



# *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 24<sup>th</sup> November 2009 at 7.45 p.m. at St Peter's Centre

<b>Present</b>	Rev Tim Eady (presiding) George Howard Brian Griffiths Steve Baynes Paul Walker	Fliss Akehurst Chris Dalwood Jackie Griffiths Wendy Jenner Tina Lewis Angela Lindstrom John Norfolk	Sarah Smith Pauline Telfer Nicki Foggoa Maureen James Peter Owen Janice Rowsell Joe Gibbs
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<b>1</b>	<b>OPENING PRAYER</b> <i>Tim opened the meeting with prayer.</i>	<b><u>ACTION</u></b>
<b>2</b>	<b>APOLOGIES</b> Apologies for absence were received from Jim Dashper, Clare Gordge, Gerald Payne, Leslie Rimell, Joe Gibbs, Kate Wilson, Lesley Willoughby.	
<b>3</b>	<b>MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING</b> The minutes of the meeting held on 20 <sup>th</sup> October 2009 were received and approved with one amendment: John Norfolk did not attend the last meeting.	
<b>4</b>	<b>MATTERS ARISING</b> New Year Prayer Day on 16 <sup>th</sup> January. Mission Committee to co-ordinate this day. Tim asked Fliss if she was in agreement. Fliss agreed. Deanery Questionnaire – Tim asked everyone to complete to the best of their ability and return by 30 <sup>th</sup> November. Church Wardens to compile the responses. Karen will be doing a hotspot at all services this Sunday (29 <sup>th</sup> ). St Peter's Centre Oven – a new oven and freezer will be delivered on Wednesday and installed. Thank you to the anonymous donor who provided these items. Christmas Tree Festival – the stewards rota is filling up well but we still need some extra help with the catering. If you can help see Kate.	
<b>10</b>	<b>Vicar's Report – Living Faith for Iver</b> Tim provided a presentation and stressed that it is God's Church and not ours. Our job as a PCC is to be a collaborative, vibrant leadership. See attached presentation.	

Joe entered the room at 8.25pm.

## **5 CORRESPONDENCE**

Tim read out a letter from the Archdeacon regarding the list of chalice assistants. Maureen has an up to date list and it was agreed that Peter Owen would be added, Mike Grimshaw will be removed, as will Roy and Margaret Johnson and Darren Quinnell. (List attached).

Tim reported on the IET trustees meeting. IET is still employing Sally and a new operating procedure has been agreed. Kate has decided to stand down as IET Director at the end of the year (2009). She will take up the vacant trustee's position and continue to mentor Sally. Jan will take over the IET accounts.

## **6 FINANCE REPORT**

Karen has produced budget sheets for 2010. Potentially we will make a loss of £30,000 this year and therefore will be unable to pay our parish share in full. Karen has a responsibility to present a budget that will not run at a loss. The finance committee has looked at all areas and considered how to cover the £30,000 loss.

To meet our existing level of expenditure, we would need to increase our income by 33%. This is not feasible so areas within the budget need to be looked at and revised. The budget is only a proposal at this stage.

One area is Youth Work. Gap and Synergy numbers have fallen over the last term, and income has dropped. Even if maximum numbers were attending the subs would still not cover all the youth work costs. Peter asked if it was viable in the long term to continue to employ a full time youth worker.

Tim voiced that he had received an email from Clare stating that she intends to resign from her position as youth worker for the parish in the first part of next year.

Peter feels that it would be advantageous for Clare if rather than resigning, she could state on her CV that she had to leave due to financial pressures. We should make it as easy as possible for Clare to show that the Church could not afford to keep her position and therefore we had to let her go.

Paul felt that the church needs to be aware that we cannot afford a youth worker.

Joe also added that it did not seem feasible to keep a C&F worker and not a youth worker. The church needs to be fully aware that the C&F worker is a part time fully funded position. Could we have a part time youth worker?

Brian stated that we should have a full time youth worker to grow the youth within the church.

Maureen suggested that we should continue for a short term period with volunteers running the youth groups. George and Helen James are both willing to volunteer with the Friday groups.

