

Barnes Team Ministry The Parish Church of St Mary Barnes

Minutes of the meeting of the Parochial Church Council held on Tuesday 8 July 2014 at the Rectory, 25 Glebe Road.

Present: Rector, William Heller, Michael Murison, Emma Powell, Paul Teverson, Sue Boyd, Patrick Findlater, Chris Hine, Alison Collins, Christabel Gairdner, Annie Sullivan, Ann Lynes, Judy Gowing, Patty Darke, Matthew Purser, Phil Bladen, Francesca Wisdom and Peter Boyling.

1. The Rector opened the meeting with a prayer.
2. Apologies were received from Ted Muxworthy and Tom Ridley.
3. Minutes of last meeting, signed as true record.
4. Matters arising
 - Christian Solidarity Worldwide event was a great success and well attended. Christabel said the Prayer Cycle Booklet was very useful and it would be good to get some more copies.
 - Ann's ordination and First Eucharist were joyous. Ann thanked everyone for all the support preparing for and on her ordination day and First Eucharist. Thanks were also expressed for the BBQ and all those who contributed. There was a real sense of community.
 - 30-45 and Older members of congregation. 90 Baptism families had been invited to a 10.00 service to launch The Retreat. In the Melvill Room, there is now a CCTV link to the church so parents with small children can still feel part of the service while their children play with toys. There were lots of replies to the invitation but mostly regrets. Eight or nine families did come and used the Retreat.
 - Willing drivers: Sue Boyd offered to co-ordinate a list of volunteers willing to drive people to church. A note should go into the pewsheets for the next few weeks.
 - Turning chairs round at the back of church or taking outside. Patty will ask Tiziana if one of the sidesmen could make sure this is done.
 - Welcoming: The Council were encouraged to continue being proactive in their welcome while recognising that it was sometimes a delicate task.
 - Informed Generosity: The Rector, Ann and Patrick had been to a 'conversation' to hear about the details. There were some strong presentations and lots of discussion. The Standing Committee suggested that it should be the topic for the Away Day in September. Jackie Pontin has been invited to come and give an inspiring introduction. There needs to be a culture change but how to do it?
 - New hymn book: There had been very few adverse comments about the hymn books from the congregation, mostly about the font size, and lots of positive feedback. A member of the congregation has very generously offered to pay for all the new hymn books. If individuals decide they would like an inscription in a hymn book, they can still do this, for a donation. If anyone would like to retrieve a hymn book from among the existing stocks which carried their inscription, they can take it. Otherwise we planned that they will go to a good home either here or abroad.

- Anniversary window: Michael Murison had met representatives of the DAC and Archdeacon. They were keen on the idea of the window but felt an engraved glass window was wrong in that position. They suggested monochrome-stained glass – Grisaille method. Josephine Harris agreed with suggestion. Eric Cooper had been asked to work on the project. Copies of the mock-up were circulated. There were comments about the number of different fonts and which font to use, whether traditional or modern. DAC will be consulted on the new design before consult the congregations again. Eric Cooper had quoted £20,000. The Council agreed that this was not within our budget. Paul suggested that the DAC was consulted again on the new design and on the budget. Richard, Michael and William will meet to discuss the payment for Josephine for her work on the original design.
5. Barnes Music Festival: All the monies connected with the Festival go through the church accounts. An agreement has been made by the Friends that Dan Turner should be paid £2,000 as Artistic Director. The Festival has appointed an administrator, Sarah Newton, for the coming year on a salary of £1,000. This will mean that Cheryl will not be asked to do any work for it in future. Richard has met her and is happy that she is an appropriate appointment. PCC ratified these payments on a proposal of Phil Bladen, seconded by Judy Gowing. There are a few people who work very hard to stage the Festival which reflects very well on St Mary's and it is very important that the PCC is fully supportive. Andrew Summers will provide a budget for next year's Festival for the PCC to consider with a briefing paper in the Autumn.
 6. Youth Worker update: There were no applications following the advertisements. A neighbouring parish had suggested a joint appointment. However since the meeting Richard had heard from the other parish that this would no longer be possible.
 7. Finance

Patrick reported that the Friends Fund continues to accumulate. The Youth Fund is growing gradually. His main cause for concern is the falling income from Kitson Hall, which has coincided with three large items of incidental expenditure (the sound system, resanding the floor and rebuilding the boundary wall.) This year, it will not be possible to subsidise the general fund from the Kitson Hall fund, as has been the case for the past few years. General giving is down £7,000 on budget and £3,500 down on last year. There had been some significant donations from weddings and baptisms, which attract Gift Aid. Expenses are very close to budget. There is a steady drop in giving from the congregation.

Richard would normally have done a drive on giving by now but there were too many other important topics in recent weeks, so Stewardship will be deferred until September. It is important that it is emphasised that the Friends money is ring-fenced and can only be spent on maintenance of the church and churchyard. Some people think that by supporting Friends' events, they are supporting St Mary's. A great deal of the Friends' money is given away to charities.
 8. Committee reports
 - Fabric committee: As part of the PCC's duty to maintain a safe environment, a fire safety policy was needed. Paul and Peter had circulated a draft. The Council was asked to let Paul have any comments on it by 16 July. PCC members need to be aware of required procedures

in case of emergency so they can initiate an evacuation. The PCC approved the proposal to hold an evacuation practice.

- Mark Beedle, the church architect, has announced his intention to retire. We are in the process of appointing a replacement.
- Faith in Action group. Joseph Ayok-Loewenberg will be in church this week and will be able to talk about his Under Tree Schools charity.

9. New vestments chest. The Standing Committee has approved payment of £1375.00 for a replacement vestments chest in the Clergy Vestry. The existing one is now too small for the new vestments being produced by Fine Cell Work.

10. There was no other business.

The meeting closed with the Grace at 22.07.

Dates of future meetings:

PCC Away Day: 27 Sept, 21 October, 18 Nov