

**PCC 17<sup>th</sup> February 2011.**

**Minutes of the Special Meeting**

**'Faith for our Children'**

Present: Alasdair Smith, Andrew Lamont, Gillian Warren, Ian Pounce, Graham Tomsett, Alan Cannings, Eb Cottingham, Peter Frost (vice chair). Also Mikey Lear (midweek youth), Sarah Lear (Sunday youth).

Apologies: Amps Cross, Heather Shephard, Caroline Culme-Seymour, Nigel Hill, Charlotte Mitchell, Mike Richards, Alice Fry (secretary)

Opening Worship: From the breaking of the dawn, John 15.1-17.

Business Agenda

1. APCM – Alasdair Smith thanked Ben Williams Thomas, Andrew Lamont, Ian Pounce for their hard work and help. Alasdair brought to the PCC the accounts for 2010. He proposed that the Annual Report & Financial Statements be accepted. Seconded: Eb Cottingham. Unanimous.
2. Eb Cottingham talked about Mikey Lear with Asha Goddard to set up a community coffee shop in St Francis. Providing they have had a risk assessment, a visit from the council, a hygiene certificate. PCC asked for clarification on what entity this is. Tuesday–Friday, 2.30 – 4.30pm, term time. PCC approval needed to cover public liability insurance. Charges: free for a month and then try to charge for the cost of heating after that for a while. EIG have been approached and they are happy. Concerns were aired over where profits would be directed. Proposal: PCC approve the establishment of a community coffee shop, subject to a written statement of its entity. Proposed by James Hollingsworth, seconded by Graham Tomsett. Unanimous.

Faith for Our Children

Sarah Lear and Mikey Lear joined the PCC for this

Sarah Lear summarised the existing work with children:

Sunday Groups: we have about 30 plus kids (tops 40) from teenagers to toddlers. Top age is 13. 10+ group, 8-9, 4-7, then Tower for crèche. We're not filling up the bottom lot, our children are getting older. High turnover of staff, partially resolved by putting helpers with different groups. Chloe Tiffin is taking a group on a regular basis. One problem: I never know who or how many will show up on a Sunday. We tried a 4<sup>th</sup> group but it didn't take off. Some families have come and gone. This alters the dynamics. Top group have moved onto Grid material (more teenage).

Mikey Lear summarized the mid week youth work:

Midweek Groups: St Francis Youth Group – every other week, Friday night, FYG2/3 (by key stage) so 8-11 yrs and 11-13+. 6-7.30pm and 7-9pm with a meal in between. Selection of Games, videos, guest speakers (eg Project Zambia, Wild about Barcombe). Mikey tried a Film Night on other Fridays but it didn't work. FYG2 attendance in the 10-25 range (average 15;) FYG3 Attendance in the range of 1-10; FYG2 contains a mix of church kids and non-church kids.

The PCC then discussed a range of possible ways to encourage our own children to stay on as teenagers and reach out to the wider community. The main action points were as follows:

**Aim: To provide for children and young people in the church and wider community and support their growth and development as young Christians.**

**Possible Outcomes:**

1. Provide a suitable Sunday Night activity each week with, for example
  - Visits to larger churches with a lively youth service/activity
  - Youth Alpha or similar course
  - A monthly teenage service in Barcombe inviting other groups to attend
2. Supporting young people to attend major events such as Bible on the Beach, New Wine etc.
3. Supporting young people to undertake short term mission/development projects at home and abroad
4. Employing and developing a part time youth leader
5. Freeing James on Sunday evenings to coordinate the main young people's activities
6. Obtaining a minibus to enable the group to go out together
7. Supporting and growing the mid week youth activities through the commitment of suitable people in the church and village.
8. Establishing a Youth Work sub group to plan and develop activities
9. Enabling young people to participate in the main church service. For example through becoming part of the music group, helping with technology and assisting with children's groups.
10. Adding a pathfinder age group on Sunday mornings

The PCC will consider these together with the other three main aims for the next five years before presenting the outcomes to the church as a whole.

- Sharing our Faith
- Faith in action
- Increasing our Faith

Peter Frost Feb 19<sup>th</sup> 2011