

09-09

The Parish of Our Lady St Mary, South Creake

Minutes of the meeting of the Parochial Church Council held on 17 November 2009 in the Old Norwich Arms at 7pm (by kind permission of the Yorke Trust)

In the Chair Mr O Prince-White

Present Father Andrew Thomson
Mrs Barbara Allen Church Warden
Mr Nigel Kenyon Jones Treasurer
Mrs Alison Wakeman Secretary
Father Roger Arguile

Apologies Mr and Mrs B Taylor

Rev Roger Argyle was invited to remain throughout the meeting.

Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on 14 July were approved and signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising

- Tea towels and shopping bags are available for sale but need more promotion.
- DAC. Funding is needed for further action. The Archdeacon has responded to Father Andrew's letter which was emailed to him, acknowledging the DAC's need to write with care.
- Heritage Weekend. This was very successful and raised net profit of £1514 (less than last time). The raffle was well supported but the donations jar should perhaps be positioned more conspicuously. The next Heritage Weekend will be in 3 years' time which will be the 850th Anniversary of the first vicar of South Creake.

Stewardship

Rev Arguile outlined a proposed stewardship scheme. After the presentation members discussed aspects of stewardship and its application to a small rural parish.

It was agreed to meet on Wednesday 20 Jan 2010 for further discussion and decide campaign dates. **NB** This date was later changed to Tuesday 16 February.

Booklet

Rev Arguile gave quotes for costs of printing his booklet, the History of the Church. The most competitive costs were for £1837 for 500, stapled; £2011 for 1000. Approximately 150 copies sell per year. No decision was made.

Treasurer's Report

Mr Kenyon Jones presented the current figures which overall are good, with income up on expenses this year. The Yorke Trust has just presented a cheque for £600 this evening.

Waterden has £3722 in bank account; they have been promised £200 from Holkham Country Fair, and had £500 last year.

Restoration fund has £9241 and we await the final invoice.

The Harvest Collection was agreed to be paid to the Kenyan Children's Project.

09-10

- **Flower funding**

Previous payments of £10 per month stopped in August; remainder of costs generally being met by the arrangers. It was agreed to fund purchase of flowers of £25 per month.

Vicar's Business

- Father Andrew reminded members the need to not adopt a "Club Treasurer" approach to a Stewardship scheme
- Guild of All Souls booklets. A letter received from the Guild enclosed publications they have produced that we might like to have for sale. They are provided free of charge although donations are welcome and any profit can be kept by the Church. It was agreed to order some.
- Mrs Alison Wakes-Miller Head of the King's Lynn Recorders has contacted Father Andrew regarding a date to record in one of two churches possibly South Creake in December,
- Sculthorpe Church has been offered a free concert by the Norfolk Singers on 26 June 2010 but would benefit by some support and advice regarding advertising, sale of tickets etc. Mrs Allen and Mrs Wakeman agreed they would be available.
- The Play Van Scheme has been very successful in North Creake and has invited Father Andrew to a celebration next Monday as well as requesting a donation. It was agreed to send £50.
- A Scheme for the socially isolated has been started in the Diocese; meetings will be held termly in Ashill.
- The shortage of servers was noted.

Church Fabric

- It was agreed that the terms for Maintenance work at Waterden from the architect Nicholas Warns should be signed and returned.
- Connection of mains water to Church and plans for kitchen was discussed. Mr Prince-White had an estimate (>£1500) in 1998 for work to chlorinate the existing pipe by Anglian Water; also an estimate for the use of rainwater from the roof. It was agreed that work to provide running water and kitchen facilities should be undertaken. He and Mrs Allen will discuss the matter with Mr Warns and get up-to-date estimates.
- Roof. New leaks had been observed in recent week in the north, central and south aisles. Mr Prince-White observed CEL should not be signed off yet.
- Bats. Mr Kenyon-Jones has made contact with our MP regarding the problems. He reported that the Church Commissioners are contacting involved authorities about the matter and that Ann Sloman, the Chair of the Cathedral and Churches Committee of Archbishops Council (who lives fairly locally) wants it higher on the agenda. The committee agreed that Mr Kenyon-Jones should contact the Church Warden from Holme Hale and Mrs Sloman.
- Parish Records. Mrs Allen has displayed the files of digitalised Parish Records on a computer table donated to the Church. The display is popular but the modern table is not an ideal style for the building. It was agreed that this should be included with the research for the design for the Silent Greeter and that the computer table is used meanwhile.
- The Church Warden brought attention to two cases where existing gravestones have been replaced with new stones when only an additional inscription has been approved. This is not allowed. Father Andrew said he would be able to identify the particular mason/s.

09-11

- Waterden. Mr Prince-White gave details of two quotes for the planned work. It was agreed to proceed with preparation for the work of repair and restoration of pews and floor boards.

Forthcoming Events

- Mozart Orchestra. It was agreed to sell tickets at £12.50
- Christmas Fair. This will be advertised at North Creake Cinema and in Fakenham Sun.
- Creakes Choral Group concerts 11 December and 19 March.

Yorke Trust

A letter received this evening from Mr Slatford enclosed a cheque for £600. The Trustees are to discuss whether it will be possible to hold an Easter sacred concert this year and requested whether the PCC would consider waiving the charge. This was agreed by the PCC with the proviso that heating and lighting would be paid for and that the programme should be discussed with Father Andrew.

Website

Mr Kenyon-Jones reported that the Church website had 569 hits in October. The cost is £200 per annum for hosting. He asked whether members are happy with the website and they concurred. The newer Newsletter was sent to 175 sites or which 93 were opened and 74 unopened. Every opportunity should be used to acquire more email addresses.

Any Other Business

- Hospitality table; it was agreed to restart this now the resident bat population is hibernating.
- Father Andrew answered a query about continuing to omit wine from communion by emphasising the need to follow advice consistently.

There being no further business the meeting was closed with the Grace at 10.14pm.

Signed Date
Chairman

