

The Benefice of East Winchester

St. John's PCC. Monday 22nd October, 2012

Minutes

Opening Prayers

1. Present: David Stirrup (Chairman), Rev. Paul Kennedy, Christine Smith, David Smith, Len Tatham, Felicity Harding, Elizabeth Proudman.

Apologies: Grahame Ford, Jonquil Hinds.

2. Minutes of the last meeting were read and signed.

3. Matters arising: There was no further news about the City church or the matching funding from the city council for the mentoring scheme.

4. Rector's Notes: The Prayer Walking after the Harvest Festival on 14th October had been carried out. There were six people who walked quietly for an hour and reflected on what they saw. It confirmed the feeling that the parish is divided into areas of different kinds. Even Winnall was very quiet, very few people about, not even children in the playground on a Sunday morning.

The Rector explained the Deanery Plan. The number of clergy is falling which means there will inevitably be fewer stipendiary clergy. Many are approaching retirement (normally between 65 and 70) finding a replacement takes about a year; and the training for new incumbents takes 7 years. This means that parishes will have to be more self-supporting. There should be licenced readers in each community - eg. Winnall, Highcliff etc. - and a visible Christian presence.

Every parish should produce a Parish mission action plan.

It was agreed that there should be a rota for looking after

children when they come to services.

The electoral roll has to be redone this year as it is six years since the last one.

Sabina has offered to play after the service to teach us some new hymns. This suggestion was greeted with pleasure.

5. The new service book was discussed. It was suggested that a larger font would be helpful, and Felicity said that black on yellow was easiest to read. Perhaps 12 large print copies should be produced. The book should be discussed at the next meeting.

6. Fabric. David Stirrup and John G.C. will discuss the problems noticed in the quinquennial report. David Smith has removed weeks. Algy is a problem.

7. Financial report attached.

£5,000 has been paid for the wall. It is believed that this will be the end of this matter. £20,000 has been paid for our parish share.

Donations from Winifred and Clare should be ring fenced to pay for porch/pod in organ chapel for children etc.

8. See under Rector's Notes

9. A.O.B.

It was agreed that we should buy a Pascal candle stand.

There will be a car boot sale in the spring to replace the Covert Sale.

10. Next Meeting: Monday 26th November, at 730 p.m.
at 35 St. John's Street.