

**The Parish of St Nicholas Church, Remenham**

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parochial Church Council**

**Held on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2015 in the Chantry House 2015 at 8.00pm**

**Present:** Father Martyn Griffiths, Chairman  
Charlotte Every, Churchwarden  
Nigel Gray, Treasurer  
Ruth Palethorpe, Secretary  
Sue Laing  
Glen Palethorpe  
Leslie Prescott  
Hugh Whitfield  
Anthony West

**Apologies:** Mike Dowsett, Eileen Dowsett, Anthea Prescott, Kim Blythe

**Minutes of the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2015** were proposed by Nigel Gray, seconded by Leslie Prescott and approved unanimously, no amendments being made.

**1 Matters Arising:**

**a) Church Organ:**

J. W. Walker, the organ builders who carried out the rebuild approximately 15 years ago, had assessed the necessary repairs. Fr Martyn would progress this refurbishment estimate.

**2 Finance Report:**

Nigel Gray shared the Receipts and Payments balance sheet from 1<sup>st</sup> January to 30<sup>th</sup> August with the committee. The Treasurer advised he had transferred £10,000 from the Parish Hall Fund to take the church account into credit. He suggested increasing the rate of advertising in the Parish magazine. Sue Laing would liaise with the editor, Felicity Rutland, and discuss advertising rates and the cost of printing. Father Martyn suggested the printing could be done at the Rectory Office at no charge.

New Gift Aid envelopes were now being used. Anthony West proposed a vote of thanks to Nigel Gray for organising the Gift Aid paperwork which was extremely time consuming.

**3 Parish Hall:**

Father Martyn advised that the defibrillator has been received; its positioning was under discussion but it would be installed in the next few days. In terms of fundraising it was hoped the VE supper/dance would be profitable. Future fund raising suggestions included a wine tasting evening and a bake off.

There were a number of outstanding maintenance jobs not yet actioned by Peter Grace; Pat Sly would provide a list of these.

**4 Any other Business:**

**a) Churchyard Maintenance:**

The maintenance of the **Upper Churchyard**, being open, was the responsibility of the PCC various methods of reducing this cost were discussed. Charlotte Every suggested that using the Unpaid Work Scheme via the Probation Office might be a very good way of clearing the upper churchyard at no expense. This needed to be discussed more fully at the November meeting. Investigation was needed to ascertain whether the **Lower Churchyard** was closed. If this were the case, it would fall to Wokingham District Council to maintain the churchyard. Charlotte Every would investigate.

**b) Quinquennial Inspection:**

Charlotte Every advised that the diocesan architect, Richard Oxley, would carry out his inspection on 1 October.

**5 Date of Next Meeting:**

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November at 8pm in the Chantry House.