

West Swindon & the Lydiards Church Partnership

Annual General Meeting on 26 March 2011 at Toothill Church.

Chair:	Dick Gray	St Mary's:	Present 4: Apol: 2
All Saints:	Present: 4 Apol 2:	Toothill:	Present:9 Apol: 7
Holy Trinity:	Present: 3 Apol: 4	Westlea:	Present: 4 Apol: 0
Notes:	Chris Scarisbrick		

1. Tea

...was consumed...much food was left over...

2. Worship.

"God is Good"

Dick read John 14: 5-14, and reflected on "we can do it". It doesn't matter who we are, where we come from, what our natural abilities are; our faith is in Jesus and His power.

"A new commandment"

3. Approve Minutes of AGM 17 March 2010; Matters Arising

Minutes were accepted as read, with no objections or corrections

Dick projected a table with the entire partnership's cohort of leaders and post holders. There were a few additions from the floor, reflecting the decisions of meetings held subsequent to the table's compilation. There may be more additions, eg: once the Toothill church committee have held the first meeting after their AGM.

Post	All Saints Lydiard Millicent	Toothill	Westlea	St Mary's Lydiard Tregoze	Holy Trinity Shaw
Chair	Julian Wright	Mark Dowling	Dick Gray	Pat Watson and Paul Gardner (in turns)	Steve Kershaw
Secretary	Vacant but various	Nicola Hoar	Sarah Wilmott	Tish Vass	Vacancy!! (but hts- secretary@wswinlyd.org.uk still valid)
Treasurer	Christina Wheeler	Gordon Partridge	Julie Scarisbrick	Hilary Pearson	Sue Green
Churchwardens (ex-o PCC)	Simon Belcher David Burch	n/a	n/a	Pat Watson	Craig Tranfield
Stewards	n/a	Mark Dowling Dave Carter	n/a	n/a	n/a
Committee or Leadership Team	Julian Wright Simon Belcher Tricia Roberts Lesley Green Tina Wheeler Mary Poole Tudor Roberts	Dave Carter Sarah Battershell Margaret Exton Gerry Hambridge Norris Kiddle Ruth Kiddle Hazel Stacey Gordon Partridge David Hoar Nicola Hoar Mark Dowling	Sarah Wilmott, Janet Gray, Peter Gilder, Wilson Javaid	Paul Gardner, Judy Duncan, Eunice Salmon, Mike Watson, Emma Bates, Di Benbow (Lay Minister – exofficio) Paula Roach, Lynwen Morgan, Jacqueline Kirwan, Anne Fisher	Steve Kershaw, Craig Tranfield, Sue Green, Rebecca Kershaw, Alison Lowe, Janet Clarke, Anne Carter, John Ridsdale

Post	All Saints Lydiard Millicent	Toothill	Westlea	St Mary's Lydiard Tregoze	Holy Trinity Shaw
PC Reps	Vacant	Dave Carter Ruth Kiddle	Peter Gilder, Chris Scarisbrick, Julie Scarisbrick	Pat Watson	Janet Clarke, Craig Tranfield
Children's Advocates	Mary Poole, Julian Wright	David Hoar	Janet Gray & Peter Rogers	Nikoleta Bates	Steve Kershaw, Sue Green
Safe to Grow Coordinator	Beverley Belcher	Gordon Partridge	Andy Vernon	Hilary Pearson	Rebecca Kershaw
Junior Church/ Sunday School	Lesley Green	Eddie Koppoe	Christine Rogers	Susan White	Marie Chorley, Janet Clarke
Worship & Music	Ginnie Heads		n/a	Paula Roach	Val Hemmens
Deanery Synod Rep	Mary Poole (ex-o PCC) (Ed Poole, lay chair, not rep)				None
Diocesan Synod	David Ratnam (ex-o PCC)				
Baptist Church representatives to WEBA			Mike Dilly		
Methodist Church representatives to Upper Thames Circuit				Ron Brock	

