



The Parish of Iver

The churches of St Peter and St Leonard

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 22nd July 2008 at 7.45 p.m. at St Peter's Centre

Present	Rev Tim Eady (presiding) Fliss Akehurst Jim Dashper Joe Gibbs Pete Gibbs Rev Brian Griffiths	Jackie Griffiths Maureen James Roy Johnston Mike Kennedy Angela Lindstrom John Norfolk	Peter Owen Gerry Paine Darren Quinnell Leslie Rimell Paul Walker Rev Kate Wilson
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		<u>ACTION</u>
1	OPENING PRAYER The meeting was preceded by 15 minutes of prayer lead by Rev Tim Eady as part of the Day of Prayer and Fasting	
2	APOLOGIES Apologies for Absence were received from Glenda Collins, Wendy Jenner and Lesley Willoughby.	
3	MINUTES The minutes of the meeting held on the 24 June 2008 were received, approved and adopted and signed by Tim as a true record	
4	MATTERS ARISING	
4.1	4(a) Dates of Future Meetings The majority of PCC members had indicated that Tuesday is their preferred night for meetings of the PCC. It was agreed that meetings of the PCC shall continue to be held on Tuesday evenings and that Leslie Rimell be kept on board so that he can continue to make a contribution to proceedings.	
4.2	4(b) Treasurer Tim reported and it was noted that there had been no further progress on the appointment of a Treasurer.	
4.3	4(c) Temporary Removal of Front Pews The Archdeacon has been to look at the church following her suggestion that an application be submitted for a temporary licence for the removal of one pew and some furniture to make room for prayer ministry. John Norfolk reported that the previous Archdeacon was not in favour of a piecemeal approach to the removal of pews. There was a discussion on the merits of relocating the prayer ministry and making better use of the Heritage corner. However, the consensus of opinion was that it would be sensible to wait until plans for reordering the church are clarified. It was proposed by Fliss Akehurst, seconded by Peter Owen and agreed that no further action be taken in this matter until such time as a coherent plan is presented of what is needed to enhance our worship; that the opportunity be taken for the matter to be considered in more detail at a	

staff meeting and that a paper setting out a series of options incorporating the views of the laity, be presented to a future meeting of the PCC.

Staff meeting

4.4

Arising from the foregoing, Tim confirmed that he had responded on behalf of the PCC to those letters of objection previously submitted. John Norfolk expressed his disappointment that certain parishioners had written direct to the Archdeacon and had not communicated with him in his capacity as Churchwarden or the PCC. He felt that the PCC had been under suspicion as a result of the actions taken and did not wish to be associated with any replies to letters sent direct to the Archdeacon and copied to the PCC. Since the application for a temporary licence for the removal of additional pews had been made at the Archdeacon's suggestion, it was necessary to respond to those members of the congregation who had expressed their disapproval so that any divisions in the church could be healed. It was **agreed that Tim would reply to those letters addressed to the PCC in the terms expressed at the meeting.**

TE

4.5

4(d) Proposals For Sunday Morning Worship

Tim summarised the views expressed by the congregation at the Church meeting held on 13 July following morning worship. While there were some valid concerns raised, the majority view was that it was worth implementing the three-service format for a trial period of six months. Darren Quinell felt that the meeting had been open and honest and that we should maintain the status quo following the reservations expressed that a change could harm the "family of the church" and its fellowship. He proposed keeping services the same while providing an opportunity for periodic church meetings to discuss matters in an open way. He felt that members wouldn't know which service they would best fit into.

Roy Johnston endorsed Darren's concerns but reassured him that this would be for a trial period. Angela Lindstrom also supported Darren's views adding that we should keep the 10am service until such time as it is so full that we need to reflect on an additional service. Pete Gibbs echoed Darren's reservations but believed we need to try things and perhaps switch back to a two-service format if after a short term the new proposals don't work out. He thought a six-month trial was too long. Fliss Akehurst also expressed reservations about lack of resources, insufficient leadership and the need to make use of St Leonard's members to fill the slots. Many people enjoy the 10am service; the drive for change is from those who are unhappy with children disrupting the service or too many praise songs.

Following a lively discussion, it was proposed by Kate Wilson, seconded by Joe Gibbs and **carried by 13 votes to 1**

that a three service format at 8am, 9.15am and 11am be supported for a trial period of six months commencing on 12 October, the position to be reviewed by the PCC every month and after further consultation with the congregation at the end of 2 months.

PCC

5

CORRESPONDENCE

Nothing to report.

