

## St Mark's Church, Broomhill

Minutes of the Parochial Church Council meeting held on 6 July 2011 (7.30 pm).

### Present

Ian Wallis (Chair)	Don Smith	Judith Crawshaw	Anne Padget
Tanya Ralph (Minutes)	Joe Forde	Deni Ennals	Pat Hunt
Alistair Sutcliffe from 19.45	Bridget Grayson	Sue Hammersley	Shan Rush
David Ryder	James Dickson	David Trickett	Catherine Trickett
Prema Salt	Mike Hunt	Gary Grief	Simon Ennals
Stuart Parker			

### Apologies

Robin Saunders	David Price		
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Anne Padget led the opening devotions.

		Action
<b>13</b>	<b>Approval of the minutes of the PCC meeting 18 May 2011</b>	
	<p>The minutes of the meeting on 18 May 2011 were approved with the following amendments:</p> <p>Page 1: Joe Forde was added to the list of those present at the meeting.</p> <p>Page 1: 02 – ‘Sunday 7 July’ should read ‘Sunday 7 August’.</p> <p>Page 2: 03 – ‘Assistant Vicar’ should read ‘Associate Vicar’.</p> <p>Page 4: 08 – ‘Sue H recommended reconvening a Young Persons’ Ministry committee to allow a strategic overview of this work to occur in a co-ordinated manner and to ensure sustained provision’ should read ‘Ian W recommended the reconvening of the Young Persons’ Ministry committee to allow a strategic overview of this work to occur in a co-ordinated manner and to ensure sustained provision, and Sue H agreed to take this on.’.</p> <p>Page 4:11 – ‘Report from for the Parish should read ‘Report of the Parish’.</p>	<b>TR</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>Matters arising from minutes of the PCC meeting 18 May 2011</b>	
	<p>02 - 88 - 83 - Our response to the ‘Big Society’ and the proposed cuts in public spending – Ian W reported that work on a meeting with Nick Clegg, jointly organised with St John’s Ranmoor, was still ongoing.</p> <p>02 - 91 - Civil Partnerships: Ian W has now made a public statement on this item available within church for the congregation to inform them of the position we have reached. Neither he nor any members of the PCC have received any feedback or comments on this item.</p> <p>02 - 93 - Diocesan Initiative: Transforming our Society and God’s World - Tanya R has circulated this document to the PCC.</p> <p>04 - Bishop of Doncaster’s retirement gift – David R has not yet sent our contribution. Tanya R to forward a cheque with a letter from the PCC.</p> <p>08 - Reformatting the PCC – Ian W has asked Mike H to coordinate a sub group of the PCC to review the size and re-election procedure of the PCC as well as the meeting frequency and structure. Sue H, David T, Tanya R and Alistair S agreed to be part of this review group. Sue H circulated notes on a proposed format that was used in her previous Parish.</p> <p>09 - <b>Frequency and times of meetings</b> A final list of dates of future PCC meetings has now been circulated.</p>	<b>IW DP</b>  <b>IW</b>   <b>TR DR</b>   <b>MH</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>Correspondence</b>	
	Tanya R circulated fliers for 2 Diocesan events: 1st October (Sheffield Diocesan	

