

Barnes Team Ministry The Parish Church of St Mary Barnes

A meeting of the Parochial Church Council was held on Tuesday 24 May 2016 in the church. In place of Evening Prayer, the Rector led a meditation on the Jesus prayer:

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

In future, members of the PCC will take it in turn to lead a meditation/reflection at the beginning of PCC meetings, instead of Evening Prayer.

Present: Richard Sewell, Ann Lynes, Paul Teverson, Patty Darke, Peter Boyling, Phil Bladen, Patrick Findlater, Annie Sullivan, Anne White, Rachel Skilbeck, Geoffrey Barnett, William Heller, Christine Butenuth and Judy Gowing
Apologies for absence were received from Tom Ridley and Paul Phillips

1. Welcome to new members : Anne White, Rachel Skilbeck and Geoffrey Barnett
2. On a proposal from Geoffrey Barnett, seconded by William Heller, Patrick Findlater was co-opted onto the PCC.
3. Designation of other business. It was decided that the Parish Support Fund would be discussed at the next meeting.
4. The minutes of PCC meeting on 15 March were signed as a true record, and the draft minutes of the APCM on 28 April were discussed.
5. There were no matters arising from these two meetings which were not covered elsewhere on the agenda.
6. Appointments to church posts and committees. Margaret Barrie has agreed to organise the Readers' rota.
7. Finance
 - o financial management report
Patrick reported that results were close to budget. Barnes Community Players has donated a further £1,500, making £3,500 – from their income from Jesus Christ Superstar. Friends fund is healthy. Bishop's Lent Call raised approx £1,300. The Youth Fund is dwindling but should last until end 2017. Kitson Hall fund is showing a 40% increase to end April, although this is weighted by the major rents for the summer term being paid in the first 4 months. Regular pledged income is significantly increased on last year. Chris Hine has resigned as Gift Aid Secretary and John Harries has taken over from him. Huge thanks were recorded to Chris for all his meticulous work over the past 7 years.
 - o Review of reserves policy. The Diocese has provided some good advice. The reserves policy will be reviewed annually at the March PCC meeting so we can brief the congregation at the APCM, and disclose it in the annual accounts. Patrick proposed, seconded by Geoffrey Barnett, the following reserves:
Main fund: £75,000, eventually reducing to £60,000, rather than the present level of slightly over £100,000; Kitson Hall fund: £35,000.

As the General Fund is buoyant, it is proposed that there will be no transfer from the Kitson Hall fund this year. The proposal was unanimously approved.

8. Lighting proposal. Phil Bladen described the proposals for upgrading the lighting in the church, some of which had been adjusted following a practical demonstration the previous night which some members of the PCC had attended. He reported that the current figure for the costs, including fees, but before VAT, was just over £75,000. The Standing Committee recommended acceptance of the proposals at this level of cost. However there were adjustments to make to the proposals and costings that might bring the total cost down a little further. He added that it would be advisable to provide for a contingency of 10% of the contractor's quote, ie a little over £3,200. He suggested that because of further changes that might be made, to meet either the needs of the church or advice from the diocese, the PCC should give the Standing Committee authority to approve minor adjustments to the current specification.

On a proposal by Phil, seconded by Patty, the PCC approved the proposals as they currently stood and the level of funding currently envisaged. They authorised the Standing Committee to agree minor adjustments to the works and the costs as necessary; and they agreed to a contingency provision of 10% of the cost of the contractor's quote.

Phil was thanked for coordinating and to all the team for all their work on this project.

9. Review of Mission Action Plan. The Rector asked all the PCC to re-read the Mission Action Plan drawn up 3 years ago and asked the chairs of each of the groups to review their work in the past 3 years. They were asked to look at achievements to date and consider whether the objectives need to be revised, updated or changed in any way. These written reviews should be submitted by Monday 4 July (judygowing@gmail.com), to be discussed at the next PCC meeting at the Rectory on 11 July. It will be the main focus of the Away Day in September. The Rector emphasised the importance of the Away Day and hoped that all PCC members would protect that date in their diaries now.

