

St Stephen's PCC Agenda 12th May 2010

Venue: Vicarage, 8pm

Present: Robin Andersen, Lynne Brown, Annie Barnsdale, Nicky Lee, Sarah Weldon, Jill Soar, Peter Aucamp, Duncan Long, Lynda Kay, Ross Cunningham, Danny Wignall, Ed Walker, Colin Short, Ian Gee

Danny welcomed the group and explained the purpose of the PCC – Commitment (involvement in church and prayer), Confidential (being aware of the sensitive topics discussed), and Care (a collective responsibility for both church members and the people who live in the Parish of Shottermill). He reminded us of our challenge for this year: Make more space for God; More space for others; Be more thankful; Seek new ways to serve God.

Ross Cunningham was co-opted to join the PCC – all agreed

Danny opened in prayer

1. Minutes of last meeting

All in agreement that they were a valid representation of discussions.

2. Matters arising

Heating in the Cross. Duncan continuing to progress. Some prices received – progressing further to get a final price.

3. How's it going? UP IN OUT

APCM was successful and received positive feedback. Treasurer's report was a highlight. Attendance might be increased if we gave some advance warning of the makeup of the APCM (i.e. written reports and small number of speaking reports).

We said that the testimonies in the 'Good News' were good. The number of testimonies went down this year but this is to be expected as this has been done a few times before.

A craft session was held during the Easter break and was a good form of outreach.

We talked about the importance of being a welcoming church and Danny encouraged the PCC to engage any people that they hadn't met before.

4. Finance Update

Ed reported that the accounting system can now produce regular reports of our current finances and proposed that these are produced before each meeting to keep everyone up to date. After all the finances of the church are the PCC's responsibilities.

Update for now is that we are in the same position as reported in the APCM. We remain £3,500 short of our budget target. The stewardship team will be meeting to look at this further.

5. Curate Housing update

We talked about the need for a curates house in terms of timing, number of rooms and location.

From a buying perspective Nicky has seen many properties that aren't appropriate and a few that seem appropriate but haven't worked out for one reason or another. The consortium that were looking to buy the property has lessened in numbers and so this makes the buying option more difficult. The curate is due to arrive at the end of June and so we may not be able to complete any purchase before then in the current market.

From a renting perspective Jill talked through a few properties. One was in Liphook but may only be available for a 6 month let. Another property in Haslemere which had a number of negatives. There are not many rental properties available. We have looked at price ranges between £795 and £1,500 (although our original budget was £1,200).

There are a couple of short term options such as short term rent of a local cottage (next to the church), another option is a couple within church have offered to stay in the 2 bed flat and let the curate use their 4 bed house (again for a few months).

With regards to selling the flat, Nicky reported that we have changed agents and dropped the price by £10,000.

The PCC agreed that if there was no suitable properties within the parish available then Liphook would be acceptable.

PCC recorded thanks for the significant effort that Nicky and Jill have put in on these areas.

We prayed for the situation in the meeting and Danny encouraged the PCC to pray about this matter.

6. Church notice board

The main external church notice board is out of date and Lynne reported that people had some difficulty in accessing this. Action will be taken to remove the old notice board.

7. AOB

Andrew Lee will be the CRB coordinator, he will be a validator of CRBs along with Annabelle Ponting and Vanessa Clothier Pratts. All agreed.