The legal aspects of redundancy were discussed.

The PCC all agreed that we need to ascertain Clare's reasons for her

resignation and that the matter required further discussion with her. Peter suggested that the youth work support group could discuss the way forward with Clare.

Karen stated that the budget is fully supportive of a youth worker and finances have been directed from mission giving to the youth budget. The PCC would be fully supportive of fundraising for youth work. Pending Clare's final decision, Karen will amend the budget accordingly, and bring it to our next meeting. It will also be necessary to discuss with those who donate to youth work currently whether they are willing to continue to offer support.

There was further discussion on the short fall of £30,000. We need to consider what happens with St Peter's Centre. Maureen felt we need to create as much income as possible and do the best we can in the near future.

Paul suggested moving all hall usage to one building and selling the other building.

St Leonard's has a good profit due to the pre-school and regular bookings.

St Peter's Centre always has a parking issue. We do have permission to use The Straight for parking. Alan Oxley has looked into this for us and as long as we do not change the surface it can be used. The Fabric committee will discuss. If we opened The Straight it would make the Centre more attractive to hirers.

Brian maintained that as the SPC is used for all children's work on a Sunday, that this should be taken into account within the budget and be shown as a benefit of maintaining the Centre.

Church building work will be minimal next year

John asked if we are to assume that we will keep all our assets. Karen replied that there is not much to dispose of. All our assets are restricted and selling shares at this time will not help. Paul felt we need to downsize our sites if we cannot continue to support both Churches and halls.

Karen said that we need to fundraise and Paul suggested selling the pews from St Peter's and St Peter's Centre.

Karen proposed that we develop a long term funding strategy. She has put six dates in the diary for film nights to fundraise in 2010.

Fliiss suggested that we need to look at other areas of fundraising on a bigger scale i.e.

along the lines of apple day for St Margaret's.

Peter asked if we could make it an item for PCC discussion in January or February and suggested we hold an extraordinary meeting.

After much discussion about assets, Paul asked that suggestions are emailed to Jan before the next PCC meeting (8<sup>th</sup> December) on the way forward.

John encouraged all members to think about 'what am I going to do next year' and come to the meeting with ideas and plans.

Paul wanted to involve all church members and Karen suggested a questionnaire for all members to complete. We confirmed that we will have a 'Parable of the Talents' scheme between January and March, giving every member of the congregation £10 on January 10<sup>th</sup>, and

asking them to bring back their 'profit' on Easter Sunday. A sale, to enable members to sell their work will be held on March 6<sup>th</sup>. An Auction of Promises will be held in the autumn of 2010.

The proposal for new marriage and funeral fees was proposed and agreed.

Rates for St Peter's Centre and St Leonard's Hall were briefly discussed by Wendy and Karen asked that these be further discussed at the next finance meeting.

Wendy proposed £10 per hour rate for a session to a maximum of £10 and also asked for a rate for the Vestry at St Leonard's. This will be discussed and brought to the next meeting.

St Leonard's House rent will be renegotiated for December 2010 and one year's notice is required to be given to the tenants by 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2009.

**7 FABRIC REPORT**

Peter read out the Fabric report – see previous sheet.

**8 YOUTH WORK REPORT**

See previous report. Paul requested that we are given monthly figures of children attending the clubs.

**9 CHILDRENS' AND FAMILIES WORKER REPORT**

See previous report. It was requested that this item was moved up the agenda to be discussed in depth the future of children's work as volunteers have become a large issue.

**10 VICAR'S REPORT**

See above.

**11 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Steve reported that Alpha has been a great success and wanted to thank all involved in all areas – catering, speaking, welcoming and any other task. A new home group will be started out of this group. Tim thanked Steve and John for running a really successful Alpha.

Jackie has 4 tables at the 'light's on' ceremony in Iver Village this Saturday 28<sup>th</sup>.

115 shoe boxes were made at the Operation Christmas Child event last Sunday. 50 people came and had lunch and filled shoe boxes.

**12 Date of Next Meeting**

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December 7.45pm.