

Greatham Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting of Greatham Parish Council Old Church Advisory Committee held at St John the Baptist Church on Tuesday 24th January 2017 at 7.30pm

Present Chairman A Bridgman (AB), David Rudd (DR), Carole Rudd (CR), Anne Ballard (ACB), Boopie Cope (BC), David Redman (DRed), Anna Dale-Harris and Stephanie Spence (SS) (The Parish Council Clerk).

1. Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman welcomed the members to the meeting.

2. Apologies for Absence

There were apologies from Peter Merz, Theresa Whelan and Debbie Hedicker.

3. Minutes of the Old Church Sub Committee meeting on 28th November 2016

The minutes of the meeting of 24th November 2016 were approved and signed.

4. Matters arising from the minutes of the Old Church Sub Committee meeting on 28th November 2016.

It was noted that there is no third key for the Old Church.

5. Alabaster Tomb update.

The Clerk noted that she had submitted an application for a £2,000 grant to Peter Fellows at EHDC, and that he is hoping there will be a further £2,000 available in FY 17-18. The Clerk will follow up and report back with any news.

ADH noted that it was important for the SPAB working party to be mentioned in the applications (particularly to the William Morris Fund) - as it shows that we have done work to help shore up the walls.

Anna-Dale noted that she wanted to progress with a funding application to La Leche. In order to submit a strong application, she said a few tasks needed to be undertaken including; the installation of ventilation in the Old Church, updated content on the Parish Council website, and a full calendar of promotional, fund raising events to support the Old Church and Alabaster Tomb. Anna Dale Harris agreed to work on the production of a leaflet to support the Old Church and Tomb, and to supply complete copy and any additional images to the Clerk for hosting on the website as soon as possible. Action ADH

David Rudd and David Redman agreed to create an opening in the door of the Old Church that would permit ventilation. It was agreed this should be sited approx. at the height of an average adult, be 8 inches square and have metal bars. Action DR/DRed

It was agreed that ACB would approach Tesco as a possible source of funding. Action ADH
A calendar of events was agreed (see below item 6).

6. Event Planning for 2017.

Various suggestions were discussed, and the following outline of events was agreed.

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| March 2017 | Article in the Parish Council Newsletter |
| March 2017 | Maintenance Day (25 th March 10am onwards) |
| April 2017 | Decorate and celebrate the Tomb (15 th April) |
| June 2017 | Old Church open to coincide with New Church Patronal Day (24 th) |

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| July 2017 | Summer Event (Pimms Open Air) (29 th July, 6-8pm) |
| September 2017 | Activity to link with Ride and Stride (9 th September) |
| December 2017 | Carol singing in the Old Church (9 th December) |

ADH noted that Easter weekend event is to commemorate the wedding anniversary of Dame Margery on 14 April 1610 (over 400 years ago).

It was agreed that all events would be promoted through the Parish Magazine and on the PC website, and local press. **Action ADH**

It was noted that the success of the Summer Event 2016 was due in part to the pre-event marketing undertaken by Carole Rudd and Sarah Bettin who worked hard over 3 days to sell tickets. All subcommittee members should endeavour to sell tickets for 2017. **Action CR/ALL**

7. Financial Report – to review current finances.

The Clerk had previously circulated a summary of all Old Church transactions from 01/01/16. This showed that the account value is currently £1,142.49. The full report is filed with these minutes.

A cheque for £90.60 was presented by Anna Dale-Harris which was the profit she had made selling Old Church cards. This was gratefully received and ADH was thanked for her efforts. Clerk to bank the cheque. **Action SS**

8. AOB:

- There was a discussion about the Old Church notice boards. It was noted that the condition was poor and there was a need for clearer signage. BC to speak with her husband who is a sign-writer. BC also noted she might have a source for some new wood for the board/s. **Action BC**
- It was agreed that a note for 'maintenance' be added to the monthly Parish Council agenda under the Old Church subcommittee item so it remains front of mind.
- ADH noted that a blue hose had appeared in the grounds of the Old Church. It was noted that this must be the water supply as created from L'Abri. Clerk to check with L'Abri. **Action SS**

9. Date of next meeting – the next meeting will be held on 15th March at 7.30pm in the Church of St John the Baptist.

10. Close of meeting – the meeting closed at 9.00pm.