



# The Parish of Iver

The churches of St Peter and St Leonard

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## PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2009 at 7.45 p.m. at St Peter's Centre

<b>Present</b>	Rev Tim Eady (presiding) Fliss Akehurst Pauline Telfer Rev Kate Wilson Joe Gibbs Paul Walker	Jackie Griffiths Maureen James Chris Dalwood Tina Lewis Wendy Jenner Rev George Howard Lesley Willoughby	Angela Lindström John Norfolk Nicky Foggoa Peter Owen Gerald Paine Rev Brian Griffiths
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		<u><b>ACTION</b></u>
1	<b>OPENING PRAYER</b> <i>Tim opened the meeting with readings with a harvest theme – display and offer the fruit God has given us. This was followed by a prayer.</i>	
2	<b>APOLOGIES</b> Apologies for absence were received from Steve Baynes, Jim Dashper, Leslie Rimell and Clare Gordge. Tim distributed 'Living Faith' leaflets and small invitation cards.	
3	<b>MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING</b> The minutes of the meeting held on 14 <sup>th</sup> July 2009 were received and approved with the following amendments: No. 7 should read £12000/£14000. No. 12 mission should read 'Go out and serve'	
4	<b>MATTERS ARISING</b> Tim gave us an update on Swine Flu. He has received further guidance from the diocese giving churches permission to do as they feel best. The PCC agreed that we should continue with the process of intinction for the time being and review at each PCC meeting. All agreed. Paul Walker arrived at 8.05pm. The prayer day at Cornerstone was discussed. Jackie felt that it would be very complicated to do this and we decided to run a prayer day at St Leonard's on 10 <sup>th</sup> October whilst churchyard day is happening. All agreed.	
5	<b>CORRESPONDENCE</b> None	
6	<b>FINANCE REPORT</b> There was no finance meeting in September.	

Karen Hall, our Treasurer, will attend every second meeting. Karen will receive minutes from each meeting.

Karen is still sorting out the signatories with the bank. This is causing some problems.

Iver PCC currently has £40,000 in the bank account and is hoping to pay some parish share and mission giving.

The loose change boxes are slowly coming in. They hold approximately £10 per box although the highest so far is £34. People are taking extra boxes and completing the side for gift aid. Gerald stressed that we need to ask people to complete the gift aid sections clearly on orange envelopes and boxes to ensure that we can claim it. It was asked that this be announced at Weddings and Baptisms. Paul Walker asked if we had a figure for fundraising. Tower tours raised approximately £800 and the bike ride is set to raise over £1000.

## **7 FABRIC REPORT**

The Fabric committee met on 8<sup>th</sup> September, report attached.

The in fills on the castellations of the tower were most appreciated.

Thanks to Mike, Gerald and Jim for making and installing these.

Tracey Goddard has given notice and will retire as bookings secretary for St Leonard's Hall. Graeme and Wendy Jenner have kindly agreed to take over. A letter of thanks will be sent to Tracey from the PCC.

John Norfolk arrived at 8.20pm.

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## **8 YOUTH WORK REPORT**

Report attached.

Clare has now set up her support group. The group will be Tina Lewis, Debbie Orr and Kate Wilson.

At present there is no waiting list for the youth clubs.

Brian reported that Nick and Louise Jones are now heading the Football Club. The football service went really well and they are in line to have approx. 160 children as per last year.

Brian has made some good contacts with parents already.

Football Fantasia is planned for 29<sup>th</sup> November.

## **9 CHILDRENS' AND FAMILIES WORKER REPORT**

Please see attached.

The PCC is concerned that Joe is stretching herself too thinly.

Paul thought that we should concentrate on the areas that we are already doing successfully for the time being.

This was a 1 year appointment and therefore it needs to be agreed as to the position continuing. The job is covered by funding and donations and we need to address Joe's objectives for the year ahead. It was agreed that Joe is doing an outstanding job and we need to support her as much as possible.

Joe entered the meeting at 8.30pm.

