

PARISH OF HEADLEY WITH BOX HILL

PCC MEETING MONDAY 6 SEPTEMBER 2010

THE OLD SCHOOL, HEADLEY

Present:

Revd Linda Harknett – Rector	Ann Banks
Revd Andy Jacobson – Honorary Assistant Curate	Will Burgoyne
George Nixon – Churchwarden	Eric Cruickshank
Jan Curtis – Churchwarden	Charlie Holme
Jane Pickard- Deputy Churchwarden	Margaret Manly
Pat Kitley – PCC Secretary	Celia Toms

The meeting opened with a prayer.

- 1 **Apologies for absence:** Geoffrey Clowser, Joan Stocker
- 2 **Minutes of the meeting held on 15 June, 2010**

The minutes were agreed and signed by the Rector.

3 Matters arising

The crèche: there are delays in finding the right location.

Any URGENT business

a) The field: George has received the first stage report from the Archaeological Service at Woking. The indications are that trial trenching needs to be dug in the field at a cost of between £3,000 - £6,000.

b) Treasurer's Report: George distributed a sheet of numbers based on the Treasurer's Report. Both reports are appended. The spire fund stood at £6,682 at end of August.

c) Honorary Assistant Curate: Andy is returning to full time work and has also been appointed Chaplain to a new TA Unit. It is with regret that he will have to revert to only taking a service on the third Sunday of the month in our parish. Ann expressed appreciation for the Ministry he has developed at St Andrew's on the fourth Sunday each month. The members of the PCC congratulate him on his appointment and wish him well.

d) Services: Matins has been changed from 31 October (the fifth Sunday) to 7 November. St Andrew's will be closed on 19 September for the Battle of Britain Sunday Service at St Mary's. These changes need to be communicated to the congregation. (**Action: George, Jan and Margaret**)

e) Sabbatical: Linda confirmed her plans to take a month's sabbatical after Christmas in 2011.

Awayday

Andy led this section of the meeting. He felt the PCC Awayday on Wednesday 7 July 2010 was very constructive and he reviewed the 'fresh expressions' of church that had been identified as possible projects for development in our parish.

a) Cell Groups: are very supportive for new Christians or returners to church. It is more relaxing to meet in someone's home and topics that are difficult to deal with during regular services can be discussed. We already have lent courses in place and Jan is looking into a venue and structure to expand this into a home group. **(Action: Jan)**

b) Rural Youth Networks: There is a strong possibility that a computer games club for young people in the village during the winter months could be set up as an extension to the existing Computer Club. George is looking into the possibility of the Computer Club re-designing the St Mary's website and Margaret said she had some useful contacts to help with this. **(Action: George)**

c) CafeChurch: this is a concept that has many attractions for us. At present it would be easier to set up at St Andrew's, especially with the proposed kitchen extension, although the Village Hall in Headley has a kitchen and is also a possible location. Opening times would need to revolve around a common activity, such as collecting the weekend papers, and the ethos would develop with customers' interests. A short, non-threatening 'thought for the day' could involve music, readings, poetry, video clips and reflection on news items rather than traditional sermons. Setting this up would be a huge undertaking and it would be sensible to visit existing ones before we make such a commitment. It was suggested that Epsom Methodist church might be worth a visit. **(Action: Linda, Ann and Glenys to look into the possibility of a cafe church at Box Hill)**

d) Sacramental tradition: the sharing of meals is very important – and something we already do well.

e) Horse riders and cyclists are another mission possibility in the parish.

f) Parish questionnaires: the relevant section that identified people who said they would consider rejoining a church from the Parish Survey (2009) was circulated prior to the meeting and is appended.

g) Key issues: during the meeting it was clear that we have the skills and resources to expand our regular congregation in a variety of new ways. The 150th Anniversary Celebrations have created a strong platform within the villages and wider community on which we can build. The following is a summary of points raised by various members of the PCC:

- We need a clear focus for next year.
- We must plan how fresh expressions would link into existing services so as not to alienate our existing congregation.
- Activities do not have to take place on Sunday: they can be targeted at different times to different age groups and audiences.
- The Computer Games project could be used to 'trial' planning and preparation for other activities

- We could build on secular interest in Christian festivals such as Easter, All Souls Evening and Christmas with workshops for families to come and make decorations. *(NB: since our meeting SGSG/Ashtead has advertised an All Souls Evening event at St George's for children in Y3-6 from 5.30 to 8pm on 31 October. Pat)*
- John Willis plans to extend the Headley Debate and run a competition for local schools.
- Publicity needs a lot of thought because you cannot rely on people reading notices or the magazine. Even the personal approach does not bring a reply. Only half of the invited guests for the Patronal Weekend of Celebration replied to their personal invitation.

Action: the concept of fresh expressions of worship was agreed in principle, but events need to be built up carefully. The following have been identified for further development:

- Cafe church at St Andrew's: Linda, Ann and Glenys
- Computer Club: George
- Home groups: Jan
- Craft workshop for Easter, 24 April 2011: Pat

5 Any other business

- a) Charlie asked whether or not the local press had been invited to the Patronal Weekend of Celebration. Margaret said she would be sending the Leatherhead Advertiser material for publication, but there was no guarantee it would be included. **(Action: Margaret)**
- b) Eric proposed that the starting time for services at St Mary's returns to 10.30am because one of the organists has to come from another church. This was agreed and will start from Remembrance Sunday on 14 November. Baptismal families will need to be informed. **(Action: Linda)**
- c) Over 117 tickets have been sold for the Celebration concert.

6 Dates of the next meetings

Standing Committee: Tuesday 5 October 8pm The Rectory

PCC Meeting: Tuesday 9 November 7.30pm at St Mary's/ 8.00pm The Old School

The meeting ended at 9.48pm with the Grace.