

**ANGLICAN CHURCH OF LUXEMBOURG
CHURCH COUNCIL**

Wednesday 17 April 2013
7.30 pm, the Vicarage

MINUTES

Present: The Rev'd Chris Lyon, the Rev'd Andrew Markey (Assistant Chaplain), Catherine Allen (Churchwarden), Lynn Barclay, Tania Buhr (Secretary), Cheryl Fisher, Neil Ross, Philippa Seymour, Sarah Parkhouse (Treasurer), Evelyn Sweerts, Paul Townend, Chris Vaudrey (Churchwarden).

1. & 2. Welcome & Bible reading and prayer

The Chaplain, as Chairperson, opened the meeting at 8 pm by welcoming the two new Council members, Evelyn Sweerts and Paul Townend; he then read from John 21 and said a prayer.

3. Apologies

Moirra Hogg, John Overstall and Rani Roloff.

4. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the meeting of 12 March 2013 were agreed to be an accurate account of the proceedings.

5. Action Points Review and Matters arising

Action points review:

See separate Action points spreadsheet.

Matters arising:

None.

New action points:

- the Chaplain to buy some whisky as a retirement present for the Bishop;
- the Chaplain and the Churchwardens to meet with John Overstall to discuss the storage of the Church archives.

6. Ministry Report

The Chaplain reported that he and Hilary Cole, the child protection officer, had met with two members of the RC church who were responsible for child protection issues. The plan was to organise joint training courses. Someone was needed to train new leaders and to train trainers. Carol Birch was willing to be involved in the training of child protection personnel, but someone was still needed to handle the administrative side of the child protection policy.

7. Easter services review

The Easter sunrise service, followed by breakfast at the Bolens, had been chilly but uplifting, and the 11 am Easter Sunday service had been well attended. A Good Friday evening service together with the RC church had also taken place, attended by some of our

congregation. The service of Compline planned for the Sunday after Easter in St Alphonse church had had to be cancelled because of a technical problem.

8. AGM review

The Chaplain said that attendance at the AGM on 9 April, held on the premises of the Sœurs Franciscaines in Avenue Gaston Diderich, had been higher than for several years. The venue had been comfortable and spacious and the refreshments provided had been very welcome after a longer than usual meeting.

9. Junior Church

The Assistant Chaplain reported that things seemed to be running well and that Dana Luccock was leading Junior Church on the first Sunday of each month. He hoped that once the current subscription for the teaching material expired in August, new material could be put in place for September.

For the crèche, Jane-Anne Frankel had volunteered to replace Eyi Geers to do the rota until the end of June, but then someone else needed to take over.

10. Forthcoming Confirmation and Bishop's retirement presentation

Bishop Geoffrey would be taking the Confirmation service to be held on 28 April. He would arrive on Friday 26 April and be picked up by Andy Markey/Paul Townend, after which a reception would be held at the Vicarage for Church officials; on Saturday evening there would be a reception for the confirmands followed by a dinner for Church Council members. The Chaplain proposed offering *crémant* after the confirmation service. As it would be Bishop Geoffrey's last visit to us the Chaplain suggested we give him a present.

(Action point: The Chaplain to buy some whisky for the Bishop.)

11. Revision of the Electoral Roll – planning for contact meetings

The Chaplain said that Lynn Barclay had been working very hard on this matter; about 50 people had still not returned the electoral roll form and around half of those on the contact list had not replied. Once as many people as possible had been chased up about the forms, we then needed to plan area contact meetings relating to a stewardship campaign, possibly between September and November. The problem was that the number of people involved made it complex to organise such meetings, but there did not seem to be any alternative way of launching a giving campaign.

12. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, Sarah Parkhouse, presented her report for March 2013.

For the month of March, income was on budget and as expected.

The sundry expenses included 10 000 € received from Andy Markey as repayment of the cash advance. The car loan was still outstanding and terms of repayment needed to be agreed.

Capital expenditure included the cost of purchasing a new chair for Elaine Birch, approved by the Finance Committee.

The Charity payment included an amount of 683 € to the Children's Society for the Christingle service collection.

The KBL accounts had been closed and the accounts were in final draft form. The Treasurer would be sending final information to the auditor.

She said that she was also making an analysis of who was paying a standing order to the Church.

Sarah Parkhouse said that, since a definite replacement had yet to be found, she was willing

to continue as Treasurer for a few more months, but she needed someone to replace her at the Church Fair and over the summer holidays.

The Chaplain said that, having sought the Council's agreement a few months ago to buy a new computer, he had now found and purchased a suitable one that was somewhat more expensive than originally agreed. The Council agreed to the financing of the Chaplain's computer at a cost of 800 €.

13. Music Director

In connection with Dana Luccock's wish to obtain proper legal status for her stay in Luxembourg, Cheryl Fisher reported that Dana was seeking to obtain a "vie privée" arrangement whereby she would need a contract from the Church for the hours she worked. She was currently working between 10 and 15 hours per week for the Church.

14. Funding requests from the Covenant Players and the ERM

The Chaplain said that the Church had received an appeal for funding from Joanna Saunders of the Covenant Players to support her going to work in California for 3 years. After some discussion of the merits of her request, the Council voted on the issue and it was decided to refuse her appeal. The other funding request, from the Eastern Regional Ministry Course, would be discussed at the next meeting.

15. Stationery

Work was in progress. Philippa Seymour emphasised that the Who's who and Activities information needed to be photocopied on A4 sheets and not printed, as the information often needed updating.

16. Archive material

The Chaplain reported that John Overstall had been keeping copies of Council minutes and Archdeaconry reports for the past 35 years and there was now a need to store all these boxes somewhere other than his house. The Chaplain suggested that the boxes could be transferred to the Guildhall in London where the Diocese of Europe's records were kept. The archives kept at the Vicarage could go to the Luxembourg City Archives. He and the Churchwardens would discuss this matter with John Overstall. (**Action point:** the Chaplain and the Churchwardens to meet with John Overstall to discuss the storage of the archives.)

17. Church Fair

The Chaplain reported that at the AGM Ralph Birch had said he was willing to run the Church Fair for the next five years.

For this year's Fair, Catherine Allen suggested a group of volunteers could help the Vaudreys preparing their garden for the event, and Chris Vaudrey said he might indeed like to have a few people in to help.

18. Property issues – possible sale of the Vicarage

There was nothing new to report.

19. Any other business

a) The Chaplain said that one of the European School teachers had contacted him about a photographic project on the subject of praying that he was working on. The Chaplain had agreed to allow this man to take photos of people praying (with their consent), perhaps at the Wellsprings meetings and at the Confirmation service.

b) Given the interest that Bryan Rose had shown at the AGM regarding the issue of the General Synod vote about women bishops, the Chaplain wondered if he might possibly be a candidate to replace Moira Hogg as alternate lay representative on the Archdeaconry Synod, should she be wanting to step down once her three-year term of office expired next year.

20. Dates of next meetings

Wednesday 15 May 2013 at 7 pm for some food together, with the meeting to start at 7.30 pm.

Wednesday 12 June 2013.

21. Closing prayer

The meeting closed with a prayer at 10.55 pm.