MINUTES OF A CHURCH SUPPORT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 21 MAY 2015

PRESENT: P. Savill (Secretary), M. Scott (Chairman), and M. Wood (PCC representative)

APOLOGIES: D. Frost and H. Taylor.

1. FINANCES

A report on our current financial situation was deferred to our next meeting. We noted we have approximately £1,100 in the bank – made up by donations and membership fees (49 members). The criteria for ‘a non profit organisation’ which is not a registered charity being able to claim back income tax through gift aided membership fees and donations will be explored. **ACTION: P. SAVILL**

2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

We agreed the main aim and objective for the support group is to ensure St Margaret’s Church stays open for the community. Our strategy for achieving this will be to:

* Organise and support events that increase usage.
* Raise funds that can be used by the committee to increase usage.
* Address issues that stop people going to the church.

3. POLICIES, PROCEDURES AND PRIORITIES

We agreed the criterion for the support group’s funds must be to address the decrease in usage of St Margaret’s and before any expenditure is agreed the committee should ask the question ‘would this expenditure result in more people using the church?’

We discussed the outline plan circulated with the agenda and agreed the committee would:

* Work closely with St Margaret’s Parochial Church Council.
* Consult regularly with villagers and anyone with an interest in the church.
* Meet regularly to ensure the goals are being met.

We agreed in order to have a better understanding of the church’s finances we need to invite the PCC’s treasurer to our next committee meeting. **ACTION: M. WOOD**

4. FUND RAISING EVENTS

We noted the first two events offering an opportunity to raise funds in the village are the Family Fun Day (11 July) and the Christmas Bazaar (21 November). We agreed St Margaret’s Support Group will aim to have a stall at these two events. **ACTION: P. SAVILL**

We noted there have been a number of suggestions for events that could be held in the church.

These include:

* Art exhibition/Art demonstration
* Choral recital/Classical music concert
* Children’s performances e.g. music, plays, nativity
* Craft Fair/Plant Sale
* Wildlife talks/Wine tasting

Other suggestions for fund raising in the village include:

* Murder mystery dinner event
* Dinner/supper party
* Posh afternoon tea party

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

We agreed to convene a meeting to be held in the week beginning 12th October. **ACTION: P. SAVILL**