6

FABRIC COMMITTEE REPORT

The Fabric Committee had not met since the last PCC meeting.

7

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

7.1

Maureen James reported that the finances are in the black. - No invoices have been sent to advertisers in the Parish Magazine. Jan will be sending these out because Glenda is so busy. The Finance Committee's recommendation that the Core's insurance should be taken over by the PCC was **agreed**. The Tower work is continuing. There is a short-term cash flow problem. £20,000 has been released towards the Parish Share but no more will be paid over until the tower work is finished. This is because the grants will not be received until the expenditure is incurred. The Deposit Account and Restricted Fund are now in the right place; have been sorted out and reorganised thanks to Rob Penn. In the interests of transparency, a separate Bell Fund has been established. We all need to be thrifty as gas and electricity bills have gone up while income is reducing; we need to generate more direct debit giving as we are currently several hundred pounds per month down. The PCC **agreed** that income from the August Tower Tours should be paid into church funds.

JR

7.2

Tim Eady circulated a proposal to hold a Christmas Tree Festival between 11 and 14 December at St Peter's Church. Individuals, clubs and companies would be encouraged to decorate a tree in their own style. Income would be generated from people coming to see the festival. Enquires to Jan. It was **agreed** that arrangements for The Iver Christmas Tree Festival be approved.

8

YOUTH WORK

Nothing to report on finance. An outreach BBQ attracted 40 young people with Andy Frost as guest speaker. Between 4-6 young people are up for confirmation in December while 6 young people will be going to Soul Survivor next year.

9

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN THE IVERS

Tim reported that while there had been no offers to organise a float in the procession, there would be a church presence as CTTI will be holding a Prayer Tent at the Iver Carnival throughout the afternoon on 13 September offering a facility for prayer.

10

EMPOWERING LEADERSHIP

Tim quoted from the Acts of the Apostles and made reference to St Barnabas who believed in the power of the gospel message to change people's hearts and encouraged others to get involved. At a recent staff meeting attended by Andrew Gear, the Parish Development Adviser, the importance of teamwork and seeking out our next generation of leaders was emphasised. An approach to more sharing of leadership; loving the leaders; affirming and encouraging was advocated. We need to ask how do we make Jesus known to the people of Iver and find out what God is doing and join in.

11

STAFF MEETING

11.1

Tim reported that both Karen Hall and Brian Griffiths plan to step down from their respective roles in children's work. Rev. Tony Williams has no desire to go back to leadership at St Leonard's but wants to help out at St Andrews and St Leonard's. Tony, Kate and Brian are now designated by the title 'Associate Minister', and continue to serve the parish in a variety of ways.

11.2	Jim Dashper will continue in the role of Lay Minister.	TE & BG
12	<p>Brian reported that someone has donated £600 towards the appointment of a Children's and Family worker. This appointment would carry a salary of £6,500 for a 16-hour week. £4,000 of new money has been pledged per annum towards this post. It was proposed by Fliss Akehurst, seconded by Jim Dashper and unanimously agreed that a Children's and Family worker be appointed and that Brain and Tim prepare a job description, the position to be advertised within the Parish and beyond including the New Wine Website, and that Brain, Kate, Tim and Paul Walker be appointed to serve on the interview panel.</p> <p>DAY OF PRAYER Tim expressed thanks to Kate for preparing the various Prayer stations at St Peter's centre for the day of prayer.</p> <p><i>Rev Kate Wilson left the meeting at 9.25pm</i></p>	BG, KW, TE & PW
13	<p>OBSERVERS AT PCC MEETINGS In response to a question from a parishioner, it was recognised that observers are entitled to attend meetings of the PCC. John encouraged those parishioners who wish to observe to come and serve. The PCC welcomes people to come forward and offer themselves for co-option. We have two vacancies to serve on the Deanery Synod.</p>	All
14	<p>VICAR'S REPORT Tim had nothing further to report</p>	All
15	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS The next scheduled Reviver celebration service takes place on 18 September, commencing at 7.45 for prayer, the service would begin at 8pm.</p>	All
16	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING Tuesday 23 September Note this has now been brought forward one week to 16 September.</p>	TE
17	<p>OTHER DIARY DATES 19 September - Cornerstone Auction at the Village Hall 22 November - Lacey Theatre Company , The Liberator at the Village Hall</p>	All
18	<p>CLOSE OF MEETING Rev Tim Eady closed the meeting with prayer at 9.40 p.m.</p>	All
	Chairman	