

Barnes Team Ministry
The Parish Church of St Mary Barnes

A meeting of the PCC took place in the Ellerton Room
On Tuesday, 13 February 2024 at 6.15pm

MINUTES

PRESENT: Revd James Hutchings, Geoffrey Barnett, Peter Boyling, Trisha Hawkins, Fouki Heller, William Heller, Elisabeth Munden, Richard Nickels, Michael Ross-McCall, Paul Teverson

IN ATTENDANCE: Cheryl Cole, Helen Gibbs

APOLOGIES: Revd James Marston, Helen Faride, Alison MacMillan, Deborah Stewartby, Jackie Davis

Rev'd James opened the meeting with a prayer.

1	Minutes of the PCC meeting on 28 November 2023 were approved	
2	<p>Matters arising from minutes of last PCC meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Director of Music – Benjamin Markovic started in January and everything is going well. - Additional Toilets – Progress had been slow on this project due to other priorities. Michael Buckley, local architect, had inspected the site and given advice on creating access for the toilet units and for their installation. He was drawing up plans for creating wider access as well as investigating craning in the units. - Clock maintenance – TH is hopeful that the clock will be repaired by 24 February (it currently does not strike) but has been unable to get this confirmed. It is cheaper to carry out the cleaning and repairs at the same time but this resulted in additional delay. 	
3	<p>Rector's Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advent and Christmas - There was a full pattern of services with encouraging numbers overall. JH expressed his thanks to all those involved. Highlights included the parish carol service, the outdoor service, the nativity, the Midnight Eucharist and Christmas services. - Princess Basma Centre - More than £2,800 was raised for the work of the Princess Basma Centre in Jerusalem. - 40th Anniversary of the re-hallowing - Invitations have gone out and preparations are underway for the 40th Anniversary on 25 February. - Digital Giving - A meeting was held with the diocesan 'giving' team to help us promote and make better use of digital giving. They recommended we simplify our donation platforms. WiFi is a concern but Phil Bladen is looking into this or the alternative would be to use a SIM. It was also suggested we focus on promoting legacy giving and encourage the congregation to update their Wills. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gift Aid - PT noted that the management of Gift Aid will be facilitated by new technology. TH confirmed that it has already been improved by adding it to Church Suite but noted that claiming Gift Aid on pew envelopes is particularly time consuming. She recommended that we approach regular envelope givers and ask them to complete an ongoing Gift Aid authorisation and also consider reprinting the Gift Aid envelopes. 	
4	<p>Mission Action Plan</p> <p>Growing our faith (Children, young people and adults)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There have been good numbers of children at recent services and at Christmas. Getting volunteers to assist at Sunday Club is a problem. - A new children's choir is being set up, led by Julia Daniels. - Mark and Abby Dimock will be confirmed at St Richard's, Ham, on 20 February. - An initiative bringing churches together to encourage work with teenagers has been going well and is now planning to expand across the diocese. We have expressed our interest and wait to hear more. - JH and JM have enjoyed leading <i>Quiz a vicar</i> in the Red Lion on Monday evenings. - Services of compline and a quiet morning took place in Advent. - During Lent there will be a Lent course, using <i>The Nail</i> by Stephen Cottrell, and a quiet morning on 22 February, alongside other Lenten services and activities. - The Big Barnes Ponder has identified a number of project streams (One Barnes, Green Barnes, High Street Barnes, Placemaking Barnes, Safe Barnes, Travel Barnes) to be encouraged and developed as part of a 10 year vision. We will be looking to see how the churches might contribute to these. <p>Serving the people of Barnes (Audio-visual equipment)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The new AV system has been installed and is working well. We are learning how to make use of the screen, and people are being trained on how to use the system. <p>Promoting care for God's creation (Environment)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There are new composting containers in the garden. We are considering what use can be made of the yew tree wood from the fallen branch and work which might be needed to the remaining tree. Options for better recycling bins for the Melvill Room are being considered. - The Bishop of Kingston is leading a series of climate pilgrimage walks in Lent. Details are in the weekly news and some of us will be joining the walk on 24 February. 	
5	<p>Finance – presented by MRM</p> <p>Management Accounts at 31/12/23</p> <p><i>Note: Management Accounts at 31/12/23 were emailed to members for review on 4/2/24.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Members would be requested to approve the 2023 Report and Accounts in April, prior to Stewardship's approval. - Operating deficit in 2023 excluding investment gains/(losses) was £29 thousand (k) compared to budget (deficit £66k) and 2022 (surplus £6k). - Including investment gains/(losses), 2023 was surplus £30k compared to budget (deficit £66k) and 2022 (deficit £78k). 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Principal variances between 2023 actual and budget were Investment gains (+£59k), Kitson hall (+£24k) and Church surplus (+21k). - Cumulative loss on investments at 31/12/23 was £453. - Liquid assets (cash, bank accounts and deposit accounts) reduced by £104k in 2023, mainly reflecting the operating deficit and capital expenditure of £63k. - Attendances at church services in 2023 totalled 9,203, an increase of 2.9% over 2022. Average attendance at Sunday 10am services in 2023 was 96. - Members noted the accounts without alteration. <p>Draft 2024 Budget <i>Note: Draft 2024 Budget was emailed to members for review on 4/2/24.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Earlier drafts had been reviewed by Standing Committee (twice) and PCC members. - Budget assumptions were listed on page 1. - Budget 2024 deficit was £22k compared to 2022 (deficit £78k), 2023 budget (deficit £66k) and 2023 actual (surplus £30k). - Excluding non-cash investment gains/(losses) and depreciation, cash deficit was £17k in 2022, £28k in 2023 and £3k in 2024 Budget, reflecting a £25k improvement in 2024. - Capital expenditure in the 2024 Budget was £50k compared with £63k in 2023. - The PCC thanked MRM for all his hard work on the financial reports and accounts. - On a proposal by MRM, seconded by FH, the members unanimously approved the 2024 Budget. <p>Communications - At the Communications Group meeting with the Diocesan 'giving' team it was recommended that, in addition to the accounts, we publish one or two lines every quarter thanking people for their contributions.</p>	
6	<p>Safeguarding</p> <p>LM reported that, compared to last year, we have a much clearer picture of who has completed training and what training they have completed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PCC training – Everyone has received details about the training and most have completed that training. LM asked that people reply to the email about training to let her know when training has been completed. - Sunday Club training – All helpers are on the DBS update service. JD is talking to people about training. LM and NK are meeting at the end of February to review progress. 	
7	<p>Fabric</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We hoped that the plaque commemorating Rector Juergen Simonson's life would receive a diocesan faculty before the 40th anniversary service on 25 February. - The appeal for re-upholstering the church chairs has been going well with 162 now sponsored. PB thanked William and Ted for all their work with the chairs. 	
8	<p>Kitson Hall</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2023 - We have a very good hall manager who has introduced the Hallmaster System and, with RN, resolved the remote lock system issues while keeping the costs low. Net income of £45k 	

