

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE VILLAGE of HORNINGHOLD:

A Crisis meeting was held on Sunday 14th March to consider the current situation regarding Service Attendance, On-going operating costs of the Church and the issues surrounding the day to day maintenance repairs, long term restoration work & funding for the building.

As things stand St Peter's Church is going to close within the next few years and consequently fall into disrepair unless some immediate action is taken by the Horninghold Community to save it.

Issues to be addressed following the meeting:

Church Attendance:

Monthly Services are sparsely attended and encouragement is required to increase participation.

Action: PCC / Church Wardens to create & implement a plan of action.
Timescale: End April 2004.

On-going Annual Costs of maintaining Church Services:

Funds are generated from Service collections and the 5 Covenants who are making regular donations.

The sums raised are approx. one half of the £2,500 required for St Peter's to meet the Diocesan Share of costs.

The Village consists of 25 - 30 houses. If each household not involved in a current Covenant gave £4 per month then the shortfall would be eliminated.
[NB: A covenant attracts tax relief which the Church can claim from the Government]
£1 per week X 52 weeks X 20 houses X Govt. Tax Relief = £1,350.

Action: PCC / Church Wardens to issue a Covenant form in next Hexad newsletter + Encouragement for everyone to make a regular donation.
Timescale: End April 2004.

Restoration Costs:

To restore St Peter's Church to good order requires in the order of £100,000.

The building is not in imminent danger but repairs are required in the 2 - 3 year timeframe.

Grants are possible for approx. 80% of the costs. Therefore through the efforts of the Village we need to raise £20,000 within 2 years.

In order to achieve this target the following actions are required:

Fund Raising:

A committee is to be formed to plan & arrange a series of fund raising events.

Ideas for such events include:

- Fun Runs
- Supper Clubs / Garden Parties
- Grand Ball
- Race / Quiz Nights
- Open Air Theatrical Event
- Village Fete
- Open Gardens event
- Auctioning the Film rights to use the Village for Films / TV / Commercials!
- Sponsorship events.

An interesting Web site to look at is:

www.old-dalby.org.uk/church/church_main_index.htm

This Village [Old Dalby] faced the same problems as ourselves and have raised £100,000 since November 2001. Examples of the funds raised include:

Open Gardens day: £3,000

Grand Ball: £3,000

Action: Form a Restoration Committee to raise Funds.

Meeting planned on MONDAY 22nd March 2004 7:30 pm at St Peter's Church. The objective of this meeting will be to design an Event calendar, set financial targets / timescales, agree actions etc.

Please come and join the team to help solve this Restoration funding crisis.

If you cannot attend but want to be involved then please contact Martin Griffin [The Red Hovel, Belchers Hill] on 555247 or email: MartinGriffin@stcplc.co.uk
OR contact Mary / John Twidell.

Action: Investigate options for Grants & Timescales for applications.

Sandra Evans [The Red Hovel, Belchers Hill] has volunteered to research this process.

St Peter's Church: Expanding use of the Church Facility.

Discussion took place regarding making the space inside the Church more usable. One option [suggested by Archdeacon Richard Atkinson] is to remove the pews at the rear of the Church to make a larger area for events etc. The historic parts of the pews would be preserved and re-used elsewhere within the building.

Action: PCC / Church Wardens to determine if any objections to such a re-organisation exist and to establish the procedures / process for such a change to be implemented. Timescale: Mid April 2004.