	Development Day 2011 – A Time to Grow: Exploring Christian Nurture) and 9 <sup>th</sup> July (Ecumenical Safeguarding Partnership – Commonsense? Practical Issues in Safeguarding Children and Young People).	
<b>16</b>	<b>Installation of PV panels</b>	
	<p>Gary G spoke to this item as Robin S was unable to attend the meeting. He outlined the background behind the proposal to install PV panels, namely to reduce our large ‘carbon footprint’, as well as our energy bills, and to provide a potential source of income generation from generated electricity. The annual income from the panels is expected to increase from an estimated £2000 to £4500 over a 25 year period. The Government has set a legally binding covenant (Feed in Tariffs, FITs) that guarantees a set rate of return for any electricity generated from the PV panels if they are installed before a certain date which will be either Jan or April 2012. The estimated cost of installing the PV panels is £40,000. Alternative ways of reducing or using energy more efficiently have been considered but the conclusion is that the installation of PV panels is probably the best option.</p> <p>The proposed options to fund the installation are: donations from the congregation – unconditional or with an associated reduced level of pledged giving over 25 years to recoup the initial donation, external grants, using the church’s fabric reserves or trust funds held by the Central Board of Finance (St Mark’s Church Hall Charity) which would need to be paid back, or from a ‘Rentaroom’ scheme whereby an external funding source would pay for the panels but would then recoup this investment over 12 years by taking the income from the electricity generated.</p> <p>Donald S informed the meeting that the Beacon at Broomhill are placing an order this month for PV panels for their roof. He was unable to locate any external grants. He also asked whether our electricity comes from a bulk purchase scheme as this wouldn’t continue once we installed the panels. David R confirmed we weren’t part of such a scheme. He also informed the meeting that as a large proportion of our electricity is used at night as part of ‘Economy 7’ it won’t be produced from a ‘solar’ source and therefore we would still pay for this electricity.</p> <p>Catherine T asked whether we should investigate whether any future problems with the church roof would be complicated if we funded the panels through a ‘rentaroom’ scheme. Gary G reported on the open meeting that had been held after the Sunday morning service on 3 July. The results of the questionnaire that had been circulated at the meeting were favourable and supported the installation of the PV panels. When asked whether church reserves should be used to partially fund the scheme, 9 people said yes, 20 said maybe and 5 said no. No one felt they should be used to fund the scheme entirely. 21 people, plus 12 maybe’s, suggested they would be willing to make a significant donation without reducing their regular giving (suggested level of donation was £1000) and several more suggested they would but with an associated reduction in their regular giving. It was also noted that some supporters of the scheme may be willing to make a donation, but at a lower level. There was little support for the use of external funding (rentaroom).</p> <p>Joe F proposed we hold a special Pledge Sunday to ask for donations and once the response to this is known then the PCC should consider further funding options to make up any shortfall.</p> <p>James D suggested that the return from the panels in income generation might well be better than our reserves are currently getting from the Market.</p> <p>David R cautioned against the use of our reserves as there are likely to be competing funding needs in the near future, including work on the organ which has been estimated at around £60,000.</p> <p>Several members felt that the ‘rentaroom’ option was the least favourable.</p> <p>Ian W and Gary G asked the meeting to consider the following proposal which had been proposed by the Finance and Fabric committee :</p>	<b>GG RS</b>

	<p><i>'In order to reduce both our carbon footprint and expenditure on electricity, as well as to demonstrate our commitment to ecological conservation, St Mark's Parochial Church Council proposes to install:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>(i) approximately 70 square metres of Photovoltaic Panels onto the tiles of the south facing pitched roof of the main church building towards the east end;</i></li> <li><i>(ii) an Inverter unit on the concrete floor in the roof space of the pitched roof of the main church building;</i></li> <li><i>(iii) all necessary wiring and meters, discretely positioned, to connect the aforementioned units into the mains supply, located in the cupboard off the main entrance lobby, as well as into the church's wiring system.</i></li> </ul> <p><i>The PCC also proposes to carry out tree surgery to three trees (a sycamore flanked by two limes) located in the south-east corner of the churchyard that currently create some shading of the section of the roof where the panels will be installed.</i></p> <p><i>The cost of this programme of work has been estimated at £40,000.</i></p> <p>This was formally proposed by David T, seconded by Mike H. Carried unanimously.</p> <p>It was agreed that the income raised from the panels would go to the Church and that this should be outlined in any proposal.</p> <p>Following a further discussion relating to funding of the panels, in particular relating to whether the option of donations with associated reduced regular giving should be further advertised or encouraged, it was agreed that David R, in consultation with Gary G and Robin S, would come back to the next PCC meeting on 21 July with a funding proposal that had been discussed with and hopefully agreed by the Standing Committee.</p> <p>In addition David T is going to approach the Church Burgesses to see if they would be prepared to contribute to this visionary project.</p> <p>The surgery required on the trees is for two limes to be reduced in height and a sycamore which may need to be removed as its roots are damaging a church retaining wall. It was agreed that another tree would be planted if it proves necessary to remove one.</p> <p>Ian W informed the meeting that the installation of the PV panels will need a Faculty and Planning Consent. We have already obtained a Green Certificate from the Diocesan Advisory Committee which is required for the former. Ian W confirmed that the Church is in a conservation area which might affect the planning application, however Donald S reported that in the recent experience of the Beacon at Broomhill the planners had been cooperative.</p>	<p>RS</p> <p>DR GG RS</p> <p>DT</p> <p>IW RS</p>
17	<p><b>Organist and Director of Music – update</b></p> <p>Ian announced that Professor Andrew Linn, formerly Director of Music at St Matthew's Carver Street, has been appointed as the new Church Organist and that the Director of Music post is about to be advertised.</p>	<p>IW</p>
18	<p><b>Review of Safeguarding policies</b></p> <p>Ian W had circulated these policies prior to the meeting and they had been reviewed by the Safeguarding Children and Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Officers for their views on any changes that should be made.</p> <p>Children's Policy: Deni E (Safeguarding Children Officer) asked whether we check that children's groups using our premises have their own safeguarding policy as this is stated in our policy. This was changed 2 years ago but the current booking form has not been amended to reflect this and states that they should abide by our policy. Sue H suggested wording something that suggests we want them to abide by the principles of our policy. The policy also suggests that the children's groups have representation on PCC and it was asked whether this needs to be more active.</p> <p>The presence of first aiders in all groups was questioned.</p>	

