

UPDATE FROM THE PCC MEETING – 13 JULY 2009

Curate and Youth Worker updates

Following the departure of both the curate and the youth worker, the congregation were invited to attend the PCC meeting to give their views on the future needs of the parish.

The Vicar explained that there is a possible option to have another curate. The potential candidate is male, young and has an academic background. As yet the Vicar has not met with him so further information is not available as to his suitability. In addition, there is also a potential youth worker candidate who is doing voluntary youth work in Hook Norton. This person is a married man aged about 25.

Comments were invited from those attending and the main threads are summarised below:

- We need to consider continued funding for the Warriner School youth worker (currently Jon Cardy). The School would like to engage a full time youth worker and need help in financing this role from the churches within the Warriner catchment area. Our church's current financial commitment to this project is c£1800 per annum.
- If we fund the Warriner full time role, what involvement in the Warriner School should any parish funded youth worker have? The existing job description for our parish youth worker includes planned time in this school.
- We have funding in place for one year for a full time parish youth worker, representing the balance of Clare Cardy's contract. We need to decide if it is appropriate to fund a youth worker for only one year or to find more money. Alternatively, should the PCC look at appointing a part time youth worker?
- Irrespective of the work done by the outgoing youth worker, we have not seen much building up of our church membership. Therefore, should any appointee be in sympathy with our style of Christian life and be able to take part in our village life? Consideration should be given to building up a lively and vibrant family church community. The current congregation is not at all representative of the village population.
- Are we targeting the appropriate age group? It might be better to target the upper year groups at the Primary School. There is certainly a great need for a youth worker to support the Boys Brigade Junior unit (serving ages 8 to 11).
- We need to fully assess the role and duties for any replacement youth worker plus also the geographical coverage as Hempton would like some input from a youth worker.
- Regardless of the youth work undertaken by previous curates, there is no guarantee that any new curate will have a talent for it or that it is the correct use of this resource.

Summary - The PCC will meet again on Monday 10 August 2009 to review the comments made by the parishioners and to decide on:

1. The merits of appointing a new curate, and/or

2. The merits of appointing a new youth worker and on what basis (hours, job content, person specification etc.)
3. Continued funding for the Warriner School youth worker.

Christian Giving

Robin Brunner-Ellis, the Diocesan Officer for Christian Giving and Funding led the PCC and several members of the congregation through a shortened reflective learning exercise linked to stewardship and giving. The aim of the exercises is to identify a vision for the church and work out how that vision can be achieved in terms of required resources. The resources will include time, talents, people, money and of course, prayer.

Robin will be invited back later in the year to continue facilitating this work.

Health and Safety

Bryony Fenemore gave the PCC an update of progress to date.

Many will have noticed that the kitchen has been thoroughly cleaned and cleared of extraneous items. There is some retiling to be undertaken and if anyone can provide their services this would be appreciated.

Church cleaning

The PCC have agreed to obtain a quotation for the professional cleaning of the church once the floor works have been completed.

Diocesan Synod

Annette Murphy will be taking over from Viviane Hall as our representative.