BURY PARISH CHURCH

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PCC HELD ON THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 29TH IN THE ASHTON ROOM**

**Present:** The Rector in the Chair

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| Rev Rhiannon | Eric Duckworth | Harold Smith | Owen Thomas |  |
| John Ankers | Preston Hulse | Keith Smith |  |  |
| Graeme Bigg | Tracy Owen  | Pat Uden |  |  |
| Mark Brody | Kath Pollard | Amy Webber  |  |  |
| Derek Calrow | Nigel Rushworth | Pat Webber |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

**Apologies were received from:**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Hilary Ankers | Diana Hampson | Keith Sedman | Lawrence Yarwood |  |
| Ken Bowden | David Hartley | Pat Sedman |  |  |
| Steve Clark | Chris Hughes | Susan Sugden |  |  |

 **The Rector opened the meeting** with prayers.

In the absence of the Secretary the minutes were taken by John Ankers.

**The minutes of the meeting** held on August th had been previously circulated and were accepted as a true record

**Matters arising:** none

**Correspondence:** a letter re the Annual Income Survey has been received

**Treasurer’s report:** Nigel reported that we are only one month on from the figures reported at the previous PCC meeting. The only real change is in the Major Repairs and Expenses column. This is due to temporary repairs to the church roof. The new chairs for Church House have arrived and cost £6,000. A planned deficit of £5560 is shown.

In answer to a question from D C Nigel told the meeting that the Christmas stock would arrive in early October and stated that all Christmas card stock was sold last year.

Ordinary sales in the shop are pretty static which is encouraging as there was no Flower Festival to boost footfall. Drinks, cards and gifts have increased and books are down 25% ( Amazon / Kindles etc.?).

The management Committee are looking again at ways to increase footfall.

**Committee reports**

 **Finance** Pat reported that there had been no meeting since the last PCC when a verbal report had been given. This year’s Parish Share is £113,903 .

**Social** report attached

**Fabric** the committee has met but as yet there are no minutes available as Diana has been somewhat incapacitated

At this point in the meeting the Rector told everyone that he has extremely reluctantly decided that he is to retire at the end of the year. He said it was not what he would have chosen as he would have liked to see through all the works connected to the church, but the time is right to leave.

In connection with above the Rector went on to say that with regard to projects he will make sure that a definite plan and an Appeal structure are put in place.

ROOF Ideally we would like to launch an appeal which would allow us to carry out the work in one go but advice from the architect is different so we need to consult further. Perhaps we should start from the east end? The Rector has a meeting with the lady from the Diocese responsible for giving advice on grants on Monday. Nothing will be done before 2018 as there is a three stage process to be gone through for getting a grant. SURROUNDS the Rector had had a useful meeting with the Conservation Officer about the gravestones and the “road “ alongside. A broad principle has been agreed by everyone but it would seem we need to use more of the existing stones than originally intended. As yet there is no costing for the new situation.

CAR PARK things are in hand but it is going to take longer than first envisaged. The purchase will go ahead and we will be able to use it on Sundays.

APPEAL COMMITTEE The Rector is prepared to help form a committee within a period of about ten days – names were suggested and will be followed up.

**Choir School** Preston reported that the school is flourishing and is moving into a new era with quite a number of new youngsters. There will be a meeting next month to decide about where to go next for funding. Marc will write to all our benefactors to say what we have done. There are 16 on role at the moment and the future is looking rosy both with regard to numbers and finance

**H and S**  Owen said there was nothing much to report but added that Judith Norris had fallen and hurt her hand when looking at joining the bell ringers. She has sent a letter to Marilyn asking for the incident to be put in the Accident book. We need to look at whether we have a proper scheme in place for bell ringing beginners. The secretary to be asked to write to the National Society of Bell ringers.

Kath Pollard reported that the light on the vestry steps was not working. Has it just not been switched on?

**A O B**

Keith S told the meeting that Marilyn feels that someone else needs to be taught how to manage the church clock. The Rector will approach someone in the congregation**.**

**There being no further business the meeting closed at 9:09**

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**A O B**

* THE PROMS WEEK: volunteers
* July 11th Besses Boys Band David Hartley and Keith Sedman
* July 12th Primary Schools
* July 13th  Songs from the Shows Harold Smith, John and Hilary Ankers