	<p>is the best we've done by quite a margin and as a result KH is contributing a lot to church finances.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stage - AJ sees potential in getting the stage cleared of clutter. New barriers have also been erected and the floor sanded and it is now looking very good. WH is meeting with AJ tomorrow ahead of filming of a marketing video on Friday. - 2024 - Lower income has been predicted for 2024. Alice Wells / Petit Performers won't be renewing from September. We need to discuss how to market the small hall. Alice's departure leaves a £22k gap to fill as well as invisibles in the form of weekend bookings. - Wardrobe - There is a KH meeting on 28 February. BCP have quotes for fireproofing the wardrobe and we are in the process of getting counter quotes. - Energy Audit - PB organised an energy audit for the hall which was carried out last Monday and was very thorough. We are awaiting their report which is expected in 2 weeks. - Energy Credit - We negotiated a £3.5k credit with TotalEnergie against the KH electric meter due to faulty/missing meter readings. We've now been given a credit note for £3.2k and RN recommends we bank that before chasing for the balance. 	
9	<p>Barnes Fund</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There is a vacancy for a CTiB nominated Trustee. Nominations to be submitted by 15/3/24 	
10	<p>Vacancies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gift Aid Secretary - Michael Murison will be stepping down in April. A role description has been updated and JH is approaching potential successors. Please let JH know if you have any suggestions on this important role. - PCC - This is the penultimate meeting of the current PCC. Please think about prospective new members who you might encourage to stand for election. 	<p>ALL</p> <p>ALL</p>
11	<p>Minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Deanery Synod - A discussion forum with Bishop Richard Harries and Rhidian Brook, <i>How should we think and pray about Israel and Palestine?</i>, was well attended with 75 attendees, including WH, FH and GB, compared to the usual 25/30. - Minutes of the Friends meeting on 22/01/24 were circulated prior to the meeting. No comments were made. - Minutes of the Communications Group meeting on 15/01/24 were circulated prior to the meeting. No comments were made. 	
12	<p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - James Marston has now moved into a flat in Cleveland Road and he is enjoying being based within the parishes. 	
13	The next meeting of the PCC is on Tuesday 12 March at 6.15pm.	

The meeting closed with the Grace at 7.25pm.

Future dates:

SC (2pm)

Monday 26 February

Monday 13 May

Monday 24 June

Monday 2 September

Monday 11 November

PCC (6:15pm)

Tuesday 12 March

Tuesday 23 April - APCM

Tuesday 21 May

Tuesday 9 July

Tuesday 17 September

Saturday 12 October - Away Day

Tuesday 26 November

James Huxford 12th March 2024