

WOODBRIDGE COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting Wednesday 19th July 2017 at Lea Church Room at 8.15 pm after the AGM.

Present: Rev Steve Wilkinson, Chair; Basil Miles and Richard Wood, Great Somerford; Tony Yates, Dauntsey; Mark Edwards, Lea; Stephen Tuck, Brinkworth; Margaret Lewis and David Briggs, Garsdon; Robert Gawthrop, Little Somerford.

1. **Opening prayer** was led by Steve Wilkinson.
2. **Apologies** were received from, Mike Graham, Michael Bromley Gardner, Cec Smith Roger Sherhod, and Jane Briggs
3. **Minutes of last meeting** 17th May 2017 were agreed.
4. **Matters arising not covered on agenda –**
 - a. **Chalice Assistants** - Steve now has all the information to send to the Diocese. **Action Point 1**
5. **Benefice Update –**
 - a. **Reports from Brinkworth and Great Somerford Parishes –**
 - i. **Brinkworth** – Stephen reported that the bells are now likely to back in place by October. Cleaning work had also taken place in the Bell Tower in anticipation of their return
 - ii. **Great Somerford** – Richard reported on a very successful Garden Fete. Chancel Pews had also been removed and some very attractive Victorian Floor Tiles had been revealed
 - b. **Parishes Sound Systems** – Steve had revisited five churches with Dave Strange and that he was re-contacting the quoting companies for more realistic plans. **Action Point 2**
 - c. **Safeguarding** – Heather was thanked for her report which was noted. Steve noted that all parishes had approved all policies at their recent APCMs.
 - d. **APCMs 2018** – Steve reported that roughly half the PCCs had expressed some reservations about holding “combined” APCMs. In order to reduce Steve’s workload it was suggested that the Lay Vice Chairs might chair these meetings with Steve being mainly responsible for delivering his report. He will be reflecting on all this.
 - e. **Living Churchyards and Churchyard Regulations** – Steve thought that all PCCs had agreed to the revised guidelines in principle. He would now finalise documents subject to previously suggested amendments. **Action Point 3**
 - f. **Books of Condolence etc** – All documents held in Parish Office against the time when needed.
 - g. **Deanery Synod** – At the Synod in June Nick Crawley gave an interesting presentation on “Filling Station”, a mission based project in Bristol. It was also noted that Basil Miles has retired as Deanery Lay Chair and that David Briggs had been elected in his place. The Synod also passed a motion calling for a review of the rules concerning the storage and possible disposal of valuable items.
6. **Ministry Team –**
 - a. **Summer Rota 2017** – Updated rotas were circulated.
 - b. **Morning Prayer Rota** – the Ministry Team will consider changing the venues, possibly using all six churches on a six monthly rota. **Action Point 4**
 - c. **Ordination of Mike Graham** – a most joyous occasion much appreciated by all.

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7. Administration –

- a. **Shared Parish Office** – Steve reported that Maggie Topp had now visited all the Draycot churches and that the new arrangements were working well.
- b. **Portable Appliance Testing (PAT)** – There was much appreciation for all the arrangements made by Nigel Higginbottom. He was to be thanked.
- c. **Parish Share Requests 2018** – It was noted that generally the requests this year were far more realistic and it was hoped that all parishes would be positive in their responses in meeting the costs of ministry.

8. Treasurers Report –

- a. **Present Financial Position** – Michael had circulated the accounts for the six months to 30th June to Treasurers and had thanked them for their input. The format of the accounts followed the usual pattern and these were noted.

9. Items for future meetings –

- a. **Parish News / Communications**
- b. **Woodbridge Group Distribution List**

10. Date of next meeting – Wednesday 20th September 2017 at 7.30 pm.

11. **Any other business** – Deanery Evensong will be held in Malmesbury Abbey at 6.30 pm on 23rd July

12. **Grace** – the meeting closed at 9.20 pm and Grace was said.

Dates of Meetings for 2017 - 20th September and 15th November

APPENDIX – ACTION POINTS

1. **Chalice Assistants – Steve**
2. **Sound Systems - Steve**
3. **Living Churchyards – finalise policy - Steve**
4. **Morning Prayer Rota – Ministry Team**

