

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF LUXEMBOURG
CHURCH COUNCIL

Monday 19 April 2010
8.00pm, the Vicarage

MINUTES

Present: The Rev'd Chris Lyon, the Rev'd Joan Lyon, Jane-Anne Frankel, John Overstall, Sarah Parkhouse (Treasurer), Jason Rea, Jacqui Spence, Christopher Vaudrey (Churchwarden).

1. **Welcome:** The Chaplain, as chairperson, presided over the meeting which was opened with a Bible reading from Ephesians 3: 14 and prayer at 8.10pm. The Council accepted the result of the bi-election held on Sunday 18 April 2010 for a new Council member and the Chaplain welcomed, *in absentia*, the two newly elected council members, Sebastiaan Boelen (elected at the AGM) and Felix Rusere (elected at the Bi-election).

2. **Apologies:** Catherine Allen (Churchwarden), Sebastiaan Boelen, Esmée Chengapen, Moira Hogg and Felix Rusere.

3. **Appointment of Treasurer and Secretary:** Following the Annual General Meeting, the proposing (by Jacqui Spence) and the seconding (by Chris Vaudrey) of the appointment of Sarah Parkhouse as Treasurer, was warmly accepted.

Susan Bolen who had been acting Secretary has stepped down from this role and this post remains to be filled. Chris Vaudrey will make approaches to possible replacements. The Council expressed its appreciation of Susan's efficient work in her short time in this post and the Chaplain will write to Susan accordingly.

(Action pt: Chaplain and Chris Vaudrey)

Joan Lyon, Assistant Chaplain, agreed to act as Minutes Secretary for this meeting.

4. **Minutes of last meeting:** Item 4 – a reminder was accepted from Jane-Anne Frankel to include a file copy of the paper outlining the proposed resolution with the final minutes. Otherwise, the Minutes were agreed to be an accurate account of the last meeting held on 8 March 2010.

(Action pt: Joan Lyon)

5. Action points Review and Matters Arising

See separate Action points spreadsheet.

Update: The transfer of the content of our website to Visual Online as new provider is now in process.

New Action points as follows:

Jane-Anne to forward text for church advertisement in 352 to Chris Vaudrey.

Chris and Jane-Anne to follow up request for information from Elaine, Administrative Assistant

Jacqui to send Chris Vaudrey copy of the Practical Information Guide in the event of death in Luxembourg.

Finance Committee to meet to discuss possible plans for cash reserves.

(Action pts: Jane-Anne Frankel, Chris Vaudrey Sarah Parkhouse, Finance Committee)

6. Treasurer's Report

Accepted with some further helpful clarification on Income and Expenditure from Sarah.

The Chaplain had had a useful conversation with the treasurer of the Protestant Church in Luxembourg (Gerd Gebhard) who is a professional pensions advisor about the chaplains' pensions. He is going to send a list of questions to Chris which will start the process of clarifying the pension situation and has offered the help of one of his staff members to take on this investigation on our behalf. A fee will be payable for this professional advice.

The Council agreed to authorize the purchase of two new computers plus appropriate updated software for the office and the assistant chaplain's computer. This will mean that all three computers (office and two chaplains) will be compatible. A quote of €1,749.00 from Steve Preston, PC-Doctor, was accepted.

(Action pt: Joan Lyon)

7. Ministry Report

1. Holy Week and Easter services were well received although numbers were down on last year.

2. Statistical information – results now available from Diocesan survey in October 2009 and will be circulated to Council members. They show that the Anglican Church in Luxembourg is drawing 2% of the UK population living in Luxembourg which is the highest in the Diocese. It would be worthwhile to study population statistics which might be available from Statec, Luxembourg.

3. Choir/First Sunday Group – changes to timetabling due to choir presence in Metz on Sunday 9 May for an early service as part of the ecumenical celebrations of the Schuman declaration. First Sunday group will lead worship on both 2 and 9 May. Choral Evensong will be on Sunday 13 June rather than on Sunday 6 June which is the evening of the Church Fair.

4. Pastoral update: Good news of Catherine's continuing recovery with her return home from rehabilitation due tomorrow.

5. Ascension Day Walk: Thursday 13 May. Diana Edwards to plan route but need for a publicist and coordinator on the day. Joan to contact Stuart and Liz Alexander.

(Action pt. Joan Lyon)

6. Storage space: 3 out of 4 new cupboards have been delivered to the church and much rearrangement has taken place following the loss of our storage space and the hall downstairs. Some new shelving will be put into the confessionals in the chapel.

(Action pt. Chris Lyon to contact Alan Carlisle and Campbell Thomson)

8. Meeting with M Vanolst

Chaplain, Chris Vaudrey and Joan Lyon met with the manager of the Konvikt Centre, M Vanolst who proved very helpful in trying to accommodate our Sunday School activities and coffee time elsewhere after the hotel take over the Salle Maria Rheinsheim after 18 April. We hope that the Sunday School activities will take place in the rooms used by other users in the Konvikt Centre during the week and they will be contacted this week. New arrangements for the serving of coffee were discussed and will be transmitted to the appropriate people.

(Action pt: Chris Lyon – to buy rope and door notices; contact other users

Joan to contact Carole Vlachavas and Sunday School leaders)

9. External Communications

1. Chris Vaudrey and Jane-Anne Frankel to contact Elaine, Admin Asst, for further information about which publications already print church information and which therefore need to be kept up to date. Sarah Parkhouse offered to check 352 adverts on a regular basis.

(Action pt: Chris Vaudrey, Jane-Anne Frankel)

2. Updating of Who's Who insert now due **(Action pt: Chris Vaudrey and Joan Lyon)**

10. Area Contact Groups

Discussion about future of Area Contact Groups – possible reformulation might involve more informal but regular gatherings in various areas but open to all members, similar to the Lent lunch format. It was noted that some area groups were too big.

11. What is Church? - to be deferred to next meeting (Action pt: Secretary)

12. AOB

1. The AGM minutes have still be approved. Chaplain to send his report to the secretary of the AGM so that this can be finalized at next meeting. **(Action pt: Chaplain)**

2. The legal transfer of Vicarage is still outstanding. Chaplain to write to Mgr Schiltz to ascertain where to seek legal advice. **(Action pt: Chaplain)**

13. Date of next meetings: Monday 17 May and Monday 14 June 2010.

