

## Church Council Update

The following update reports on the April Church Council meeting. If you have any questions regarding this, please speak to Peter or any member of the Church Council.

**Young peoples rep. meeting** – As part of the ongoing programme to meet with representatives of the different areas of our ministry and mission, this month the Church Council focused on input from the ‘Young Professionals’ group. We are really pleased to see the growth in the younger end of the adult age range at Peachcroft and are very grateful for the gifts that this group brings and the contribution they make. The input and feedback received was positive, recognising a warm welcome had been received and they felt appreciated. As with others in the church, there is a note of caution about over loading the young people and regarding making assumptions about their involvement in particular areas. We were also prompted to ensure that we remember and value the input from the older teenagers, as there is a danger that they get overlooked and slip down the gap between the Immerse and the Young Professionals groups. As a church it is vital that we value all members equally, young and old alike.

**Building Tithe** – Following the great news that the building loans have now all been paid off, we are focusing our efforts on the Building Tithe and to that end are seeking suggestions from Church members for organisations that we might want to consider supporting. A proposal form has been created and circulated to make this process as straightforward as possible. Copies can be obtained from Beryl or downloaded from the church web site, [www.peachcroftcc.org](http://www.peachcroftcc.org), under Admin in the menu. Proposals can be submitted at any time but specific reviews are planned for the February and July Church Council meetings, so please get your proposal in by the end of June and/or the end of January if at all possible.

**Church Weekend** – Based on the input received to date, we have decided not to try to squeeze in a church weekend this year but to go for a church away day instead, probably in late September or early October. We felt that it is important to try to find something that gives everyone in the church the opportunity to participate in these valuable times together and not everyone can make a weekend away. We would then hope to run a full church weekend next year, possibly in the earlier part of the year this time.

**Audio Visual help needed**– Martin Tillin does an absolutely fantastic job of organising stewards and people to operate the sound desk. The latter has been an area where many of our young people have made a great contribution, with this very responsible job. One of the problems with relying on our young people to

provide this service, is that it is very difficult when exam season comes round or when some of them move on to university. The bottom line is that we need more people to man the sound desk on a Sunday, and volunteers, of any age, would be very much appreciated. Please contact Martin if you would like to join the Stewards or the AV team.

**Church Council away afternoon** – The CC regularly blocks time out to try to get away from the nuts and bolts discussions which often dominate the monthly meetings, and look at more strategic, longer term vision. The next away ½ day is planned for Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> May. The focus for this meeting is to think about Evangelism and Outreach. If you would like to provide any input to this discussion please talk to any member of the Church Council.

**LEP Review** – In the report, a couple of suggestions were made regarding setting up a Mission group and conducting a Stewardship Audit. Whilst these are both good ideas, we do need to ensure that no one feels pressured by them, as the report is certainly not suggesting that we need to do more but rather reaffirms the level of commitment seen at Peachcroft. To follow up on this we are generating a questionnaire, which will be used alongside an appropriate sermon series. When this does come out, please remember, this is to help us understand the real position, not to try to make anyone feel guilty or pressured into doing more.

**Celebration weekend – 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> July** – As requested at the AGM, we would like to organise something to celebrate the fact that the building has been paid off already. Ideally we would like to do something that involves the community and ‘The Big Lunch’ has been suggested. We are conscious of not wanting to put pressure on people, therefore this will only go ahead if we have a number of volunteers come forward who are keen to take it on. If it is not possible to progress this, then we expect to hold a church BBQ on the Sunday lunchtime instead.

**Noticeboards** – Following the discussion at the AGM and other meetings about how visible the church is, we are in the process of getting a noticeboard to be placed in the corner of the garden nearest to the park. This should be more visible to passers by and clearly identify the building as a church. We are also planning to erect some faithboards with more information about who we are and what happens at the Christian Centre. These are to be placed between the entrance and the kitchen-serving hatch, to be visible to everyone entering the building, particularly Café Eden customers.