

# St. Thomas More Church, Hartley Wintney

## Minutes of Good Shepherd's meeting number 35 held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2015

### Present:

Fr Simon Thomson, Richard Bannon (Chair), Marie Linscott, Carole Johnson, Tim Davies, Liz Murphy, Cathy Gathergood, John Marcotti (minutes)

### Apologies:

Kath Budd, Janine Kilroy, Mervyn Sennett, Cath Hicks, Dinah Kennedy.

#### 1. *Opening prayer*

The meeting opened with a prayer.

#### 2. *Previous minutes*

The previous minutes were agreed.

#### 3. *Open actions and matters arising*

None.

#### 4. *Garden maintenance*

The allotment is overgrown. We agreed to ask Steven Davies to tidy it up and plant some shrubs. He will need access to the shed; Carole will get a key cut  
**Action 35.01 Carole Johnson.**

There could be a problem with disposing of the rubbish. We wondered if it might be possible to borrow Nicki's shredder, or to use a burner, or to get hold of some rubble bags such as builders use.

#### 5. *Parish charity*

We confirmed we would adopt The Vine as this year's parish charity.

#### 5.1 *Sponsored walk*

The parish walk is usually well supported by people from Hartley Wintney but rather less so by people from Yateley. In order to try to attract more Yateley people, this year's walk will start at Yateley and end at Hartley Wintney. We were uncertain however exactly where in HW the walk should end, since catering facilities at St Thomas More are minimal. We decided to ask St John's and the Methodist Church if we could use their hall. **Action 35.02 Tim Davies.** This will of course mean that we can also invite people from the other churches to join us in the walk.

We did not decide on a date, but we did note that 26<sup>th</sup> of September might be suitable.

## 5.2 *Churches Together*

Michael Edgar (the new chairman of Churches Together in Hartley Wintney) had suggested three possible priorities for CT and had asked the churches to consider them and comment on them or propose others. These proposed priorities were:

- 1) Spreading by word and deed the Good News of the Gospel
- 2) Sharing experiences from our separate churches
- 3) Communal prayer.

We considered these proposals and agreed with all of them.

We also felt that the original objective of CT – to promote better understanding between the different denominations – was still valid. To this end we should invite each other to join in with any events we are organising.

We noted that we take part in at least three interdenominational events each year:

- Christian Aid Week
- Women's World Day of Prayer
- Christian Unity Week.

## 5.3 *Christ the King School*

Liz has received some photos of the school, where we built a library. Liz will announce this at Mass and have a display of photos in the church porch. Action **Action 35.03 Liz Murphy**. John will put some photos on the website **Action 35.04 John Marcotti**.

## 6. *Church extension*

Richard suggested we appoint a "project manager" to start work on defining the needs and uses of the possible extension to the church to form a Parish Room. This would not be someone responsible for managing the building but for canvassing opinion on possible uses (and corresponding requirements).

Some possible uses that were proposed at the meeting were:

- Children's liturgy
- Meeting room
- Social/coffee

Tim made the point that before going too deep into this we should investigate whether planning permission is likely to be granted. Tim has some contacts at Hart District Council and will try to consult them about planning feasibility.

**Action 35.05 Tim Davies.**

## 7. *New chairman*

Unfortunately Richard is leaving the parish so the Good Shepherds will need a new chairman. None of the people present volunteered for the role, but Richard said he had somebody in mind and would approach them outside the meeting.

8. *Vote of thanks*

We were saddened to note that two people are leaving the Good Shepherds group:

- Pat Paul, who was one of the founder members of Good Shepherds but has recently decided to stand down
- Richard Bannon, who is our chairman and is also responsible for church maintenance, the sound system, and countless other things, is leaving the parish.

A big vote of thanks was extended from all of us to both Pat and Richard; we will miss them both.

9. *Any Other Business*

- The meeting that was scheduled for May was cancelled at very short notice. An email was sent out but a number of people did not receive it in time, with the result that they still turned up for the meeting. Clearly we need a more effective way to communicate with people generally, and in particular to inform them of late cancellations. If people are prepared for their mobile phones to be used for this purpose we could set up and send a text to a distribution list. **Action 35.06 John Marcotti**

10. *Closing prayer*

The meeting closed with a prayer.

11. *Dates of next meetings*

Meetings for the remainder of this year (the second Wednesday of alternate months) are as follows:

9<sup>th</sup> September  
11<sup>th</sup> November.

Each meeting will be held at the church and will start at 7:30pm.

12. *New and open actions*

<b>Action Number</b>	<b>Description and update</b>	<b>Actionee</b>	<b>Status</b>
35.01	Get a key to the garden shed for Steven Davies	Carole Johnson	Open
35.02	Ask other churches in the village if we could use their church hall for our parish walk	Tim Davies	Open
35.03	Make Announcement at Mass about photos from Christ the King School and set up display in the porch.	Liz Murphy	Open
35.04	Put photos from Christ the King School on the website	John Marcotti	Open
35.05	Speak to contacts at Hart District Council about planning for our proposed extension	Tim Davies	Open
35.06	Ask people for their mobile phone numbers	John	Open

	for use for Good Shepherds announcements	Marcotti	
33.03	Speak to Penny Farncombe about re-gilding one of the chalices.	Tim Davies	Open
32.03	Consult architects about the proposed extension.	Fr Simon	Open
32.04	Ask Hedi to be responsible for the garden.	Janine Kilroy	Open
26.05	Votive candle stand – contact the blacksmith (using details from Dinah Kennedy)	Richard	Open

13. *Closed actions*

<b>Action Number</b>	<b>Description and update</b>	<b>Actionee</b>	<b>Status</b>
33.01	Get update on status of Living Our Faith fund.	Fr Simon	Closed
33.02	Ask at Mass for suggestions for next year's charity.	Richard Bannon	Closed
32.02	Make an announcement at Mass about the tea party.	Richard Bannon	Closed
30.01	Appeal for people to join the cleaning rota  <i>Meeting 32: Richard will ask at Mass.</i>	Richard	Closed