

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

Monday 25th January 2016

Present: Rev Rob Powell (Chair), Rev Johan Allen, Carol Burt, Nick Burt, John Farebrother, Liz Gibbons, Antony Herbert, Steve Linton, Nat Okoro, Carol Patterson, Pauline Pepperrell, Richard Reddie, Adam Seymour-Davies, Stephanie Sulaiman, Paula Thomas, Glynis Wilkinson, Christina Contreras and Sam Talbot.

Apologies: Sue Allen, Dave Ingram, Lilian Reddie, Myles Taylor.

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

2. Minutes of the Previous Meetings:

The Minutes of the meeting on 7th December were considered, accepted unanimously and signed.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

1. St James', The Bible & The Sexuality Debate (item 3.2). The debate took place on 13th December in the Church Centre.

The debate was recorded and was approved by Rob and Imogen to go online on our website.

Feedback received said the topic was thoughtful and encouraging, there was a good spirit and other churches have expressed an interest in this model of dealing with controversial issues.

2. MAP: Prayer Ministry Review (item 4)

Two prayer stations are at work since the beginning of January and 4 new people joined the team.

The prayer corner new screens are good and look well, a new photoboard with the members of the prayer ministry team is being prepared and Rob thanked Pauline for her hard work in getting it all together.

The housebound photoboard will be updated and displayed in the prayer corner soon.

3. 171 Mitcham Lane House (item 5)

A working group from St. James church visited 171 Mitcham Lane on Sunday 31st January after the service to have a better understanding of the works that need to be done for the refurbishment.

4. Youth Report

Sam Talbot, Youth Minister, joined us for the meeting and thanked everyone for inviting him to give a report. The report was given in a separate sheet (attached) and Sam answered questions that arose from the report. Antony thanked Sam for his hard work and asked if, apart from the need for more volunteers, anything else is needed. Sam asked the PCC for their prayers for young people and that they would have a good rapport with the adults. Volunteers should be believers, of any age and with good listening skills, everyone has something to offer.

A question regarding involvement in Graveney secondary school was raised. Sam reported that Fiona, Perham had offered to help support students with self-harming issues and poor self-esteem. Sadly this offer was still to be taken up by the school, despite expressions of interest from senior staff. Sam explained that the meetings with staff at Graveney are always very positive but the follow up is very poor, but he hopes the next meeting will bring some clarity.

Sam left the meeting at this point.

5. Finance Report & 2016 Budget

The management accounts for the 12 months to 31 December 2015 show a surplus of just over £7k compared with a budget breakeven position and the last forecast of a deficit of just over £3k. This is largely thanks to a better than expected Gift Day result of £14k compared to a budget of £10k.

A revised budget for 2016 was presented, based on the draft results for 2015 and amendments discussed at the last meeting. It now shows a balanced position.

Adam Seymour-Davies proposed to accept Budget for 2016, seconded by Johan Allen and agreed unanimously.

Hall and Centre Hiring rates (item 7.1 from previous minutes)

Christina researched hall hiring prices in the area with halls similar to ours and presented a comparison sheet (attached)

After discussion Rob Powell proposed:

- To increase Centre Hire one-off rates to £30 per hour and £100 refundable deposit with immediate effect. Agreed unanimously.
- To increase Hall Hire one-off rates to £40 per hour as trial with immediate effect. Agreed unanimously.

Nick Burt proposed:

- To increase Hall Hire low band rates of £20 per hour to £25 per hour effective from September 2016 and to charge £10 for storage weekly, a review to be done for September 2017. Seconded by Steve Linton and agreed unanimously.
- Medium band hall hire rates of £25 per hour to remain the same until September 2017. Agreed unanimously.

6. Buildings Project Update

The new prayer meeting specifically to pray for the vision for the buildings started at the end of January on Wednesdays at 9 am in the prayer corner.

Statement of Needs – Rob is still working on putting together a working group to draw up a Statement of Needs.

The Archdeacon's visit to the Team in January was very productive in regards to encouraging us in prioritising our mission and the building vision and would be happy to talk at a PCC meeting if and when we wish him to. The archdeacon would be a great ally to have in the Diocese as this project progresses.

7. MAP: Nurture & Discipleship Update

Johan Allen prepared a leaflet with all the results from the nurture and discipleship questionnaire which was given out on a Sunday service to the congregation.

A Lent Campaign is planned with a focus on personal Bible reading with a sermon series and a resource leaflet.

A programme of short courses encouraging nurture and discipleship are being planned for people who are not yet in a Home Group, with the aim of having them join a group or form a new one at the end of the course.

It will be helpful to have a survey again next year to gauge progress and Rob thanked Johan for all his time and dedication to this matter.

8. Team Council Mission Action Plan (Team MAP)

Rob reported the following items from the Team MAP:

- *A Prayer Workshop* is being planned with Chris Chapman at St. James' on March 19th from 10am to 3pm.
- *A 24 Hour Prayer event* on 24th and 25th of June is being planned, more information to follow.
- *Program Planning* with other churches is being looked at, so main events will not clash with each other. Christina and Rob to follow up on a solution.
- *A Gospel Concert* as part of the Furzedown Festival is being planned with the aim of sharing the Gospel with the community. Date yet to be fixed.
- *Communication* – A mapping exercise is planned to have a better idea of where our congregation members live. Christina and Rob to follow up.
- The setting up of a *Website for The Furzedown Team Ministry* is being explored.

9. Revd Canon Geoff Vevers

Rob reported that Geoff is now fully on board and that they are working together on his job description. Geoff will be attending St. James on the 3rd Sunday of the month and is at the moment helping with Adventurers and The Well to interact with the community. He will also get involved in a pastoral role with Anvil Close and will be having a meeting with the manager in the near future. The Greyswood GP Practice is open to having a Chaplaincy Service and Rob and Geoff will be meeting one of the doctors in the next few weeks to discuss this. Rob asked for prayers for this meeting and our growing involvement with the community.

10. Any Other Business

- SEN training organised by Sam Talbot went well and there will be more opportunities for training in the future.

11. Dates of Next Meetings

- PCC Meeting – Monday 14th March, 8.00pm in the Church Centre
- PCC Meeting – Monday 9th May, 8.00pm in the Church Centre
- PCC Meeting – Monday 4th July, 8.00pm in the Church Centre

The meeting closed in prayer and with the Grace at 10:03pm.