

**Minutes of the Trustees of the
Woughton Ecumenical Partnership
29th November 2016 at St Mary's Church**

<p>Present: Mike Davidge, Don Mahon, Marilyn Mahon, Di Miller, Jean Mattinsley, Jeff Newall, Paul Norris, Heather Pollard, Lynn Castle, James Whysall</p> <p>In attendance: Tim Norwood, and for item 5 Pat Hodges, Helen Hobson</p> <p>Prayers led by: Paul Norris</p>	
<p>1) Apologies: None</p>	
<p>2) Approval of Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held on 18th October 2016 were approved, proposed by Paul and seconded by Lynn. Marilyn Mahon raised an objection to the Minutes of the 13th September 2016 and requested an amendment to those Minutes. A corrected version will be produced at the next Trustees meeting.</p>	Di
<p>3) Matters Arising: a) Parish Christmas Cards. This has been produced and circulated to the churches although numbers are down from last year.</p>	
<p>4) Chairman's Report: Further to Charity Registration, Mike reported that he will be signing the Memorandum of Understanding on behalf of the Trustees, Tim Norwood will sign on behalf of the PCC and forms will be sent to the Bishop to sign on behalf of the Diocese. Marilyn will lead on the Registration of the new charity. Forms were circulated at the meeting for Trustees to fill in and sign.</p>	Mike and Tim
<p>5) The Vacancy (item taken jointly with PCC): Tim has completed the updated Profile and there has been some feedback from the Deanery Pastoral Committee. The Profile will be circulated to all members of the Parish via the Parish Office and the website when it has been edited again, as well as paper copies being available in the churches. There is still the question of the house for the new Rector to sort out. Tim is to follow up these discussions with the Archdeacon. The next step is the Section 12 meeting with the Bishop on 13th December 2016 and further amendments can be made to the Profile after that eg the picture of Raymond Lo needs to be removed and some mention to be made of the other Christian churches in the immediate area. The reference in the profile about the necessity for the candidate to have a current driving licence was raised and Tim agreed to the phrase "the candidate needs to be able to move around the Parish". There was a discussion on membership numbers in the Parish arising out of enquiries from the Anglicans and the Methodists. Di to send the recent figures from the AGM to Tim.</p>	Tim and Di
<p>6) Financial Report: Don presented the figures which are shown in separate records. The Parish Share included a generous discount for the interregnum by the Deanery of £20,000 for next year. Don explained that the Parish must make every effort to put any extra money into a pot for ministry expenses to enable us to pay for our new minister when they come. Local plans from the churches have been included in the Budget. There is still a deficit of £3,609 predicted for the end of the year. Don is to produce a set of figures which show the financial situation at the start of the new charity. Paul proposed and James seconded the proposal to approve the Budget for 2017 and this was carried nem con. There was further discussion about how the deficit can be brought down. Don suggested that if every member gave just £5 per month more, this could be realised. The Trustees agreed to take this back to their churches. Jeff Newall discussed the idea of a Parish Stewardship group to be set up independently of the MRG. The purpose of the group relates to the collective pooling of ideas concerning the different aspects of stewardship. Jeff and Marilyn volunteered to explore this idea and district churches were asked to put forward other names.</p>	Don and Marilyn Jeff and Marilyn

<p>7) Special Items: a) Parish Administrator. Heather and Paul have interviewed someone interested in taking on the role. References have not yet been received and telephone confirmation that this is a suitable person is the next step. On the subject of membership in the Partnership, it was confirmed that the Parish Office has the annual returns and ought to be from where the information is sent.</p> <p>b) Publication of Minutes. The Trustees agreed not to publish Minutes in a summary form to the wider Parish but in their present form but noting that personal or other sensitive information would be edited out when necessary.</p>	<p>Heather and Paul</p>
<p>8) Format of the Annual Report for the WEP AGM: Heather has produced a report giving 4 options for the format as a result of meeting with a Review group of herself, Jean and Marilyn. The Trustees must give an indication of their preferences on 1-4 scale by the next meeting. In the Activity Reports the main aim is to be made clearer.</p>	<p>Heather</p>
<p>9) Reports from the Churches: St Thomas Simpson: Christmas plans include a Christingle service this Sunday and a Salvation Army Concert. There is also a Carol service for Key stage 2 schoolchildren from Charles Warrener Academy. Trinity Church, Fishermead: New people are coming in for services. Chris Bell taking services. The church family has a table at the Residents Association Community Carol service on December 10th to promote church related activity. St Mary's Church, Woughton: Have held a good Christmas Bazaar. The Redway School coming in for two carol services. Christingle is being incorporated into the Family Service on Dec 18th. There will be the usual Carol service on Sunday 18th pm after the choir have sung carols at Ashby House. Christ the Vine Community Church, Coffee Hall: Has been an immensely successful Remembrance Sunday with full participation from the British Legion and 130 people attending the service. School children attended the War Memorial on Friday 11th November which was reported on Anglia TV. The Christmas Fayre on 3rd December anticipated the involvement of the Residents' Association. Numbers attending services are creeping up. Woolstone Church: Plans in hand for a Christmas concert and the usual services.</p>	
<p>10) AOB: a) Christmas advertisement. This relates to the radio advertising of services in MK and the Parish has paid £250 from its Mission Fund towards this.</p> <p>b) Hospital Chapel. A decision was taken that the Parish no longer advertises the activities taking place in the Hospital Chapel. The references to these are to be taken out of the pewsheets and also out of the web site. The Parish website will simply provide a link to find further information.</p> <p>c) The updated Profile shows changes in the areas of responsibility in the map of the Parish. The Trustees agreed that from now on all future maps and references would reflect this. From 1st January 2017 the re-assignment will show that: Netherfield will be together with Coffee Hall and Beanhill. Eaglestone will go to Fishermead and Oldbrook catchment area. Springfield will continue to be with Woolstone. Simpson area will be together with Ashland and Tinker's Bridge.</p> <p>d) Tim Norwood told the meeting that from 1st January 2017 he hoped that he could offer a little more time to assist during the continued interregnum.</p>	<p>Web changes</p>
<p>The Meeting closed at 9.50pm.</p>	
<p>Next meeting: The next meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 31st January 2017 at Christ the Vine Church. The following meeting booked for Tuesday 7th March at St Mary's. A memo that our AGM is in the diary for April 25th 2017.</p>	