



## Barnes Team Ministry

A meeting of the PCC took place in church at **6.00 pm** on 30 November 2021

### **MINUTES**

1.	<p>Present: Peter Boyling (Chair), Fouki Heller, Christabel Gairdner, Phil Bladen, William Heller, Steve Cox, Patrick Findlater, Sue Mackworth-Praed, Michael Murison, Cathy Putz, Paul Teverson, Lis Munden, Joan Wheeler-Bennett, and Michael Ross-McCall</p> <p>Apologies were received from Rachel Skilbeck, Annie Sullivan, Cate Summers, Judy Gowing, Revd James Hutchings.</p>
2	<p>The minutes of the 21 September meeting were approved.</p>
3	<p>Matters arising</p> <p>Discussion of the investment policy and reserves policy will be held over until the February meeting.</p> <p>Room rates. For events in the nave it had already been decided we'd raise the rates to £400 for commercial operations and for charities to £200; but this increase was postponed due to Covid. It was agreed to introduce this increase now. Rental of the side rooms has been £8 per hour. The Standing Committee recommended a 50% increase to £12. This was agreed by the PCC.</p>
4	<p>Rector's Report</p> <p>Peter noted that this report summarized the discussions at the AwayDay and proposed a procedure to take forward the issues raised, with a view to agreeing a new Mission Action Plan. In discussion the PCC were content with the summary and the following points were made about next steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Wellbeing group: Lis, Cathy, Fouki and Christabel volunteered to join this new group. Although Annie was not present it was suggested that she might join this group.</li><li>- Fabric matters: were in hand</li><li>- Hospitality/garden: still under consideration; there will be opportunities to feed back more on this at future meetings</li><li>- Ministry team: Paul Teverson volunteered to join the Rector, Jackie and Julie on this group</li><li>- Review of charities policy would be taken forward at the February or March PCC meeting.</li></ul>

Patrick was asked at the Away Day to provide a simple analysis of St Mary's accounts, as background to consideration of charities policy. He had submitted a document based on 2019 as a "typical" year. PCC welcomed this useful document.

2021: 9 month accounts: Patrick reported that the general fund was doing better than expected. The congregation had provided more than expected through general giving. We have a surplus of nearly £12,000 on fundraising events, £6,000 of which is for charitable giving. Phil noted that comparatively we are doing well when one considers the statement of accounts of other churches. Patrick noted that the CCLA investment was doing especially well.

Budget for 2022: Patrick's draft budget anticipated a deficit of £15,000 at year end. However, he expected the current year to end in a surplus of £10,000 – there was still some doubt as to whether a final amount for Boileau Road will come in before the year end.

He did not expect a big increase in general giving in 2022 (small increase noted in Patrick's report, to £260,000). The number of standing orders has gone up noticeably recently, though we cannot be certain that this will continue given rising inflation. However there was to be a stewardship campaign in the Spring.

2022 expenditure: there was a discussion on the parish's contribution to the diocesan Parish Support Fund for 2021 and 2022. Final figures had not been decided hitherto because of Covid uncertainties. The 2020 and 2021 parish shares were £180,000. In the light of developments, including the income of £659,056 from the sale of 52 Boileau Road, the PCC voted to increase 2021 by £3,600, and the proposed £183,600 for 2022 by the same amount.

This proposal was strongly supported and formally proposed by Phil Bladen. Steve Cox made the case for the rightness of this as part of our ministry to the diocesan community. The PCC approved the 2% increases for each of 2021 and 2022.

The PCC accepted the 2022 budget, incorporating these increases, as proposed by Patrick. Patrick was warmly thanked for all his work on financial matters.

Investment of proceeds of sale of 52 Boileau Road. Patrick reported that a subgroup of the Financial Strategy Group, comprising himself, Iain Cowell and Michael Ross-McCall, had considered policy for the investment. An investment policy had been drafted and the PCC would be asked to consider this at its February meeting.

Patrick recommended that, pending a decision on investment for the longer term, the funds should be temporarily invested, to earn a return. He recommended that the funds be paid into a CCLA fund. This had provided a good return and was an ethical fund. It was envisaged that the income on this investment should go into a new ministry fund. The PCC approved this temporary investment.

Reserves policy: The Rector had suggested that presentation of the reserves be simplified. This issue will be put to the February PCC for consideration.

	<p><u>Staff salaries</u>: the Standing Committee recommended to the PCC that salaries for the church staff should be increased by 4%, taking account of the current CPI which is about that figure. Use of the CPI indicator reflects past practice by the PCC. The PCC endorsed that approach.</p>
6	<p>Fabric Committee  Fire protection: improvement to the system in the church will now be implemented in January  Audio-visual options are being pursued further to our Away Day discussion.  Hoare Memorial: a decision on whether to grant the faculty is still awaited from the Chancellor of the Diocese. A further submission by the Hoare family was made in mid-October.</p>
7	<p>Environmental group  Peter noted that the record of the latest meeting of the group had been submitted to the PCC. We were targeting a silver Eco church award, and the meeting was exploring the new efforts that could be made.</p> <p>In Spring 2022 we will invite the PCC to consider whether to offset the amount of carbon we will still need to be using.</p>
8	<p>Faith in Action  Peter reported that a decision is needed on how to allocate the charity funds raised from the Bike Sale and last Christmas's sale of cards etc. He proposed that we increase payments to five charities so that all our charities get the same amount (excluding FiSH which has received higher amounts still, due to getting money from the Fashion Show and a strong response from the congregation when it took its turn in the monthly promotions). The Faith in Action group supported Peter's proposals.  The PCC approved the principle of the proposal. Patrick now has a final figure for the net proceeds of the bike sale, and Peter will liaise with him in order to finalise the sums due to each of the five charities. <b>Action: Peter/Patrick</b>  James felt that the collection at one of the Christmas services should be given to a charity supporting people in Afghanistan. The PCC agreed to this and that the Carol Service would be the right service to use for this purpose. It was agreed that the Standing Committee would decide which charity should benefit; it was suggested that a charity specializing in Afghanistan could be more attractive to donors than a charity with multinational interests.</p>
9	<p>Safeguarding  There are refresher training sessions to be organised. Much of the training is online. Lis will get the spreadsheet of the current status of PCC members' training/who needs refresher training from Natasha imminently. <b>Action: Lis/Natasha</b></p> <p>First Aid training: Lis has sourced St John's Ambulance training, whether for groups of 8, or for larger groups of 20-30. They also provide training on mental health support. Ballpark figure for 2 days training including both these options for 8 people would be £3,000 total. Annie Sullivan also knows of a company providing mental health support training at £300 per person.</p> <p>Lis will send a note to James with the detail, making any recommendations, to be circulated to the PCC for consideration. We will then progress this in 2022. <b>Action: Lis</b></p> <p>Jackie is a trainer on safeguarding for the Diocese – this can be built into Lis' note too.</p>
10	<p>Kitson Hall  Enhancement to the fire alarm system has been completed. The system is now connected to a separate off-site monitoring service which it wasn't before.</p>

11	<p>Barnes Community Players have signed their agreement with us which takes us through to next August. New discussion was underway for our agreement with them from September 2022 onwards.</p> <p>Correspondence: The PCC noted correspondence from FiSH thanking St Mary's for its donations and from the Diocese with thanks for the (then) proposed increase in our parish payment to the Parish Support Fund.</p> <p>AOB – none</p>
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**Dates of future PCC meetings:**

- 1 February
- 22 March
- 12 May (APCM)