It was suggested that Joe's original interview panel – Tim, Maureen, Brian and Sarah could get together with Joe and discuss objectives for the next year.

Joe stressed that the salary is not an issue but that financial funding of the work needs to be reviewed. We need to discuss what we can afford as a church and whether we should work more closely with

J.R.

outside agencies i.e. schools, children's centre.  
Tim will discuss a review with Joe at the next staff meeting.

J.R.

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### **SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY**

Tim produced a sheet (attached) which covered questions on how we can better serve our community.  
How do we empower our church members to go and take their faith out into our community?  
A discussion followed on various topics.

- Halloween – how do we articulate our views to others without looking prudish. Joe has a Messy Church event for All Saints. She will try to tackle the point of Halloween within this event. It was agreed that alternative Halloween parties were not successful.
- How do we cope with issues such as swine flu? What can we do that is relevant to the community.
- Kate raised a new concept: This Time Tomorrow. This is a hotspot in church which seeks to bring the relevance of everyday life into church. John Norfolk discussed what he would be doing at work on Monday. Kate has an article on TTT and Jan will distribute for the PCC to read.
- How can we touch base with schools, doctor's surgeries, shops etc. and ask them if they would like prayer. A leaflet could be produced. Fliss suggested a prayer for the month. Joe agreed that this could be put on Facebook.
- Could we raise issues within our everyday lives and bring them to church during hotspots ie teachers, business people.
- John suggested blessing families and Birthdays and anniversaries during church services.
- It was proposed that an advert be put in the parish magazine – can we pray for you? Jan to action.
- Brian suggested sermons relating to current issues and topics.
- Maureen suggested addressing the issue of serving – people's daily issues, elderly people i.e. shopping for them if the bus is terminated. There are a large number of elderly, needy people in our community. Jackie has a list of needy elderly people who need help with shopping. Kate stressed that this would need co-ordination. A request on the pewslip was suggested to ask for a co-ordinator.

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It was decided that we would review at the next meeting.

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### **BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY**

Joe asked Brian to give out invitations at Saturday football.

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### **VICAR'S REPORT**

Tim has planned a prayer evening at St Peter's Centre on 11 October 7-8pm. This is to offer people the chance to drop in for prayer.  
Advertise in the parish magazine.  
Evening Prayer will be held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month. Compline on other Sundays. If there is a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday, there will be a Communion Service.

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**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Paul Walker raised the issue of the piano at St Leonard's Hall which needs retuning and repairing. He feels we should not pay for it as we do not use it. Peter Owen will find out the cost and suggested this should be split between Richings Choral Society, Richings Park Playgroup and Richings Players.

Angela Lindström raised an issue brought to her regarding the leadership team wearing robes. Tony Williams was robed at St Leonard's and robes were worn for baptisms at 11am. Tim stated that normal policy was not to wear robes at 11am but for baptisms it may be appropriate to wear them. Tim also stated that he wears robes at 9.15am Communion Service but that this is his choice and the staff team is free to decide. Maureen said that it was a responsibility of the PCC to agree on whether robes are worn or not. Older members of the congregation feel that the dress code is important. George quoted church law regarding the wearing of robes. Kate suggested that we ask baptism families whether they prefer robes to be worn. Kate normally wears robes for non-church families. The conclusion was that robes would not be worn at 11am and the leadership team chose for other services.

Paul raised a point regarding the content of the service when there is a baptism at 11am and how it affects the order of the service. Tim apologised for the baptism scheduled in the communion service during August and stressed that this was an oversight and would be avoided in future.

Peter Owen raised the subject of the organ at St Leonard's. This has been 'condemned' by the diocesan organ adviser, but Peter would like to see this in writing stating that the organ cannot be repaired. The DAC state that it is of no value. Paul thinks it should be disconnected to make it safe. Peter will raise this at the next Fabric meeting.

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**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be on 20<sup>th</sup> October at 7.45pm St Peter's Centre. The meeting closed at 10.15pm with the Grace.