Worship: Richard Sewell

Pastoral care: Annie Sullivan

Learning: Anne Lynes

Hospitality: (acting) Patty Darke

Faith in Action: Peter Boyling.

10. New website was launched at the APCM. The PCC declared their satisfaction with the improvements.

11. Forthcoming Events: Baroque Concert on 19 June; Swing Band concert supporting UTS on 25 June and the Bike Sale on Barnes Fair Day, 9 July. Richard announced that the Parish BBQ would take place on Sunday 3 July after the Parish Eucharist.

12. a: Reports from Fabric committee:

Organ humidifier: the faculty application had been approved and the work will be done in June/July.

Memorial window: The DAC are content with the proposals and the papers are with the Diocesan Registrar for faculty approval. A decision is expected at the end of June. Work is expected to be done in the autumn.

CCTV: papers with DAC for consideration

Quinquennial works: papers with DAC for consideration.

Fire alarm: In the storm on 27 April, there was a power surge in the electricity main which knocked out our fire alarm box. This has now been replaced and the cost claimed on our insurance. We are also considering installing surge protection. No other parts of the church were affected (though a trip switch operated in the tower and stopped the clock). We have had the lightning conductors checked again in case they were hit. They still work satisfactorily, though a minor repair is needed.

Disability audit: We have had a professional audit of the church to ensure we meet our obligations. In light of the report, the Fabric Committee made some recommendations to the PCC:

- use the office door for normal wheelchair access to the church for services and in the day time, and add external signs pointing to that door;
- add a second handrail at the glass door porch entrance, on the west side of the steps, so there is a handrail on both sides;
- seek to make the internal doors lighter to push open;
- replace round knobs on internal doors by lever handles;
- put a white strip along the top, front, edge of stairs;
- make minor changes to the ladies toilet;
- put information about accessibility issues on our website;
- ensure that the sides-people, daily friends, hirers etc are aware of the arrangements and our guidance.

Members of the Council were invited to raise with Peter any suggestions they have for improving accessibility to the church.

b: Faith in Action group report. The main purpose of the group is to facilitate bringing the benefitting charities to the attendance of the congregation. We will be issuing a questionnaire to the congregation during June seeking feedback on the effectiveness of our promotion work, and asking whether any current charities should be replaced.

c: Kitson Hall report

HIRE RATES: The hourly rate for hire of the large hall to regular users is to be increased from £28 to £30 per hour with effect from 1st September 2016.

THE BOILER: two new domestic boilers are to be installed in place of the old inefficient Potterton boiler. They will be 30kW Vaillant boilers and the system will be converted to a sealed system. A quote of £5,275 plus VAT, total £6,330, has been accepted.

SIGNBOARD: a new signboard with the words "ST MARY'S CHURCH KITSON HALL" visible from Kitson Road is to be erected on the front elevation under the canopy. The cost will be £438 including VAT plus cost of erection.

PAINTING OF FRONTAGE: a quote for £1650 from James Baker has been accepted and work will start week commencing Monday 30th May and last about 10 days. The beige coloured brickwork is not to be repainted. The main entrance doors will have reinforced Georgian glass viewing windows installed at a cost of £960 to show when the hall is being used.

HALL ROOF: work on removing moss from the roof (including treatment against re-infestation) is now almost completed at a cost of £440. This has been delayed because access to the passageway on the North side of the hall has been restricted due to The Ark Nursery.

BARNES COMMUNITY PLAYERS: they are to install a new internally wired bar on the second roof truss from the stage, some new sockets and a new consumer unit, all to improve stage lighting. This will be entirely at their expense.

The Council confirmed that they were content with these actions.

13. Any other business

Patty reported that we are still looking for a Hospitality Group leader. The PCC members all need to be proactive thinking about how they can help.

14. Dates of future meetings

11 July (at The Rectory at 7.30pm)
Saturday 24 September (PCC Away Day)
25 October;
22 November (**NOTE NEW DATE**)

The meeting closed with the Grace at 22.06.

JG

13.6.16