

Minutes of the Meeting of St. James P.C.C. Monday 23rd March 2015

Present: Rev Rob Powell (Chair), Rev Johan Allen, Carol Burt, John Farebrother, Liz Gibbons, Antony Herbert, Dave Ingram, Stephanie Sulaiman, Myles Taylor, Paula Thomas, Julie White, Glynis Wilkinson.

Apologies: Judy Douglas, Alan Hollamby, Steve Linton, Everlyne Nyambura, Lilian Reddie, Richard Reddie.

1. **Welcome:** Rob welcomed everyone to the meeting and opened the meeting with prayer.

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

The Minutes of the meetings on 26th January 2015 and 22nd February 2015 were considered, accepted unanimously and signed.

3. **Matters Arising from the Minutes**

1. **Legacy Policy** (item 3.1). Rob reported that the Legacy Brochure had been finalised, had been circulated to church members with his letter regarding finance and was available with other brochures in the carousel in the church foyer.
2. **Furzedown Oak Project** (item 4). Rob reported that a further meeting had been held with the sculptors where problems with the design and location were fully expressed, particularly the Diocese decision that a permanent sculpture on the Green would not be accepted. Although the sculptors had initially been disappointed with this information, they had since taken a positive outlook and were working on a new design/concept. Further information would follow.
3. **Notice Board** (item 5.2). This item was deferred to the next meeting.
4. **Nurture & Discipleship** (item 5.3). The meeting discussed a draft questionnaire to be sent to church members to assess their views on how best the church can help them live lives for Christ. A revised questionnaire that addressed various issues raised would be presented at the next meeting.
5. **Furzedown Churches Youth Minister**. Rob reported that all the Furzedown churches had discussed the situation and had agreed that the post was still required and to recruit a replacement. The vacancy would be publicised in April/May 2015, with the hope of appointing someone to start from September 2015.

4. **Finance Report**

1. **Accounts for the Year**. Paula reported that the Accounts to 31st December 2014 had been independently examined and agreed. An abbreviated version would be presented in the APCM report, with full copies of the Accounts available on request.

The meeting discussed a formal letter, addressed to Leroy Reid & Co, the independent examiners, that confirmed various statutory financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2014.

Proposal: to agree the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2014 as presented.
Proposed by Dave, Seconded by John, agreed unanimously.
2. **Management Accounts**. Paula presented the Management Accounts to 28th February 2015, showing a deficit for the period of £7,914. Although a budget deficit of £3,454 had been forecast, the results showed a negative variance of £4,459. The meeting noted that Donations and Property Income were below budget and discussed ways of addressing the shortfall.

The meeting thanked Paula for all her work on the accounts.

3. **Parish Support Fund**. The meeting noted that, from 2016, the Diocese was changing the Fairer Shares system to a Parish Support Fund, the main difference being that each parish will be asked each year to consider prayerfully what it means to be generous in their giving to the Diocesan ministries. The general consensus was that this was a positive and exciting development, empowering churches to be self financing.
4. **New Photocopier Lease**. This item was deferred to the next meeting.

At this point, the meeting paused for prayer.

5. Mission Action Plan (MAP): Welcome & Hospitality

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

6. Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)

The meeting noted that the APCM would be held on Sunday 19th April 2015 at 10:30am as part of the Worship service. As in previous years, a booklet was being compiled providing reports from church ministry groups. This would be circulated prior to the meeting.

The meeting also noted that various church officers needed to be elected at the APCM, specifically: 2 Church Wardens, 4 PCC Members for a 3-year term, and 2 PCC Members for a 2-year term.

Richard Reddie had indicated his willingness to stand again as Church Warden, but needed to be formally nominated. Judy Douglas was standing down and a replacement was required, preferably a woman.

7. Any Other Business

There was no further business.

8. Date of Next Meetings

- Sunday 19th April 2015 – APCM
- Monday 11th May 2015 – PCC meeting
- Monday 6th July 2015 – PCC meeting

The meeting closed with prayer.

Next PCC meeting: Monday 11th May 2015 at 8:00pm in the Centre