MINUTES OF A CHURCH SUPPORT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 1 OCTOBER 2015

PRESENT: D. Frost, P. Savill (Secretary), M. Scott (Chairman) and H. Taylor (Treasurer)

IN ATTENDANCE: B. Carnochan (PCC Treasurer)

1. NOTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 21 MAY

Note 4 - Matters Arising – Family Fun Day. The hoopla game (St Margaret’s Church Support Group Stall) raised £33. This amount was paid directly into the church funds.

2. FINANCES – ST MARGARET’S CHURCH SUPPORT GROUP

H. Taylor reported on our current financial situation. We noted we have £1,235 in the bank. The bank account is held at the Billericay branch of Barclays. The thanks of the group were given to H Taylor for his work and time he gave to setting up this account.

3. FINANCES – ST MARGARET’S CHURCH

B. Carnochan reported on the current financial situation of the church. His report covered the accounts for the financial year 2014 (1 January to 31 December) and the church’s income and expenditure to the end of September 2015. Both sets of figures list the parish share as having been paid in full and record a deficit of £3,779 for 2014 and £7,263 for 2015. As only 50% of the parish share had been paid there was a surplus of £590 in 2014 and the actual deficit for 2015 is £2,078.

B. Carnochan explained the Church of England’s quinquennial inspection system for the building, the restrictions on the church’s assets (Tithe Chancel, Restricted and Unrestricted Funds), why there is a parish share and how this is calculated by the Deanery. In response to a request to transfer funds from the restricted to the unrestricted fund he pointed out this could be done but there is a need to keep a reasonable amount in the fund for unforeseen expenditure.

We noted the decrease in voluntary giving and discussed how best to encourage increased regular giving in the community. We also discussed what we can do to make the church more attractive to visit and how we could help with various improvements to the church. We agreed to contact Simon Upton (PCC member with the lead for the church fabric). **ACTION: P. SAVILL**

4. FUND RAISING EVENTS

We noted the next fund raising event is the Christmas Bazaar on 21 November. P. Savill will be helping at this event. We agreed we would progress the previous list of events to be held in the church and added a jazz spiritual session to the list:

* Art exhibition/Art demonstration – **M. SCOTT**
* Choral recital/Classical music/Jazz Spiritual – **M. SCOTT**
* Children’s performances e.g. music, plays, nativity – **P. SAVILL**
* Wildlife talks/Wine tasting – **D. FROST**
* Afternoon Tea – **P SAVILL**

It was agreed we could look into organising some joint fund raising events to be held in the village hall. The money raised would be shared with the village hall. These included:

* Murder mystery dinner event **– P. SAVILL**
* Dinner/supper party **– P. SAVILL**

5. COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Due to the resignation of Mr Malcolm Wood the PCC will be contacted to see if one of its members would be prepared to join the committee. **ACTION: P. SAVILL**

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(i) Publicity: We agreed in order to keep the village informed about the support group there should be a write up in the newsletter and a link to the parish website. **ACTION: M. SCOTT and P. SAVILL**

(ii) Church Liaison: We agreed to invite Revd. Celia to our next committee meeting. **ACTION: M SCOTT**

7. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 8th December at 7pm in the St Margaret’s church.