

CHRIST CHURCH EPSOM COMMON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Registered Charity No. 1127945

Main points of the PCC meeting held on
Monday 9 January 2012



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

Christmas: We reflected briefly on the various Christmas events which, doubtless helped by the Christ Church Christmas card (and thanks for your help in delivering these round the parish) seem generally to have gone very well at both Christ Church and Christ Church on the Wells. The giant Christmas cards had been well used by the congregations, raising about £120 towards the Christmas Appeal for LeatherHead Start – the record grand total for which was some £1,500.

Targets: At our November meeting, we set ourselves various targets (under the main headings of Vision, Discipleship, Spirituality and Mission) with the aim of helping to build up the church community after the long vacancy. Some of these have already been achieved, and we made plans to meet the remainder over the next few months.

Activities: We also took stock of various events and activities in prospect including: the usual ecumenical Lent Home Groups; a Ceilidh in mid-March; new Group Ministry arrangements for Holy Week; a pilgrimage to Canterbury in June or July; a "taster" day trip to Greenbelt in late August; and a Quiz Night in November.

Acting Director of Music: As Esther Jones' maternity leave is continuing beyond January, we were pleased to agree a three month extension of Leah Perona-Wright's acting appointment – with thanks to her for all she has done for our music since last June.

Finance: We agreed the budget for 2012. We will be looking to increase our general income from about £129,000 in 2011 to some £137,000 in 2012, mainly through an increase in the number of people involved in our pledged giving arrangements, on which we shall be focusing in a Stewardship Review on 12 February. On the expenditure side, we agreed to transfer £35,000 from the General Fund to the Property Fund for essential works on the Church and Hall and at 278 The Greenway. We earmarked £14,500 for missions, the great bulk of which will be channelled via the "champions". Much of the other expenditure is dictated by external factors, but the remainder will as usual be tightly-controlled. The net budget is for a deficit of around £35,000, which will be met out of the generous legacy from Molly Hardwick.

Hall: When the Hall was built in the mid-1980s, the Diocese set a number of restrictions on its use – in particular, that it could not be used for "any commercial purpose." Accordingly, we have had to decline otherwise acceptable letting requests (e.g. for keep-fit classes) simply because the organiser aimed to make some profit. This not only damages our reputation and outreach to the surrounding community but also denies us what could be useful additional income. We have therefore – and with Diocesan support – applied for a simpler set of conditions to give us greater discretion over how the Hall may be used.

Next meeting: Our next meeting, the last planned before the Annual Church Meeting on Sunday 22 April, will be held on Monday 12 March at 8pm in the Hall.

Roger Morgan
PCC Secretary