

CHRIST CHURCH EPSOM COMMON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Registered Charity No. 1127945

Main points of the PCC meeting held on
Monday 11 March 2013



Here is the usual summary of the PCC's recent meeting – our last meeting before the Annual Church Meeting on 14 April. As always, fuller details are in the draft minutes which will also be displayed shortly.

Missions: Most of our Mission funding is channelled to our “championed” missions, but we hold some back to respond to emergency and *ad hoc* appeals. From this margin and with advice from the Missions Group, we agreed the following donations: Save the Children's Syria appeal, £1,200; The Samaritans and ChildLine, £250 each; Richard & Sophie Gower in Zimbabwe, £200; and St Barnabas Home for Retired Clergy and the Church Housing Association, £100 each.

Molly Hardwick memorial: Molly Hardwick (1919-2008) left Christ Church a generous legacy and, in her memory, we have commissioned a new paschal candle holder. Unlike the present white column, the new one – to be dedicated on Easter Sunday – has been designed to complement the other furniture on the dais.

Premises: Together with the Premises Group, we are firming up plans for a major renewal of the ageing Hall toilets later this year, when we aim also to redecorate the downstairs Hall.

Music: The church's PA system was designed mainly for speech. The monthly *Revive* service has sharpened up the long-standing issues of handling music on that system, and we agreed to resolve things with the purchase of some additional kit. While this is designed for music use, it will also be useful in extending our amplification options.

Annual Church Meeting (Sunday 14 April at 12 noon): We approved the annual accounts, and agreed the agenda and papers to go to Annual Meeting. Copies of these will be available at both Christ Church and Christ Church on the Wells from 17 March. Among other things, the papers include reports:

- from Christ Church on the Wells, where this small community church continues its valuable work in good shape; and
- on the main church's finances where 2012's in-year deficit of £13,100 was nearly £30,000 less than budgeted because, in the event, the planned projects on the church stonework and Hall toilets were delayed. The net worth of Christ Church was £147,000 at year end. The sum set aside for missions giving through the champions and by the PCC to *ad hoc* appeals had amounted to 13% of our reckonable income, well above the average across the Diocese. On the 2013 budget, we are planning another in-year deficit of some £22,500 – almost all accounted for by necessary provision for repairs and maintenance. It is fortunate that our present reserves allow for this but, unless we are able before long to boost our income, we shall face some very difficult decisions over priorities.

Elections: A key part of the business at the Annual Church Meeting is elections. After three years in post, Hazel Rose has decided to step down as Churchwarden. We thanked not only her for that service but also Martin Shipton for his service to date and his willingness to be re-elected for a further year. Four seats on the PCC are coming up for routine triennial renewal. The current holders (Tricia Coleman, Phil Goldby, Sue Matthews and Roger Morgan) are eligible to stand for re-election although, after several years' service for which we thanked him, Phil has decided to stand down. Nomination forms for all these posts will be available at both Christ Church and Christ Church on the Wells from 17 March.

Next meetings: Our next meeting will be held in the Church immediately after the 14 April Annual Meeting (elections at which will have amended our membership), to deal with various immediate housekeeping points. The first full meeting of 2013-14 is planned for 17 June at 8pm in the Hall.

Roger Morgan
PCC Secretary