

# Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Tresham Church Committee, held at Talbot Court Farm at 7.30pm, 14 January 2014.

**Present:** David Bradbury, Janet Bradbury, Richard Goodenough (chair), Mary Kingston, Richard Kingston, Annabel Mills.

**Apologies:** Rev. Rob Axford, Rev. Christine Axford, Julian Carter, Richard Graham.

- 1. Apologies** **Action**  
Apologies were received.
- 2. Minutes of last meeting**  
The minutes of the meeting held on 22 January 2013 were **approved** and signed.
- 3. Matters Arising**  
RK said he did not need to receive a letter thanking him for cutting the grass. Nevertheless, the Committee expressed its thanks.
- 4. Treasurer's Report and Accounts**
  - a. RG reported an overall surplus of £1,783: £1,020 from the General Fund plus £763 from the Restricted Fund. Total Funds now stand at £16,742 to which can be added the £6,192 surplus on our investment in The Church of England Investment Fund. RG will ask Phillippa Ellis to examine the Report and Accounts, which were otherwise **approved**. RG was thanked for their preparation.
  - b. A small deficit of some £300 on the General Fund is anticipated for 2014, in the absence of a significant fundraising event.
- 5. Donations to Charities**  
It was **agreed** to donate £25 to each of the original four charities: Acorn Children's Hospice, Cotswold Care Hospice, Glos Historic Churches Trust and Winston's Wish; plus a special one-off donation of £25 for Bishop Michael's appeal for the Brinckman High School in Kasulu, Tanganyika. Apart from the latter, this is in accordance with our policy to support charities which benefit parishioners. These donations are covered by the Christmas Service collection. RG
- 6. Parish Share**  
An increase of 3.0% has been accepted by the PCC which would take our contribution from £588 to £606 – this was **approved**.
- 7. Insurance**  
RG explained that Ecclesiastical offered reduced premiums for higher excesses up to £1000. It was **agreed**, with effect from next renewal, to increase our excess from £250 to £500, an extra saving of £53.44 pa at current rates. RG
- 8. Services 2014**
  - a. DB's proposals were **approved** and he would publish the list. DB
  - b. In addition, there would be Evensong on 22 June, followed by an evening function. DB
  - c. RMG would publish on [www.tresham.org.uk](http://www.tresham.org.uk) and [www.achurchnearyou.com](http://www.achurchnearyou.com). RMG
  - d. JB would shortly issue the flower rota and this would be similarly published. JB

## 9. Order of Service

It was **agreed** that, once printed, we would use the booklet prepared by Rev. Rob Axford, being more convenient than the Book of Common Prayer. DB

## 10. Plaque in Memory of David Gardner

- a. DB to apply for a faculty to erect a plaque beneath that of David's father; wording to be agreed with Margaret Gardner. DB
- b. RG had produced a draft service sheet with a photograph of David on the front, which was **approved**. RG

## 11. Quinquennial Inspection

- a. The wall adjoining the Eskins had collapsed in two places and is to be repaired at a total cost of £900, divided equally between the Eskins and the church.
- b. It was agreed there would be a churchyard tidy-up on Sunday, 11 May. AH suggested [www.everedge.co.uk](http://www.everedge.co.uk) path edging and offered an edging tool. DB suggested that the hoggin path he is installing might be suitable for the church. All

## 12. Sycamore Tree

The outcome of a visit by the director of Westonbirt Arboretum would be known at the next meeting of the PCC. In the meantime, MK said that Nigel Kingston would be writing to the PCC stating his concern over the threat of the tree to the safety of themselves and their property. DB

## 13. Making the Church More Welcoming

- a. DB wants to improve the literature in order to make the church more welcoming. He is to meet with Sue Whitfield who has offered to help. This would also help to build an entry describing Tresham Church in the website AChurchNearYou. DB
- b. DB proposed and it was **agreed** that Sue be invited to join the Committee. RG

## 14. Fundraising

- a. Nigel and Mary Kingston were thanked for their enormous contribution in making the Music Night such a success, which raised £993 for the church and £551 for the Village.
- b. It was felt that all villagers should be approached by email or letter inviting them to support the church through a donation of money or in kind. RG to draft a letter. RG DB

## 15. Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme

RG **reported** that the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme came into effect on 6 Apr 13. This means that Gift Aid can be claimed on small cash donations without requiring donors to provide a GA Declaration. DB would provide RG with an extract from the registry of the number of services with 10 or more attendees, enabling RG to apply for "top up payments". DB RG

## 16. Office Elections

DB is to resign in March as Church Warden but will continue the duties. RG will continue as Treasurer and Philippa Ellis as Independent Examiner. All were thanked for their contribution.

## 17. Any Other Business

RG was thanked for hosting the meeting and, there being no other business, the meeting closed at 22:00.