Post	All Saints Lydiard Millicent	Toothill	Westlea	St Mary's Lydiard Tregoze	Holy Trinity Shaw
United Reformed Church synod representatives			Janet Gray		
Representatives for Swindon Churches Together			Dick Gray (not rep, but URC)		
Communion Servers for Anglican communions	Simon Belcher, Ginnie Heads, Andy Bateman, David Burch, Nigel Margetts, Ed Poole, Mary Poole, David Ratnam, Claire Camm, Tricia Roberts, Betty Thompson, Pam Bennett, John Halstead, Beverley Belcher, Howard Benn, Andrew Bourne	Mark Dowling Rachel Dowling Seth Nartey David Hoar Gordon Partridge Jan Partridge Dave Carter	Leadership team	Ron Brock, Paul Gardner, Joan Rumming, Tish Vass, Judy Duncan, Di Benbow, Pat Watson, Sharon Hall, Eunice Salmon	Alison Lowe, Steve Kershaw, Sue Green, Craig Tranfield, Mark Taylor, Lindsay Shaw
Planned Giving Secretary	Christina Wheeler	Gordon Partridge	Christine Rogers	Ron Brock	Sue Green
Permission to read Banns of Marriage	Simon Belcher David Burch, Ed Poole	n/a	n/a	Ron Brock, Di Benbow, Pat Watson, Tish Vass	n/a
Junior Church/ Sunday School	Lesley Green	Eddie Koppoe	Christine Rogers	Susan White	Marie Chorley, Janet Clarke
Church Website	Rachael Brudenell	Dave Carter	Peter Gilder Chris Scarisbrick (Partnership site)	Ian Whitworth	Craig Tranfield, Steve Kershaw

Post	All Saints Lydiard Millicent	Toothill	Westlea	St Mary's Lydiard Tregoze	Holy Trinity Shaw
Weekly Notices	Beverley Belcher	David Hoar	Sarah Wilmott	Tish Vass	Hts- editor@wswinlyd.org.uk (aka David Hoar)
Bell Tower Captain	Michael Moore	n/a	n/a	Julie Miles	n/a
Verger	Joe Ricketts	Vacant	n/a	Ron Brock (By default)	n/a
Worship Coordinator	Ginnie Heads	David & Nicola Hoar	Dick Gray	Vacant	Mark Taylor
Organist	Ann Dwight	Nicola Hoar	Mick Dams	Adrian Matthews, Hilary Gardner	Val Hemmens
Prayer & Pastoral Care	Tricia Roberts	Anne Carter and Team	Dick Gray		Anne Carter, Alison Lowe
Discipleship & Teaching		Anne Carter			Anne Carter
Prayer Ministry				Maureen Anderson, Ian Whitworth, Tish Vass, Emma Bates	Anne Carter

4. Appoint Churchwardens.

Simon Belcher and David Burch are nominated by All Saints

Pat Watson is nominated by St Mary's

Craig Tranfield is nominated by Holy Trinity

These all were appointed with no objections.

It was explained that Churchwardens are ex-officio PCC members, Partnership Council will offer to co-opt them.

5. For 2011, appoint Child Protection Officer for the Partnership.

Chris and Julie Scarisbrick were appointed

- Endorse appointment of Stewards and Leadership Teams in our Partnership Churches.

These were endorsed per the list

- Note names of Local Church representatives on Partnership Council and PCC. These were noted

It was explained that Chair, Secretary and Treasurer will be elected at the first PC meeting.

It was explained that Chris Scarisbrick had been asked to be Secretary, and was willing to stand. He was nominated to Partnership Council by the meeting.

- Endorse lists of those authorised to read Banns and those authorised to assist at Anglican Communion.

It was pointed out that banns can only be read at All Saints and St Mary's, as they're the only churches with Anglican ministers

These lists too were endorsed.

- Appoint members to the Deanery Synod (Lists for each church available to collect before the Meeting.)

Mary Poole represents us on Deanery Synod. It was pointed out that Ed Poole also attends Deanery Synod as co-chair and a member of the Deanery Leadership Team, though does not specifically represent us.

We are allowed 5 representatives on Deanery Synod. Mary Poole explained the amount and type of work involved, 3 meetings a year (or so) usually Thursday evenings. Mary offered to assist anyone who wanted to find out more.

It was pointed out that David Ratnam is on Diocesan Synod.

6. Financial Report.

Dick pointed out that Sue Green had taken over as Treasurer from the end of year. She being willing to stand again, was nominated to Partnership Council by the meeting

- To adopt ECC & Consolidated Accounts for 2010

Sue presented the Partnership central account financial statement and explained the consolidated accounts for the entire partnership.

Increased income is primarily a result of emerge grant income. Other incomes down a bit.

Parent body contributions a little more than budgeted as the Baptist Union contribution was increased (from a low base) after the budget was created. Our ministerial expenses were down a little due to the vacancy. Our youth work expenses were up significantly as a result of the emerge move.

Our deficit in 2010 was larger than planned.

Approval of the accounts was proposed by Norris Kiddle and Seconded by Ed Poole.
Adopted, with no objections

- To adopt the ECC Budget for 2011

It was explained this was another deficit budget which is planned to dig into our reserves. This situation is fundamentally unacceptable and cannot be sustained. Members were asked to press for increased income or we will be reducing our outgoings, and there is no slack.

The budget was presented but not adopted (its the Partnership Council and future Charity Trustees' budget)

- To appoint Inspector for the accounts

Monahans are our current inspectors, and Sue proposed using them again. They were appointed.

