

The Parish of St Nicholas Church, Remenham

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parochial Church Council

Thursday 26 November 2015 in the Chantry House at 8.00pm

Present: Father Martyn Griffiths, Chairman
Mike Dowsett, Churchwarden
Charlotte Every, Churchwarden
Nigel Gray, Treasurer
Ruth Palethorpe, Secretary
Eileen Dowsett
Sue Laing
Glen Palethorpe
Hugh Whitfield
Anthony West

Apologies: Kim Blythe, Leslie Prescott, Anthea Prescott.

Minutes of the meeting held on 17th September 2015 were proposed by Sue Laing, seconded by Nigel Gray and approved unanimously. One amendment was advised: **1 a)** the length of time since the rebuild of the organ should read 50 years **not** 15 years.

1 Matters Arising:

Parish Newsletter:

Sue Laing advised she had been in touch with the Parish Newsletter editor, Felicity Rutland concerning costs and income of the publication. Fr Martyn proposed the editor be invited to the next PCC meeting where the subject could be discussed in depth. This was unanimously **agreed**.

2 Finance Report:

Nigel Gray shared copies of the Receipts and Payments balance sheet from 1st January to 30th August with the Committee. The Treasurer advised, that in comparison to last year, church funds were £10,000 down. The Parish Hall Fund was propping up our finances.

3 Parish Hall:

Father Martyn advised the defibrillator had been installed on a wall outside the Parish Hall. Training information was on the front page of the Remenham website.

4 Any other Business:

a) Churchyard Maintenance:

Fr Martyn advised the Strange grave had sunk and the headstone was in need of repositioning. He proposed the Strange Fund be used to rectify the problem; this was unanimously **agreed**.

Charlotte Every advised her investigations revealed the **Lower Churchyard** had never been closed and therefore it would not be possible to ask Wokingham Borough Council to maintain it. Fr Martyn suggested two working parties be organised next year to help with churchyard maintenance.

b) Quinquennial inspection:

Charlotte Every advised that the inspection had been carried out in September. The report had not yet been received.

c) Church Organ:

The PCC considered quotations that had been received from Walkers for some repairs and for a major refurbishment of the organ. It was **agreed** that the sums of money, particularly for a full refurbishment were very expensive. Anthony West proposed a quotation be obtained for an electronic organ so an informed decision could be made about the repair or replacement of the existing organ.

5 Date of Next Meeting:

Thursday 3rd March 2016 at 8.00pm in the Chantry House.