

NORTH BELTISLOE BENEFICE

MINUTES OF NINTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: May 23rd 2016, Boothby Pagnell Village Hall

1. Opening Prayer

The chairman opened the meeting with a prayer.

Attendance (19)

Present:

Fr. Chris Atkinson (Chairman)	Rural Dean	Tom Blake	Boothby Pagnell
Percy Hunt, Secretary	Boothby Pagnell	Revd. John Spriggs	Boothby Pagnell
Rick Clegg, Treasurer	Braceby	Colin McGarrigle (Dep. Chair)	Humby
Fred Man	Humby	Diana Burrows	Ingoldsby
Beryl Simpson	Ingoldsby	Dan Welbourne	Ingoldsby & Humby
Kate Welbourne	Ingoldsby & Humby	Tony Clayton	Lenton
Kath Johnson	Ropsley	Sheila Kemp	Ropsley
Richard Preece	Ropsley	Ken Mann	Ropsley
Len Watson	Old Somerby		

Apologies:

Jenny Hunt (Boothby), Helen Clegg and Barbara Limb (Braceby), Hazel Clayton and Peter Dobney (Lenton), Judy Ayto (Old Somerby), Andrew Vince (Ropsley), Jan Saunders and Jonathan Tesh (Sapperton).

2. Minutes of Annual General Meeting – May 19th 2015

These were agreed and signed.

Tony Clayton confirmed that he is able to continue as Safeguarding Officer for the Group

3. Chairman's Report

Colin McGarrigle gave this report concerning the activities of the last year (copy attached) There was general agreement and there were no questions.

Colin proposed that we should record in the minutes our best wishes to Mike (Revd. Mike Doyle) and his family for their future – this was agreed.

Colin presented, on behalf of the Group, a book ("Prayer for the Day") to Percy in appreciation of his work as Group Secretary for the last 5 years. This was received with thanks.

4. 2015 Accounts

Rick Clegg presented the detailed examined accounts for the year ended December 31st 2015. The originals had been signed by Jane Allen, the independent examiner.

At the end of 2015 the Benefice had £643.37 in the Bank. Expenditure was £1,976.05 of which 95% was Rev Mike Doyle's expenses. Income was £1,149.28 resulting in a net outflow of £826.77 which was £301.77 more than planned in the budget mainly as a result of lower levies on the Benefice parishes.

On December 1st, Bitchfield, Bassingthorpe and Burton le Coggles left the Benefice to become members of the enlarged Corby Group. The NB Benefice 2015 Accounts reflected the return of their portion of the old Group's funds.

At the end of December the Benefice was also holding £13,123 of 2015 share payments on behalf of Ropsley, Old Somerby, Lenton, Sapperton and Braceby PCCs. Following Rev. Mike Doyle resignation this amount was paid to the Diocese on March 17th 2016.

Acceptance of the accounts were proposed by Tony Clayton and seconded by John Spriggs. They were passed unanimously. There was unanimous thanks to Rick for all the work he has done to manage our financial affairs and present them so clearly.

With regard to this year's Share Payments, there will be a meeting of the treasurers to agree the method employed (**Rick**)

Our Christian Aid collection this year was £1516 which was only slightly down on 2015 when 3 more parishes were involved. It was a great effort by everyone and particular thanks to our collectors and generous parishioners.

5. Amendment of the Constitution

An amended constitution had been agreed at the Group Council meeting on 16th March and was placed before the AGM for formal acceptance. The Rural Dean pointed out that we were the North Beltisloe Benefice, thus a slight title modification. The view of the meeting (item 4.3) was that "Officers should not *normally* serve for more than 5 consecutive years". The external "auditor" has become an "examiner" although the function is unchanged. With those slight changes the constitution was passed "nem con"

The Group Directory will be revised in the light of the changes and re-issued. (**Percy**)

6. Election of Lay Group Officers

The lay officers were thanked for their efforts on behalf of the Group over the past year. The election of officers was as follows:

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Proposed</u>	<u>Seconded</u>
Lay Vice-Chairman	Colin McGarrigle	Rick Clegg	Tom Blake
Acting Secretary(#)	Percy Hunt	Diana Burrows	Kate Welbourne
Treasurer	Rick Clegg	Tony Clayton	John Spriggs
Examiner	Jane Allen	Percy Hunt	Tony Clayton

The Secretary was persuaded to remain in post until a successor is found or he moves, whichever is the sooner.

