

St Margaret of Antioch, Crick

- responding to God's love -

Minutes for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting Held on Wednesday 21 April, 2010 at 7.30 pm in the Old School Crick

Opening prayer

The meeting was chaired by the Rector, the Reverend David Lake.

Vestry Meeting:

Election of Church Wardens and Assistant Churchwarden:

David Milne was elected as churchwarden: proposed by Karen Hopkins and seconded by Sue Milne.

Craig Walford was elected as churchwarden: proposed by Andy Hopkins and seconded by Karen Hopkins.

Steve Bates was elected as Assistant Churchwarden: proposed by Karen Hopkins and seconded by Sue Milne.

Ordinary meeting:

Items raised from last year's minutes:

- Format of Christmas Carol Service: The question was raised again why David Lake continues to incorporate a sermon as part of the service. David responded, good humouredly, by stating that it had been part of his 'Election Promises,' at his interview in 2004 and he was 'sticking by his promises.' A suggestion was offered from the floor that this should be recorded in the minutes in order to draw a line a line under this discussion. The comment is hereby noted.
- It was suggested that we do not have AOB as part of the agenda. It was agreed to rename it as "Any other questions". Unanimous vote.

Minutes agreed and signed by David Lake.

Re- election of 2 lay representative to the Parochial Church Council.

Julia Potts and Andy Hopkins offered to stand for re-election. Proposed by Ron Parker and seconded by Sue Milne. Vote carried.

Election of 2 lay representatives to the Parochial Church Council.

Jane Dunkley and Debby Kristen offered to stand for election and were unanimously elected.

Election of Deanery Synod Representative until 31 May 2012.

Debby Kristen was unanimously elected.

Presentation of Sidesmen and Vergers

1st Sunday:

Craig Walford

Leigh White

Adrian White

2nd Sunday:
Dave Milne
Sue Milne

3rd Sunday:
Andy Hopkins
Karen Hopkins

4th Sunday
Ray Smith
Carole Smith

Sidesmen:
Jane Dunkley
Michael Fraser-Allen
Adrian White

Electoral Roll

The following names have been removed:

Mr L T Absolom
Mr P Burton

Date due for next electoral roll is 2013.

Presentation of the Audited Accounts for the Parish

The audited accounts were read out by Michael Fraser-Allen

This is not an exhaustive analysis but a summary of key points only; please see the accounts for full details.

We are currently running a deficit of £6000.

2010/2011 forecasts a deficit of £11,000.

We are at present eating into a small accrued fund which will run out before the end of this year.

We have a potential roofing bill of £3,000, which will bring the total deficit to £14,000.

FOSM offered to assist the PCC in any fund-raising efforts they might want to organise.

The PCC is looking very seriously at the funding issues we face. Craig Walford has been appointed "Funding Manager", and he, with the PCC, is taking advice from the Diocese.

Appointment of independent examiner of accounts

Mr Robert Cave is standing down. The PCC will discuss further at their next meeting.

Annual reports were circulated at the APCM, where there was an opportunity for comment.

- Report on the Deanery Synod – *can reports be circulated in the TCN?*
- Children's Events
- Church Elliot Organ Review Sub-Committee
- Crick Church Bells Restoration Fund
- Flower Report
- Little Saints
- Report on the Local Ministry Team (LMT)
- Mothers Union Report
- School Assembly Report
- Tuesday Night Church
- St Margaret's Church
- Wednesday Prayer Group

Any Questions

- FOSM were invited to submit an annual report for the next APCM
- Jean Garner expressed her thanks to Catherine Morrish, The PCC and FOSM for all their hard work over the last twelve months.
- Log book missing from safe. Does anyone know whereabouts?
- Key rota is needed
- Expired insurance certificate
- Variety of services and mixture of families most pleasing
- Patricia requested that we support and encourage all the volunteers who work in the church.

Chairman's closing remarks (*what follows is a verbatim record*)

In my hand I am holding a copy of the Anglican Lectionary for 2009. It contains, as you know, the set readings for the whole year. On Sunday 15th November the set Gospel reading was Mark 13:1-8.

I mention this because, just three days before, the PCC had taken the decision to introduce a new service pattern at St Margaret's, reducing our services from two on a Sunday to one. The final words from Mark 13:1-8 records Jesus saying these words: "*These are but the beginning of the birth pains.*" A few of us in church that Sunday exchanged a look or two when we heard those words. Coincidentally – if you believe in such a thing as coincidence – I am reminded here of what a former Archbishop of Canterbury, William Temple once said, "*All I know is that when I stop praying coincidences stop happening,*" so perhaps I should say, "providentially," during my prayer time on Monday, before this meeting, I read this from a book called *Experiencing His Presence*:

'The time of mystery is over, and the news is out: the church is pregnant, and something big is coming soon. Parts of the body have lodged protests over the inconvenience and impropriety of the whole thing, but it's too late. God is about to birth something... and we shouldn't be surprised to see our lives disrupted. Do you feel spiritually off balance and stretched at times? Do you really want God to touch you? Are you prepared for the changes, the stretching, the frustration, the public scrutiny, and the hard work of labour that comes with pregnancy?'

That has been part of *our* journey. So, where are we going?

On Saturday, Bishop Donald was installed as our new Diocesan Bishop. In his inaugural sermon he said this... "*People have already started asking me about my vision for the Diocese of Peterborough. It's a bit early for that yet. I have a lot of listening and a lot of learning to do because I want to lead the church in a way that is right for this part of the country at this particular time. But some early pointers may help; they come very much from this biblical idea of God's people being called to shepherd his sheep. They come too from the charge that the Archbishop of Canterbury has given me.*

First, *I don't believe the decline in churchgoing, which we have seen in recent years, is inevitable or necessary. I believe it can and should and will be reversed. I believe the church should be growing in numbers as well as in commitment and in effectiveness in society. I will work and pray to those ends, that the church may be a growing church, a vibrant church, a powerful and effective church for God in our world. Please don't misunderstand me. I don't want clergy or others to feel guilty if their church is in decline. There are all sorts of possible reasons for that. But we can and must reverse the overall decline in churchgoing and in Christian faith.*

Second, *it is very necessary in our present climate to encourage Christians and to boost their confidence in the gospel, in the basic core truths of the Christian message. The gospel is God's good news for all people and we as Christians are called to share the gospel, to spread the gospel and to grow the kingdom... I intend to help people be more confident in the gospel.*

Third, a pressing need for the church in our generation is for Christians to be more united. I don't just mean Christians from different denominations or from different churches. I agree with that. But I have in mind particularly Christians within the Anglican Church. We have seen in recent years a moving apart of Anglicans for all sorts of different reasons. People are identifying all too often with their own group or tribe or theology within Anglicanism. Of course no church is perfect, but the Church of England which I love and which I want to be strong and alive, simply has too many divisions within it. I am determined during my time here as Bishop to do all I can to unite Anglican Christians so that our witness is clear and strong and our Lord is glorified."

In light of this vision, which Bishop Donald has set out, I have just two questions to ask.

"Do you want to see our Lord glorified in our church? And will you offer yourself to that task?"

The meeting closed with the Grace

DRAFT