

## Precis of the Parochial Church Council Meeting held 20th July 2016

A letter of thanks had been received from Christian Aid for over £1,000 being raised in Kelvedon and Feering. This was a very good sum, particularly as there had been no door-to-door collection this year.

There will be a special Christmas Musical Event on the evening of Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December, which Louise Buttery has kindly agreed to organise with help from PCC members.

It was agreed that the Joint PCC Meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> July between All Saints' and St Mary's had been very useful and more joint meetings would be held. Feering PCC would very much welcome the choir to sing at their services when they can. The next Joint PCC Meeting is on 12<sup>th</sup> October.

Harvest Lunch for the whole Benefice will be held on 2<sup>nd</sup> October in the Church Rooms, so coffee will be served in the Church after the 11 a.m. service, rather than the Church Rooms.

There was very welcome news that four PCC members had come forward to be vergers at weddings.

There will be a confirmation service at St Mary's on 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> December 2017.

The sound system in Church is to be investigated as it is not working correctly in all parts of the building. A fire drill will be held after a morning service sometime soon.

The tree surgeon would be carrying out works to trees in the cemetery. There continues to be a problem with the bins in the cemetery failing to be emptied regularly - the Parish Council will be contacted to ensure they are.

It was suggested that a 'Guide to Maintaining a Grave' which would give advice to mourners would be a sensible way forward to avoid unsuitable items decorating gravestones. The two Simons (Priest-in-Charge and Churchwarden) will look into producing this.

The annual church insurance is due for renewal and will cost approximately £3,000.

£510 had been raised by the Friends following the Dunmow Wind Band concert, an excellent result. The Friends were thanked for their support. Bev Reilly kindly agreed to become Chairman of the Friends and Betty Andrews will be Secretary.

St Mary's Church continues to have strong and successful school links. Unfortunately the trial run of the Sunday Club in May, June and July had been unsuccessful - we will need to look again at how we can reach out to families of school-age children.

The Christmas Tree Festival will be held on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> December and the charities we will be supporting are Children in Distress and Emmaus, the charity for the homeless with a local base in Colchester.

A joint service on Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> December will be discussed with Feering PCC.

There will be two Christingle Services on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December: 3 p.m. at All Saints' & 5 p.m. at St Mary's.

Our annual Christmas Carol Service will be held on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 6 p.m.

On Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> January there will be a 10 a.m. United Benefice service at All Saints', with no service at St Mary's.

The War Memorial is currently a 'Pokemon Stop'! There is now a sign on the church gate welcoming Pokemon-inspired visitors.