

# MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CHRIST CHURCH DOWNEND PCC

HELD ON THURSDAY 25 JANUARY 2007

**Present:** Martin Brown, Myra Brown, Geoff Cater, Ian Freestone, Paul Hacker, Ray Hackney, Richard Harris, Sue Lake, Penny Long, Andy McNeil, Ruth McNeil, Revd. Penny Nash, Barbara Shore, Ann Smith, Barbara Tooby, (Minutes), Dave Tooby, Rev. Jonathan Vickery (Chair), Ian Webb.

**Apologies:** Sally Ashton, Joyce Bevan, Robert Lake, Debbie Paragreen, Pearl Wild.

The meeting opened with prayer.

	Action
The minutes of the meeting held on 15 November 2006 were approved and signed.	
<p><b>Matters arising not covered in agenda items:</b></p> <p><b>Faith School.</b> Some feedback on the proposal to build a Faith School at Emersons Green was received from PCC members. Our response was sent to the Area Dean and circulated to PCC members. The site proposed for the school is in the Parish of Mangotsfield on the opposite side of the ring road to Sainsburys. Jo emphasised that this is a great opportunity for the area and one which we need to remember in our prayers.</p>	
<p><b>New Business</b></p> <p><b>1. Going for Growth.</b> A presentation prepared by Ian 'Building loving relationships : developing the vision' was explained by Jo. The presentation sets out where we are going in the future as a Church with God's guidance. We need to develop a sense of vision towards our aim of building loving relationships. Shortly after coming to Downend, Jo set up a structure with seven streams covering worship, discipleship, mission, ministry, fellowship, family ministry and administration. The aim now is to simplify this structure closely relating it to building loving relationships up towards God, in towards each other and out to the world. The new structure would have a leadership team of three in addition to the administration team to encourage and support the different elements which make up the teams. The teams would cover spirituality, community and mission and aim to do a few things well. Each team would have an individual goal:</p> <p>a) The spirituality team aiming to put home groups at the heart of our ministry.</p>	Leadership Team will look at the role of the PCC and bring to a future meeting.

<p>b) The community team aiming to strengthen Christian family life by offering parenting and marriage enrichment courses and working in close partnership with home and schools.</p> <p>c) The mission team aiming to work towards offering a debt counselling service.</p> <p>d) The administration team aiming to develop our Church buildings to provide a resource for the Church and the community which reflects the needs of a modern society.</p> <p>With over 200 members in home groups, leaders play an important part in the overall leadership of the Church. The PCC is responsible for the legal running of the Church. We need to look at how other Churches look at their PCC and define the role of the PCC and the Standing Committee. Ian was thanked for organising the document and the work involved.</p>	<p>PCC members thoughts and comments would be welcome</p>
<p><b>2. Lay Ministry.</b> The PCC approved applications from Joyce Bevan (retired), Martin Brown, Myra Brown, and Glenys Spencer to be re licensed as Lay Ministers (Readers). The PCC recognises the great contribution to the worship and ministry of the Parish made by the Lay Ministers and thanked them for all they do.</p>	
<p><b>3. Church buildings for a mission shaped Church.</b></p> <p>(i) <b>CPL Options Study.</b> Derek Kemp apologised for the slippage in sending the first draft of his report. The report contains all the ideas put forward in the meetings Derek held with members of the congregation and the community. The ideas are categorised and show how we could develop as a Church for the future. The Standing Committee agreed with all the options and Derek will start work on drawings and costings.</p> <p>(ii) <b>Open Church.</b> A proposal from Sue Wootten to open the Church on Wednesday mornings was agreed. The aim would be to offer the community an opportunity for quiet prayer. The Church would be open after morning prayer and staffed by a team of volunteers who would be willing to talk/listen and pray for those who would like it. A white board for prayer requests would be mounted on the wall in the reception area and some comfortable furniture purchased. Sue has undertaken to advertise the venture widely in the area.</p>	
<p><b>4. Administration.</b></p> <p>(i) <b>Report of the Administration Stream.</b> Ian reported that they had been hoping to interview candidates for the new administrative post in the Parish Office. This had to be postponed due to Ian's accident and will be rearranged.</p>	



<p>This would cost approx. £200 and involve various members of the congregation eg the youth and music groups etc. writing Bible stories, composing music and illustrating the different stories. The PCC agreed that this would be a great resource but was conscious of the time and effort involved and would like an action plan drawn up before further work is started.</p>	
<p><b>6. Licensing and Installation of Jo as Incumbent.</b> When Jo first applied for the post as Incumbent at Downend, changes were being made to the parish boundaries and it was advertised as Priest in Charge or Vicar Designate. At that time all vacant posts in the Diocese were advertised as Priest in Charge to give greater flexibility. Jo's leadership at Downend has been recognised by the Diocese and he is being licensed as Vicar on 1 March and installed in a quiet ceremony on 7 March 2007.</p>	
<p><b>7. Church Organist and Choirmaster.</b> Jonathan Crowe has resigned as Church organist and Choirmaster, his last Sunday being Easter Sunday, 8 April 2007. The PCC accepted Jonathan's resignation. It is hoped to find someone to play at evensong and develop the choir for special events.</p>	
<p><b>8. Church events.</b> The PCC approved the following events as being Church events and therefore covered by the Church Insurance for public liability:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"> <b>Parish weekend away at Lee Abbey</b> 18-20 May 2007  <b>Youth Weekend away</b> 20-22 April 2007  <b>Church Fellowship Weekend Away</b> 23-26 March 2007  Annual Day Out 7 July 2007  At Home 6 Sidelands Road 14 August 2007 </p>	
<p><b>9. CMS Mission link.</b> Sue and Richard Kellow, who are presently studying in the UK before moving to Rwanda as missionaries, have written to ask if Christ Church will be their mission partners. Sue is the daughter of David Bainbridge who was a Curate at Downend and will be remembered by many people at Christ Church especially those who worshipped at the Church Centre.</p>	<p>Martin has written to accept</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">The meeting closed with prayer.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"> <b>Future meetings:</b> Wednesday 28 March 2007  Vision Sunday: 11 February 2007  Proposed date for Annual Church meeting: Sunday 29 April 2007 </p>	