**Casterton District Church Council**

2nd July 2018

**Present:** Richard Snow, Stephen Evans, Gill Sykes, Tom Herd and Anastasia Micklethwaite

**Apologies:** Anne Pettifor, Dorothy Turner and Annette Benson

RS opened the meeting with Psalm 103 and a reflection on it.

The **minutes** from the March Meeting were accepted and signed

**Matters Arising:**

* **Rededication of War Memorial:** Friday 21st September. The service in church will start at 10am and will last 30-40 minutes. RS asked for ideas as to what should happen at the war memorial. Tea and coffee will be available in Village Hall afterwards. GS will liaise with the Parish Council to make a poster.
* **Friends of Holy Trinity:** SE outlined his ideas for this informal group who would be kept up-to-date about events etc at HT and who might be willing to offer help in various ways. Some slight alterations were suggested to the excellent letter and it was agreed to include a programme of events with it. SE will get the personalised letters ready and GS will deliver them.
* **Churchyard:**
  + SE reported that Ron Bulman had agreed to work for a few hours in the churchyard and to tide us over until someone could be employed to **cut the grass**. Dixie Dean knows of someone and SE is following this up.
  + The church will be made more visible in the near future by the **removal of some saplings** and by **trimming overhanging tree boughs**
  + Space for new gravesis very limited with only one or two remaining and the hilly area of the churchyard is unsuitable. RS will look into the procedure for **re-use of burial space** in the older part of the churchyard. In the long term it will be worth considering moving the **garden of remembrance** into a more open and attractive area.
* **Heating:** 
  + It should be possible to **set the timer** for the weekly regular events such as Sing Joyfully! and the School’s Service on a Friday. It will then need someone from the DCC to set the timer for services and one-off events and someone from school for their concerts etc.
  + There was a discussion about the problem of **water not circulating properly**. GS will try to find out if a second opinion from Howsons was obtained as suggested. The capital cost of replacing pipes with radiators would probably be prohibitive (even with a donation from school if we were their nominated charity and a grant from the Casterton Community Trust) and it might be better to continue coping as we are.

**Church door lock and keyholders:**

Over the years, many people have had extra keys cut for the church door and nobody is now entirely sure who has a key. In order to make church more secure, GS will obtain a quotation for a new 5-lever lock and the price for extra keys. A list of key holders will then need to be kept up-to-date.

**Financial Report:**

* TH presented the latest report and highlighted the **generous donations** from the Jazz Workshop, Sing Joyfully! and KL Singers.
* TH proposed that Gill Sykes and Stephen Evans were added as **signatories** **for the HT bank account** and that Jean Lobley and Frank Livesey were removed. All present agreed.
* An increase of 1½% in the **Parish Share** offer has been suggested and TH proposed that we follow this. All present agreed.
* RS reported on the salient items from a **meeting of Rainbow Parish treasurers** at which Robert Cass had suggested measures to simplify financial reporting.

**Churchwardens’ Report including Fabric:**

* The **roof tiles** on the chancel roof will be seen to during the school’s summer holiday
* SE had attended the **Archdeacon’s visitation** at Grange-over-Sands
* SE reminded DCC members about the **services** being reduced to one a month starting this month. It was agreed that sometimes the service on the 4th Sunday would not be Holy Communion as this might increase the size of the congregation. Anyone wishing to go to communion would be able to attend another church in the Rainbow Parish.

**Report on events:**

These had all gone well.

**Future Events:**

* **Harvest Festival** onSunday 7th October at 6.30pm
* **Informal carols** on Friday 7th December at 6.30pm
* **Sing Joyfully! and Kirkby Lonsdale Singers** joint Christmas Concert on Tuesday 11th December at 7.30pm
* **Christingle** service on Sunday 13th January at 6.30/6.45pm (date and time TBC)
* **Sing Joyfully Spring Concert** on Tuesday 26th March at 7:30 or 8pm (start time TBC)
* **Sing Joyfully! and Kirkby Lonsdale Singers** at St Mary’s KL on Saturday 8th June
* There are unlikely to be any **recitals** because of a change of timetable which will remove the lunchtime slot

**Services:**

* Sundays 22nd July and 26th August, Holy Communion at 10.30am. Sunday 23rd September, non-Eucharistic service at 10.30am
* Harvest Festival Sunday 7th October at 6.30pm

**AOB:**

**The Rectory:** RS explained about the proposed sale of the rectory and the legal processes involved in any changes. The full picture will be considered in terms of developing St Mary’s, the other buildings and land to their full potential for both the church and the community. Somebody with experience of this sort of project will be consulted in order to find the best way forward.

**Website:** Some updating is probably needed. Ron’s details as Churchwarden need removing. AM suggested that RS’s contact details needed adding as currently they can only be found by using the link to the Rainbow Parish website. GS will check that Ron is willing to make the alterations if we send them to him.

**Leaflet:** Copies of this have run out and it needs updating. GS will have a look at it and will also find out how many copies were printed last time and where the paper was purchased.

The **next meeting** will be on **Monday 8th October** in Church at **6.30pm**.

RS closed the meeting with the Lord’s Prayer