- Charity Commission registration

In progress

7. To receive and adopt the Partnership Annual Report for Year ending 31 December 2010

Dick highlighted the salient points of the report:

Membership numbers down 300 -> 278, but

Average attendance up 202+52 -> 205+51

Our 2010 goals were

- Equip and encourage (lots of opportunities have been provided)
- Youth work (a major strength – we've taken on full responsibility for the emerge project groups and started Messy Church)
- Appoint new minister (very successful, welcome Clive!)

The report was received and adopted. Meeting expressed thanks to Brenda Hicks for pulling together all the edited contributions.

8. To adopt the Partnership "Safe to Grow" policy for 2011.

The Policy statement at http://wswinlyd.org.uk/council/policy/s2g_03statement.html was adopted.

It was explained we do not yet have a policy for the protection of vulnerable adults but this is in progress.

9. To affirm the Disability Discrimination policy

The policy statement at <http://wswinlyd.org.uk/council/policy/accessibility.html> was adopted

The meeting also adopted our Health and Safety policy as stated at

<http://wswinlyd.org.uk/council/policy/healthsafety.html>

10. To adopt the principal goals for 2011.

Dick explained our goal proposals were:

- Continue with Youth work (led by Claire Camm) including running the emerge groups
 - Lunch clubs at Greendown and Bradon Forest Schools
 - Remix
 - TGIF
 - After school club Schools-Out
- and Children's work (led by Dave Carter),
 - Messy Church
 - And local church activities and groups

- Equip and Encourage lay people to contribute to the mission of our churches and partnership (led by Clive)
- Ensure our buildings support our mission activities (local churches)

These goals were adopted.

11. Each of the Partnership Churches will bring an item from their own annual report; an Inspirational Moment to share (suggested goal and achievement for 2010).

- Westlea (presented by Janet Gray)

“Gossiping the Gospel” – equipping our members to talk to their non-Christian friends. We’ve been studying the URC Vision 4 Life 3 year course, having previously “done” the Bible and Prayer, we’re now doing Evangelism. Most of the events we organise, we can invite our friends to: walks, barbeques, meals. We’re small and all know one another We provide lots of practical help to one another and this is highly visible among our non-Christian friends.

- Toothill (presented by Margaret Exton)

Its been a positive year. Mondays the community café meets, with the credit union available. Toothill Tinies has been formed. We had a harvest festival of talents which was very good. We have very good links with local schools and uniformed organisations. We’ve started the Growing Up With Christ course and this has been a very very supportive environment. The lunch bunch meet regularly. Lots going on.

- Saint Mary’s (presented by Pat Watson)

We were tired and frustrated at the beginning of the year, because the search was taking so long. This was followed with ups (Clive was appointed) and downs (losing Debbie and the Franklins). We held lots of events, Country Gospel evening, the harpist in Lydiard House, Fundraising meals for the ever-needy building fund. We’re looking for English Heritage funding. A Welcoming committee is being formed and Outreach is being planned.

- Holy Trinity (presented by Sue Green)

The lighting has been improved, and we have new bibles. We’re in the process of getting a new front door. We’ve trialled an afternoon service with tea after this has seemed popular and will continue. During the year we looked at aspects of the Old Testament and Matters of Life and Death. We’re involved with the Growing up in Christ course. A pastoral care group is being set up.

- All Saints (presented by Julian Wright)

A key inspirational moment this year came when the prayer and pastoral team led a session on aspects of corporate prayer, The whole church has since become more prayer focussed.

Our children’s and youth work continues as a particular strength. We’ve been awarded the Child Friendly Church silver award.

12. Ecumenical Team Leader’s & Chair’s Remarks

St Mary’s took the brunt of the vacancy in the team, though we tried to help and support as much as possible.

Partnership Council works well, and though we’ve not been ambitious in our activities in 2010, have achieved much towards our three goals. And a new constitution, which is currently under consideration by the Charity Commission as part of our application. We took over sole responsibility for the emerge project and its youth groups. The new augmented staff team doesn’t always see everything from the same point of view, but works well, sometimes after vigorous debate.

So, how do we increase commitment among our members? Its not just leadership - clergy and leadership teams, it's everyone. Many people work actively in our communities but we need to find ways to equip and encourage them to share WHY they do it.

New forms of church (eg Messy Church) are growing.

In the next year everything we want to do will be limited by our finances. As ever the harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few.

13. Date for next A.G.M:

Still To Be Discussed. Watch this space: <http://wswinlyd.org.uk/council/meetings>

AOB item – A Notice: Every Man is a 14th century morality play being produced and performed by students at New College. Tickets for performances are available from Ed Poole.

14. Closing worship