

## St Marks Church

### Notes of Leadership Team Meeting held on 11 May, 2009

**Present:** D. Shepherd, J. Banks, A. Williams, M. Ovenden, M Stewart, L, Farthing, C. Royden, S. Cappleman

**Apologies:** I. Farthing

#### 1. Notes of last meeting accepted as a true record

#### 2. Matters Arising

DS took part in interviews for Clubhouse and new appointment has now started.

Kempston Musical Society concert was a great success – goof fundraising event

#### 3. Finance

All accounts operating on target with exception of pre-school where we are clawing back deficit from Sept/Dec

All invoices received to date have been paid

Accounts have been independently examined by Andrew Upton. Andrew willing to do this again next year without charge. IF has written to thank Andrew and included a small gift. Leadership team agreed they would be happy for Andrew to examine accounts again.

Gift Aid – tax claim submitted for £3715.66. Leadership Team thanked Jim for his work in relation to gift aid.

CR reported that the issue with Clubhouse and Social Services had nearly been resolved

Agreed to purchase a sage accounting / payroll package to assist the treasurer with his role

#### 4. Issues from Committees

Church Council / Partnership Council – main focus of recent meetings have been on appointment. Next meeting 22<sup>nd</sup> June

Users Forum – next meeting 12<sup>th</sup> May

Deanery – next meeting is joint with Circuit on 18<sup>th</sup> June at Christchurch. Deanery boundaries to change. Elstow deanery will no longer exist and our deanery will get bigger.

Circuit – The team welcomed Jane's appointment. Still waiting on confirmation from warden of Diaconal order before making an announcement.

Asked to revisit profile as some aspects are not relevant as Jane is a deacon and not a minister. Likely to move into manse mid to late August and appointment officially starts 1<sup>st</sup> September. Welcome Service is being planned – preferred dates – 23<sup>rd</sup> August or 6<sup>th</sup> September.

Ongoing work to clarify arrangements for the 3 circuits

A meeting has been arranged to review 'Friends for Life' and re-focus the scheme. Agreed to have rotating Chairpersons for next 12 months. New members have joined the management group. Have enough money to continue until the Autumn and possibly to next Spring

Martin, the superintendent, now on three month sabbatical

Churchyard Committee – have offered funding to tidy up the bottom of the car park near the flag poles. Team were pleased to accept this offer.

## **5. Church and Church Groups**

Worship Issues – still trying out new hymns

Junior Church – JB concerned about the lack of children in church on Sunday mornings. Leadership Team briefed JB on efforts that had been made in the past to try and address this. Agreed that JB would speak to key people and gauge interest from Story Box mum and report back at next meeting.

Pre- school – open day coming up. Numbers have picked up since September / December

## **6. Social Events**

Agreed not to hold French themed evening in June as discussed at previous meeting and plan an event for the Autumn. Proposed date is 3<sup>rd</sup> October – agreed to ask Mike to organise another quiz evening and set up a working group to plan event

## **7. Special Services**

Harvest Service on 4<sup>th</sup> October. Agreed to distribute a newsletter around the parish. Ministers to come up with a theme. Agreed not to get involved in 'Back to Church Sunday'. DS to invite guides / brownies to harvest service.

Commemoration Service – arrangements are being made for service to take place on afternoon of Remembrance Sunday

## **8. Christian Aid**

5 people have volunteered to distribute envelopes. Discussion about whether we should do more to encourage people to deliver / collect envelopes. It was noted that there are an increasing number of occasions where people are asked to make donations to charities. JB agreed to gauge the views of a few people and report back.

**9. Items from Ministers**

Reminder of Woodland Burial Open Day – 27 June

Cut your Carbon bid turned down but CR to submit a revised bid to Eon. Also plans to submit bid to Wren for new entrance doors and solar heating.

CR reported a national decline in church funerals due to increase in civil funeral services

**10 Date of Next Meeting**

14<sup>th</sup> September at 56 Hamble Road. LF agreed to do minutes.

Morag Stewart  
1 June 2009