

CHRIST CHURCH EPSOM COMMON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Registered Charity No. 1127945



Main points of the PCC meeting held on
Monday 13 January 2014

Here is the usual summary of the PCC's recent meeting. As always, fuller details are in the displayed draft minutes.

Christmas: We looked back on the Christmas season, where we felt that things had gone well. Helped by kinder weather than last year, overall attendance at the various services was slightly up, with a particular increase in the number of visitors – doubtless helped by the usual parish-wide delivery of our Christmas card. It was good to learn that the result of the Christmas Appeal for *Centrepoint* (which works with the homeless) was a record £1,960 – to be further boosted by some Gift Aid.

“Call to Mission”: In her sermon on Epiphany Sunday 5 January, the Vicar launched the “*Call to Mission*”, being the third strand of our three-year strategy for growth. This complements the previously-launched and continuing “*Call to Pray*” and “*Call to Discipleship*”. We reviewed the wide range of activities to support all three strands being planned for the year ahead. Please look out for details as they are advertised and take your part in our shared journey.

Missions: As a change from the Bible Society (which we have supported for the last 6 years), we agreed that our Bible charity for the next period should be Wycliffe Bible Translators, and were pleased to appoint the Revd Julian McAllen as the “champion” for this. We also decided that the beneficiary of Christ Church's 2014 Lent Appeal will be the Leprosy Mission, and made an immediate donation of £250 to the emergency appeal from *Pitstop* (Leatherhead's day centre for the homeless) to help it cope with the aftermath of the recent catastrophic flooding.

Finance: We were pleased to learn that further responses to the Stewardship drive begun in September have taken the annualised total increase in pledged giving (including Gift Aid) to over £14,000. This greatly eased our task in setting the draft budget for 2014, although we are projecting a substantial overall deficit as we face significant costs maintaining our buildings, particularly the Church.

Domestic Abuse: In the light of national and diocesan initiatives, we adopted the diocese's recommended charter for action in response to domestic abuse. Sadly, such abuse – which is not only violence but all kinds of coercive and controlling behaviour – is a serious and surprisingly widespread problem which occurs in all sections of society, including church families. We are posting our new charter on notice boards, and also publishing details of sources of potential help for victims.

Next meeting: Our next meeting – the last planned before the Annual Church Meeting at noon on Sunday 6 April - will be held on Monday 10 March at 8pm in the Hall.

Roger Morgan
PCC Secretary