

St Mark's Church, Broomhill

Minutes of the Parochial Church Council meeting held on 18 January 2012 (7.30 pm).

Present

Ian Wallis (Chair)	Mike Hunt	Pat Hunt	Judith Crawshaw
Tanya Ralph (Minutes)	Joe Forde	David Trickett until 20.30	Robin Saunders
Alistair Sutcliffe	Anne Padget	Catherine Trickett until 20.30	Simon Ennals from 19.45
Don Smith	James Dickson	David Ryder	Deni Ennals from 19.45
Gary Grief	Stuart Parker	Sue Hammersley	Shan Rush from 20.05

Apologies

Ian Maher	Prema Salt	David Price	
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Ian Wallis led the opening devotions.

		Action
75	Approval of the minutes of the PCC meeting 15 December 2011	
	The minutes of the meeting on 15 December 2011 were approved with no amendments.	
76	Matters arising from minutes of the PCC meeting 15 December 2011	
	66 - 58 - 49 - 40 - Under floor heating – It is still unclear when the floor slabs in the main aisle will be re-secured. In addition it is possible that we might be unable to obtain the required replacement heating elements and may need to consider other options.	RS
	66 - 58 - 51 - Photovoltaic Panels: The PV Panels were registered with Ofgem from 6 December 2011 and we are waiting the confirmation letter from Utility Warehouse.	
	67 - Civil Partnership ceremonies - Ian W has received news from Inclusive Church that around 100 CofE churches or ministers have so far indicated a willingness to conduct Civil Partnerships should the Church of England vote to take advantage of the changes in legislation currently being enacted. A draft motion for churches to consider regarding Civil Partnerships has been prepared by Inclusive Church and will be considered at the February PCC meeting.	IW
	72 - 2012 Broomhill Festival - Alistair S to report back to the February PCC regarding St Mark's contribution to the Festival.	AS
	73 - St Mark's CRC - Ian W drew the PCC's attention to the CRC library evening on 26 January 2012 when Janet Morley will discuss her book 'The Heart's time'.	
77	Correspondence	
	Ian W reported on news of members of the congregation: - Ian Maher will be ordained Deacon at Petertide this year and will then serve his Curacy at the Cathedral. The PCC noted that he and Ann would be missed as this will prevent them being regular attendees at St Mark's in the future. - Anne Padget will be licensed as a reader in Autumn 2012, possibly at St Mark's. - Shan Rush will be Priested this year. In addition there are 2 candidates from within the congregation going forward this year to Bishop's Advisory Panels for consideration for ordination.	
	Vicky Ofori-Dei has donated her retirement gift from the Northern General Hospital to St Mark's Church. The PCC asked Tanya R to write to thank her for this most generous gift.	TR
	Ian W also informed the meeting that St Mark's Church will be a beneficiary of the estate of the late Ann Tonge.	
	Ian W has received communication asking us to consider how we might wish to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in June this year. The Church of England is encouraging us to celebrate this by hosting a Big Jubilee lunch (on the Sunday) and/or to add our signature to the 'Big Thank-you' letter to Her Majesty. Sue H suggested that we look at what is happening elsewhere in the Parish and to revisit this in February. One suggestion	SH IW

	<p>was for us to hold a 'Jubilee' soup-run.</p> <p>The New Bishop of Doncaster, Peter Burrows, is to be ordained bishop at a special service in York Minster next month (2 February 11am) by the Archbishop of York.</p> <p>The New Archdeacon of Doncaster, Steve Wilcockson, will be welcomed to the Diocese by the Bishop of Sheffield, Dr Steven Croft, at a special service at Sheffield Cathedral on Wednesday 25 January (7.30pm).</p>	
78	Financial Update	
	<p>David R reported back on the Pledge responses. As of 10 days ago he had received 68 pledges (64 existing and 4 new), of these 29 are standstills, 31 are increases and 8 are decreases. Overall this represents, with tax recouped, an increase of £3,300 and still leaves a significant shortfall on the £9,500 target for additional income. Comparing this response with last year we had had a similar number of replies by this point but the pledged increase was of £7,300. However, it is likely that there are still more pledges to come because in 2011, 20 further responses were received between now and the end of February.</p> <p>In response to this disappointing return we need to continue to encourage pledge responses. Ian W and David R will be pastorally approaching members of the congregation who do not currently contribute by writing to them with suggested levels of giving.</p> <p>David R feels we also need to communicate effectively that as a Church we are budgeting responsibly. It should be understood that we need the extra pledges not because costs have gone up but rather that given income has dropped. For example, the new appointments of the Organist and Director of Music together cost no more than our previous Music Director.</p> <p>David R commented that in addition to encouraging more pledges of income, we may need to look for further cost savings in order to balance the budget. This will be difficult as most of our costs are fixed such as salaries, donations, building costs and the parish share. Savings will be looked for in various expenditure costs, the most obvious being our cleaning. However, if these are not sufficient to compensate for the reduced income, David suggested that the only other way to reduce costs will be to cut the level of salaries, donations or even to reduce our Parish Share payments. These actions hopefully will not be required but our financial situation will need to be monitored closely over the next few months.</p> <p>David R will be preparing the accounts for last year in order to accurately calculate the deficit/surplus from 2011 to ascertain what balance, if any, will be available to carry into 2012. In the meantime he also will be reviewing our 2012 budget taking into account the likely possibility that the level of increased pledges will be significantly below the £9,500 increased income target. He will also prepare a monthly cash flow forecast and report back to the February PCC meeting with a current financial update.</p> <p>PV panels – David R reported that the PV panel scheme is likely to cost around £32,000 which is less than originally budgeted and appealed for. Consequently, it is possible that that we will have a surplus of £8,000 once the Gift Aided tax is claimed. The PCC agreed to his proposal that we write to all donors to ask for their consent to place the surplus funds into the Designated Fund Fabric Reserve towards funding future repairs and maintenance costs but also to allow us to transfer it into the General Fund if future circumstances require it.</p> <p>Ian W reminded the PCC that this year we do need to balance the books. It was agreed that this item should remain on the PCC agenda as a standing item.</p>	<p>IW DR</p> <p>DR</p> <p>DR</p> <p>IW</p>
79	Church Cleaning – proposal.	
	<p>Mike H brought a proposal to the PCC to review the church cleaning, currently contracted to 'Jeeves Cleaning Services Ltd', with a view to both reducing costs and, if possible, improving on the current level of provision.</p> <p>Mike H suggested that we advertise within the congregation for a person (job share considered) to take responsibility for church cleaning (12 hours a week). Hopefully, this would help someone facing challenging financial circumstances whilst allowing the Church to make a potential saving of £2000 per annum. It was noted that whoever is appointed will need to be effectively line-managed. It was also noted that Broomhill Methodist Church may be able to offer 7 hours cleaning which could be undertaken by the same person/people.</p>	

83	Any other urgent business (taken with the approval of the PCC)	
	None.	
	Date and time of the next meeting:	
	Monday 13 February 2012 at 7.30 pm	
	The meeting finished at 21.50.	