

All Saints' Church, Guildford.

Notes on a meeting of the Mission Vision Group at 4 Litchfield Way on Thursday 4th October 2019 at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Peter Nicholls (in the chair) (PN), Carolyn Nicholls (CN), Rachel Hubbard and Richard Hemingway (Secretary).

1. PN led the meeting in prayer. The notes of the previous meeting on 4th July 2019 had been circulated prior to the meeting, and were referred to at the meeting with acceptance.
2. The programme for the remainder of 2019 was outlined by CN. October: Bible Society (the project for the congregation for daily Bible reading had already started). November: the Koens family Wycliffe Bible project (planning to send them Christmas greetings) and December/Christmas: the Town Centre Chaplaincy (with particular emphasis on the numbers of homeless currently seen in Guildford).
3. Review of disbursement of funds in 2019. The decision of the Standing Committee for cheques to be sent out in January 2020 for 2019 payments and future years was noted. It was understood that the precise amount to be disbursed would be calculated by the PCC Treasurer in accordance with the principles already authorised by the PCC, and the sums to be disbursed would be entered in the 2019 accounts. It was also noted that the collection at the Harvest Supper had been for "Toilet Twinning", approved by MVG members, and PN would advise of the amount collected shortly. Organisations supported in 2019, apart from those to whom donations were made on special occasions, were the Koens family (the special project), and Bishop of Guildford's Foundation, Guildford Town Centre Chaplaincy, Friends International, Grass Roots, FRRME, and the Bible Society.
4. Recommendations for PCC to support in 2020. Pursuant to the request made to the PCC for ideas for 2 new Organisations to be supported in place of 2 which were expected to be replaced, MVG had received 3 suggestions, namely Matrix Trust, A Rocha and Five Talents. It was also noted that the MVG had earlier indicated that CMS be included in 2020. Due consideration was given to the principles of Mission for the Anglican church already adopted, and the aims and objectives of all the Organisations were weighed up. As the MVG did not wish to exclude any of the new proposals, the following recommendations are made to the PCC for adoption in 2020: (a) Guildford Town Centre Chaplaincy, which includes Street Angels, being the third year of continued support for this well known local charity. (b) Friends International (supported in 2019, and already well known in the parish for providing support for overseas students at the University). (c) Foundation for Relief and Reconciliation in the Middle East (FRRME), at the forefront of support for Christians in Iraq and refugees in the area. (d) Bible Society (supported in 2019) and with well known objectives. (e) United Society Partners in the Gospel (USPG). One of the 2 main Church of England missionary societies. This replaces CMS in the thoughts of MVG members as being the preferred option.

USPG has been supported by All Saints' in earlier years. (f) Matrix Trust. The local charity already helping youth work in the parish, but also supporting similar projects in the diocese and considered worthy of support again. (g) Five Talents (the Christian charity which provides micro finance in rural East African communities for small business enterprises to flourish and relieve poverty)

Note: 1. The Koens family Wycliffe Bible Project to be continued as in 2019.

2. For the Lent Project: The Bishop of Guildford's Foundation (which is already supported)

3. Christian Aid to remain in focus for support, particularly in Christian Aid week in May.

4. Mission to Seafarers, for the annual Sea Sunday appeal in July.

5. A Rocha International, for the 2020 Harvest appeal. This is a new beneficiary, which encourages churches in eco projects overseas.

CN would consider the choice of organisations for publicity each month, and would liaise with the vicar about possible speakers in 2020.

5. The meeting already flagged up for 28th November 2019 has been cancelled. The next meeting will be on Wednesday 5th February 2020 at 4, Litchfield Way at 7.30 p.m.