

Minutes of Ecclesiastical Assembly
Of St Brelade's Parish Church
Held in St Brelade's Church Hall
On Wednesday 11th June 2014

Present:

Rev. Mark Bond	Chairman
Steve Pallett	Connetable
Peter Norman	Procurer
Arthur Morley	Procurer
Brian Clarke	Church Warden
Eddie Cuthbert	Church Warden
Robin Harris	Treasurer
Alan Higginbotham	Almoner
Norman Moss	Almoner
Laurie Dicker	Lay Reader
Ruth White	Minute Taker

8 other Parishioners were also in attendance, with apologies Received from two others.

Rev Mark Bond Read out a letter he had received from the Dean giving us permission to hold the Ecclesiastical Assembly today instead of before 31st May.

1. **To Receive and Approve the Minutes of the Ecclesiastical Assembly held on 31st May 2012 and 26th September 2012**

Rev'd Mark Bond read out the Convening Notice. The Minutes of the Meeting held in June 2013 were approved.

Proposed by: Mr Eddie Cuthbert

Seconded by: Mr John Trafford

2. **To Receive and Approve the Accounts of Tresor**

Mr Eddie Cuthbert presented the Accounts for Tresor.

Income – all straight forward, slightly down on last year due to staff costs and less funeral fees.

Expenditure – The major item of expense were the Cemetery Gates for the bottom of the cemetery by the slipway. These gates are 150 years old and the refurbishment work carried

out has been excellent. The cost of this was £6,200. Mr Cuthbert took the opportunity to thank the Sextons for all their hard work in the Cemetery which is kept in excellent condition.

The biggest item in church expenditure was the balance of the church re-wiring costs. The final bill of £5,500 came in during May. We also had the window protection installed which was £5,500.

In March of this year, the day after the ACC agreed that we needed a new oil tank, we found that the oil tank had split! Fortunately it was caught before any environmental damage was done. There is a very long filler pipe which also needed replacing and cage installed on the end to stop people turning the pipe on. The total cost of the replacement tank, new pipe, cage and minor repairs to boiler house was £7,400.

The Rectory has had very little spent on it this year. We are waiting for the architect's report on the overall condition of the building as there are a number of essential works that are needed.

The Electricity costs are down due to the replacement lighting. This will be improved even further when the outside lighting is replaced in a few years' time.

Insurance is slightly down, not entirely sure why.

There is an overall deficit of £4,000 due solely to the oil tank.

Questions raised: Mike Smith is the oil tank failure covered by insurance? Answer, No – the tank was installed in 1996 and due for replacement.

Mr John Trafford asked 'What is the miscellaneous expense of £4149?' Answer - Cemetery fees for Sextons and Verger used to be paid direct to the person concerned in cash. It now is paid into the Tresor Account and then distributed out bi-annually. The £4,149 is sexton/verger fees paid out.

Mr Mike Smith commented that the flood lights are still on a 3am. The Verger replied that the timer clock is playing up and may need looking at for replacement in the future as the time keeps slipping on it. The off time for the floodlights will be adjusted.

Proposed by: Mr Mike Smith

Seconded by: Mr Brian Clarke

Rev Mark Bond thanked Mr Cuthbert for all his hard work. Handling the Tresor account is a valuable job and a large amount of money is handled on behalf of the Parish.

3. Election of Officers

Churchwardens and Almoners

Churchwardens – Both Mr Eddie Cuthbert and Mr Brian Clarke have worked extremely hard this year. Mr Clarke would like to stand down as Churchwarden and he was thanked for all his hard work during the past year, especially with all the work involved in organising the festival.

Almoners – Every Tuesday morning both Mr Alan Higginbotham and Mr Norman Moss have been hard at work counting and banking all the cash taken during the week and we are very grateful for all that they have done. Mr Moss would like to stand down as Almoner.

New Churchwarden – Mr Eddie Cuthbert proposed Mr Mike Smith and Mrs Jane Cuthbert seconded it. There were no other nominations, so Mr Smith was welcomed back as churchwarden again as he held this post immediately prior to Mr Clarke.

New Almoner – Mr Eddie Cuthbert proposed Mr John Trafford and Connetable Steve Pallett seconded it. There were no other nominations, so Mr Trafford was welcomed as Almoner.

All the Churchwardens and Almoners were asked to appear at the Royal Court on Saturday 14th June to be sworn in.

The Connetable congratulated the Churchwardens and the Almoners for being elected and thanked on behalf of the Parish, the retiring and current, churchwardens and almoners for all their hard work.

4. **Connetable's Address**

The Connetable said that he has been in his role now for nearly 3 years and he shared how at times it has been difficult. He is aware that occasionally, when he has been under pressure, he may have been a bit abrasive with people, but he has learnt to work as part of a team. He quoted three bible references which he has found encouraging, two from Proverbs Chapter 14: 18 & 29; and Colossians Chapter 3: 12 -13. The verses talk about being patient and he has found that helpful. The Connetable said he is doing the round the island swim in August and is training in the sea at 6.30am each morning and it's a perfect time of day to stop and reflect about how fortunate we are to live in such a beautiful island.

Rev Mark Bond thanked the Connetable and the Procurers for all their support during the past year. The church benefits from the relationship between church and parish.

The Hall Refurbishment is taking longer than anticipated but work should begin in September.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.15pm