variety and quality of applicants, and the interview process. However, the panel were unanimous that neither candidate was suitable for St James'. The vacancy will be re-advertised, at a cost, in January 2013, with interviews being held before Easter. Prayer was sought that the right person would see the advert.
2. **Vicarage.** Nick reported that the Diocese had decided what renovation work would be done, with the contractor due to start in mid-December. Further details were available from Nick.

5. **Finance Report.**

1. **FYC Rental and Electricity.** Paula reported that the annual invoice to FYC for rent and electricity usage would be produced shortly.
Proposal: that, by way of a donation from St James PCC, the charge for the previous 12 months rental and electricity is cleared.
Proposed by Paula, Seconded by Nick, agreed unanimously.
2. **Brownies Rental.** Paula reported that the invoice to Brownies for rent had been produced.
Proposal: that, by way of a donation from St James PCC, the charge for hall rental is cleared.
Proposed by Paula, Seconded by Nick, agreed unanimously.
3. **Management Accounts.** Paula presented an updated report of the accounts to 31st October 2012. This showed a deficit for the year to date of £16,551, against a forecasted deficit of £31,753. The reason for this positive variance of £15,201 was due to better than expected donations. The accounts also showed a deficit forecast for the whole year of £13,881, against a forecasted deficit of £26,192. Although this showed that significant cost savings had been made during the year, it was still hoped that the deficit would be covered by the Advent Gift Day.
4. **Budget 2013.** Paula presented a draft budget for 2013, showing a forecast deficit of £14,258. This reflected a 10% increase in Donations and an increase in Property Income, due to both an additional tenant at 171 Mitcham Lane and additional hall lettings. Nick noted that this would be a big task. It was hoped that, with the receipt of one-off donations during the year, the budgeted deficit would be covered. It was noted that the 2013 Advent Gift Day was not included in the budget calculations.

Further information would be provided at the next PCC meeting with regard to tithing, "Careforce" costs, advertising for Team Rector and pastoral expenses, also indicating the response to the initiative on 14th and 21st October to stimulate an increase of 10% in regular giving, allowing the final budget to be approved.

5. **Advent Gift Day: 9th December 2012.** The meeting discussed the allocation of the Gift Day monies, specifically the amount for causes outside the church. Various causes were suggested, specifically the CMS project in Northern Uganda and South Sudan and the Tear Fund East Africa Crisis Appeal.
Proposal: that 25% of the total amount raised on the Advent Gift Day be allocated to the external project. The remainder of the monies would go to offset the financial deficit.
Proposed by Johan, Seconded by Dan, agreed unanimously.

The choice of which external project to support would be decided by an email ballot of PCC members, following provision of more details of each option.

The meeting thanked Paula for her work in compiling the Accounts and the Budget.

At this point, the meeting paused for prayer.

6. **Community Hall Update.**

Judy reported that the external light above the entrance to the Upper Hall would be installed as soon as possible.

7. **Christmas Events.**

A list of the services over the Christmas period was presented; a Christmas flyer would be circulated around the neighbourhood shortly.

8. **Future Events.**

The meeting noted the list of future events, see below.

9. **Date of Next Meetings.**

- **Monday 21st January 2013**

The meeting closed at 9:45 pm.

Next PCC meeting: Monday 21st January 2013 at 8:00pm

Future Events

- **Sunday 9th December –**
 - 10:30am – Advent Gift Day at St James
- **Saturday 15th December –**
 - 4:00pm – Christmas Market, Moyser Road
- **Sunday 16th December –**
 - 10:30am – Joint All Age Nativity at MLBC
 - 3:30pm – Family Carol Service at St James
 - 7:00pm – Carols by Candlelight Service at St James
- **Sunday 23rd December –**
 - 10:30am - Holy Communion led by Bishop Richard at St James
 - 7:00pm – Philippa Hanna Concert at MLBC
- **Monday 24th December –**
 - 5:00pm - Christingle Service at St Albans
 - 11:15pm – Midnight Communion at St James
- **Tuesday 25th December –**
 - 10:30am - All-Age Communion Service at St James
- **Sunday 30th December –**
 - 10:30am – Joint Service at St James
- **Friday 4th January –**
 - 11:00am – Christmas Holiday Club at St James