	<p>It was agreed that we need to check that what we say in the policy is actually happening.</p> <p>The meeting agreed that this policy should come back to the PCC on 21 July to allow for these issues to be resolved and advice to be sought from Sue Booth.</p> <p>Vulnerable Adults' policy: Jane Padget (Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Officer) has confirmed that our policy is in line with the Diocesan policy and proposes it's adoption. Denise asked if it should be circulated to all volunteers which has not happened recently.</p> <p>Ian W confirmed that Sue Booth has seen the Children's policy already. It was agreed that Sue H would show both policies to her once they have been revised.</p> <p>The meeting agreed that both policies should come back to the July 21 PCC meeting following further revisions and an external review.</p>	<p><b>DE SH</b></p> <p><b>IW</b></p> <p><b>SH</b></p> <p><b>DE SH IW</b></p>
<b>19</b>	<b>Ordination/consecration of women to the episcopate</b>	
	<p>Sue H had circulated papers explaining the current situation within the Church of England with respect to the ordination and consecration of women Bishops.</p> <p>The main outstanding issue relates to making provision for those within the CofE who, in conscience, are unable to recognise the authority of women Bishops. In preparation for a vote by the General Synod in 2012 on the current legislation under consideration, which makes provision by delegation through the Diocesan Bishop (male or female), Diocesan Synods are being asked to express their views (10 have already supported it). Before this takes place in Sheffield on 10 September 2011, Deanery Synods are being consulted, with Hallam Deanery Synod meeting next Monday.</p> <p>In order that our representatives know the mind of the PCC, the following proposal, reflecting the one before Diocesan Synods, was voted on: St Mark's Parochial Church Council wholeheartedly supports the Church of England's progress towards consecrating women as bishops and urges in the strongest terms that Sheffield Diocesan Synod approves the proposals embodied in the draft Bishops and Priests (Consecration and Ordination of Women) Measure and in draft Amending Canon No 30, without following motion. The proposal was passed unanimously by the PCC.</p> <p>There will be a Silent vigil outside Sheffield Cathedral when this is debated at Diocesan Synod at 09.30 on September 10 2011.</p>	
<b>20</b>	<b>Broomhall – update</b>	
	<p>Sue H reported on a number of issues relating to Broomhall: The girls youth club in Broomhall was relaunched in March with around 10 girls attending each week. Disappointingly the youth worker, Emma Shepherd, is leaving in September to pursue further study but a replacement will be sought over the summer. Sue H reported that the management committee is working on raising money for the continued support of the youth worker and club. The Welcome place is open on a Wednesday afternoon and a number of volunteers from St Mark's help to host this. Operation 'Mach' (a city-wide police drugs raid earlier in the year) resulted in a number of young people from Broomhall being arrested and receiving heavy handed sentencing for possession, dealing or offering to deal. The families affected are being offered support. The successful 'Broomhall News' is looking for funding by asking for community groups to sponsor an issue. The PCC agreed to support this by paying £270 for the print run and staff to guarantee delivery. In recognition of our support we will be offered generous advertisement in this issue free of charge. Ian W updated the PCC on the situation with respect to St Silas. He has been copied into an email relating to the YMCA selling the church and vicarage to a Somali group with a view to selling on the church to a property developer to develop into accommodation for young</p>	

	people. The vicarage is thought to be earmarked for development into a community facility, principally a Muslim prayer room.	
<b>21</b>	<b>The Church's responsibility to the people of Broomhill &amp; Broomhall</b>	
	<p>Mike H spoke to a paper regarding 'the Church's responsibility to the people of Broomhill &amp; Broomhall'. St Mark's runs or contributes to a number of outreach projects in Broomhill or Broomhall and he proposed holding a Saturday morning consultation when members of the PCC and congregation could review current provision in the light of the impact of the cuts on the community as well as other recent developments (like the Affirming Commitment event). This could be a joint event with CTBB or an occasion hosted by St Mark's to which our CTBB partners would be invited to participate. The PCC agreed to hold such an event in the Autumn – date to be agreed (possibly November).</p> <p>Mike H confirmed that the circulated document is a public document.</p>	<b>MH</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>Any other urgent business (taken with the approval of the PCC)</b>	
	<p>Sue H brought 2 requests from the Young People's groups for our approval: visits to the cinema to see the latest Harry Potter movie - Madcats on 19 July and M on 17 July. The PCC agreed for these trips to go ahead conditional upon the correct ratio of leaders to children/young people being fulfilled.</p> <p>Items to be carried forward to the July 21 meeting were: Report from for the Parish weekend planning group, Website planning group, Accessibility group and agreement of a date for the PCC Autumn away day.</p>	
<b>23</b>	<b>Date and time of the next meeting:</b>	
	Thursday 21 July 7.30pm	
	The meeting finished at 9.40 pm.	