There were no other nominations and the names were unanimously agreed en bloc.

7. Barn Dance

This will take place on June 11th at Ropsley Farm Barns, Boothby Pagnell. The format will be as last year. Music will be provided by the same band (Elusive Black Dog): salad providers have been identified and there was a request for volunteers to help set out the barn and serve the food. Details will be circulated concerning the date/time of the setting up. The event will be the responsibility of the parishes within the Group so it is in their interest to sell as many tickets as possible (we need at least 120 to break-even). Tickets are £10 adult and £5 children (under 12). Messy Church members will be emailed.

8. Planning and activities during the Vacancy

8.1 The benefice has been in vacancy since 21st May. The Bishop of Grantham (together with the Archdeacon of Boston) will be responsible for the appointment of the new incumbent. The interviewing of candidates will be arranged over two days. On the first day candidates will be shown around the parishes in the benefice and meet as many people as possible within each parish and also meet over a buffet lunch. On the second day formal interviews will take place at Lincoln. Each parish is required to choose two representatives to take part in

the process, one of whom will be on the interview panel on the second day. The representatives should be church wardens or their deputies if necessary.

The current rectory does not conform to the Green Guide. Nothing will happen until the end of July when the Archdeacon will instruct the Properties Board who will be responsible for maintenance/restoration.

The living is suspended and the next incumbent will probably start as priest in charge until the Deanery reorganization is complete, an element of which is the sharing of skills and practice across the Deanery.

8.2 Jonathan Tesh and Rick Clegg had produced a SWOT analysis with inputs from a range of people including those at Ropsley Primary School together with outline requirements. Members were asked to provide feedback before the end of May. There was a discussion of some of the items in the analysis.

There were obvious weaknesses regarding pastoral outreach, prayerful activities and a lack of confirmation classes and teaching. The Rural Dean was of the view that these classes and subsequent confirmation could be something of a two edged sword due to lack of commitment from the parties involved and possibly the support they received?

The issue of the Discipleship Programme was discussed and whether we should commence with some variant of it during the vacancy. Hopefully this will be developed when Colin and Rick meet with the Bishop and Archdeacon. (Colin and Rick met with the Bishop and Archdeacon on 7th June for initial discussions and Colin has produced a summary note.)

8.3 The main current initiative is concerning music with the Primary Schools. The June Group service will be a Songs of Praise; the service sheet has been circulated and members were encouraged to publicise the event. Kate took the opportunity to ask the meeting whether she should continue with the annual Harvest Supper at Ingoldsby church – there was positive support and she agreed to proceed.

9. Response to “Bishop’s Mission Order” letter

The overall view was that at this current time, when we are in vacancy, that the matter should be left until we appoint the next incumbent. The matter can then be reconsidered. This view was relayed after the AGM to Steven Slight in Lincoln.

10. Any other relevant business

a) Ingoldsby – notification of two events that are coming up

- Friday 24th June is Quiz night
- Saturday 17th September – Cottesmore Military Wives Choir

Details from Diana Burrows (585513)

b) Ropsley Primary School Governors

Mike Doyle’s departure has left a vacancy. Fred Mann as Chairman of the Governors gave the background and indicated that the Diocesan Educational Board is pressing to have the vacancy filled. (**Fred/Chris** to resolve)

c) Lenton May Parnhy (?) Charity

Mike’s departure has created a similar situation with this charity and Chris agreed to fill the role on a temporary basis.

Subsequent to the meeting the next Group Council meeting was arranged for Monday 27th June at 7.30 pm, Boothby Pagnell Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.25pm with the Grace