

Jottings from St Lukes Milland PCC Meeting 2nd November:

1. The Rector confirmed that there would be a Messy Church on Friday 25th Nov with themes of Advent and the Jesse Tree, help was requested from anyone who could.
2. It is hoped that The Christmas tree (9ft) will be erected on 3rd December, lights will be added on 3rd, for the school services and full decorating done on 17th Dec.
3. There was discussion about the form of worship used at Milland for joint Benefice Services, and whilst the Rector and others felt that more inclusive forms of worship should be used at Benefice services, many on the PCC would prefer that BCP format was used at Milland as this was the normal service format. The Rector agreed to try to use BCP whenever possible and appropriate at Milland.
The Rector confirmed that at present in 2017 she has 12 weddings in the Benefice, 8 of which are to be at Milland.
4. **Finances:** It was confirmed that letters of thanks had been sent to several recent donators to the church.
The proposed sponsorship of a child/student at the Kathryn's Mercy Home Trust in TamilNadu, was discussed and the PCC after debate, for a variety of reasons, decided to make an initial donation of £150 rather than commit to an 8 year support programme at £150 per year.
The Treasurer reported that John Dawes' son had now raised £3280 at the LIBDA bike ride with additional funds arriving. The Christian Aid service raised over£150.
5. **Church building:** Elizabeth Cartwright was congratulated on arranging a church-cleaning rota. John Dawes asked that the people involved informed him of any repairs that were identified as being necessary.
A report from John had been circulated with a summary of the options for the repair of the coping stones (ridge tiles) and the Churchwardens will discuss these, and detailed costs, with the architect.
The tower waterproofing has been done and the door repairs are in hand. The acquisition and installation of sound system is moving forward, subject to a grant from the George Street Trust and it is hoped that it can be made available in the church during December.
6. **The new insurance premium** has been agreed and the insurers had submitted a short list of which will be addressed within a H&S Policy Document, drafted by John Dawes
7. **Churchyard:** Lynne Collard confirmed that the churchyard expenses would be over budget (between £600 & £1000) due to the amount of work required on the hedges which had not been attended to in previous years,

also an invoice had been received for work done in 2014. All this work is required to ensure that the churchyard was available as a community facility.

The removal of the Leylandi is schedule for the first week in November; there have been some small donations to cover the costs of the beech hedge plants being planted as replacement, however further funding is required to continue with this work.

Lynne will be receiving a detailed report on regular work required in the churchyard in order to construct a budget for the following year.

Churchyard flowerbeds: Maureen Keel and Sheila Pim have done work in the beds and will address the Memorial Garden as well; thanks were expressed to them both.

8. **Safeguarding:** The Diocesan proposed forms were passed to Trish for signature by her and the Churchwardens and displaying on the noticeboards.
 9. **Communication:** The services schedule, including the Rake and Hollycombe Schools Christmas Services, is available on the Benefice web site.
 10. **Next Meeting:** Wednesday 11th January at 8.00pm
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